RECEIVED ON: March 18, 2022

Council Meeting: 03/22/2022 Agenda Item No. 12.C

 From:
 Susan Cameron

 To:
 WebMail - CCD

Subject: Public comment on agenda item 12C

Date: Priday, March 18, 2022 10:30:23 AM

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Dear Mayor Vinatieri and members of the City Council,

I am so disappointed at your decision to allow members of the City Council to continue attending meetings remotely while removing the option for members of the public to make live public comments from locations outside the crowded chambers of City Hall.

I speak for myself and for other members of the Whittier community who wish to continue to have a voice in city government, but have limitations that make it unsafe to be in crowded indoor locations. I have a health condition that can only be treated by medications that leave me immunocompromised. My doctors have advised me to avoid crowds, especially indoors. This has limited the active life I was accustomed to two years ago, but I am now working very hard to find ways of contributing to my community in meaningful ways despite this limitation.

You have done some things, like allowing outdoor dining in Uptown, that have made it possible for me to participate in public life. Recently, you have made it possible for me to voice my concerns in public meetings of both this body and other Whittier boards and commissions through remote participation.

However, your current AB361 resolution excludes me from making oral public comments. I am again restricted to only making comments in writing. Giving yourselves the privilege of remote participation while denying it to members of the public is unfair. Please remove Item 12C from the consent calendar and consider modifying your orders so that members of the public who are unable to be present in the City Council chambers for health reasons can again have the same opportunity you have reserved for yourselves, to participate remotely.

Thank you,

Susan Cameron