

New York City Water Board – Public Hearing

January 24, 2025

The NYC Water Board is a public governing body that is subject to New York State requirements concerning public accessibility and participation

- The Water Board was organized in 1984 under Article 5 of the New York State Public Authorities Law
- The Board's policies and procedures for public accessibility of its meetings and hearings are governed by the Public Authorities Law, the New York State Public Officers Law, and by the Board's own bylaws and internal policies and procedures
- The Board is required to provide prior public notice of its meetings and hearing and to make a videorecording of its meetings and hearings publicly available
- The conduct of official Board business requires a majority of the Board's members to be physically present at a Board meeting, while a majority of Board members is not required to conduct a public hearing
- The subject of today's public hearing is a proposal to allow Board members, under certain circumstances, to participate in Board meetings via videoconference, provided that a quorum of Board members are present at one location

New York State Law allows certain public boards to authorize the use of videoconferencing, provided the board authorizes written procedures for the process

- The proposal to make videoconferencing available to Water Board members would allow Board members to attend, vote, and participate in Board meetings through the use of a videoconferencing platform
- Board members would be allowed to request videoconferencing if unable to attend the Board meeting in person due to extraordinary or unforeseeable circumstances
- If participating by videoconference platform, a Board member would be allowed to participate in the discussion and to vote, but could not be counted as part of the meeting's required quorum
- The section of New York State law authorizing videoconferencing expires on July 1, 2026, at which time videoconferencing would no longer be available unless the expiration date is extended beyond July 1, 2026
- The proposed policies and procedures the Board would follow for purposes of administering this policy and a copy of the voting resolution that it is expected will be considered at the Board's February 3 meeting are available on the Board's website, and copies of both documents are also available here today

Recap and thank you

- Proposal to allow Board members to participate in Board meetings by videoconferencing
- The Water Board's next meeting is Monday February 3, 2025, when the Board is expected to discuss and vote on the proposal
- Any additional comments or questions regarding the proposal can be directed to the Board at:

NYC Water Board

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Questions?