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Dear Commissioners,

The City of Petaluma needs to resume Zoom meeting access for Commission and Committee meetings.

Providing the ability for the broadest public input contributes to the strength of our public meeting process and can enhance your process as a Commission.

Please express support for Zoom meeting access re-implementation.

I was pleased to hear one Climate Action Commissioner express such support at last week's Climate Action Commission meeting.

Change occurs when people speak up and are consistent. Without this, we have a mediocre, nonresponsive City government process that will simply continue and not offer the level of service we need to provide to Petaluma residents and voters.

Equally important, providing Zoom meeting access sends a direct message that the City of Petaluma supports equity. Parents and caregivers with children, senior citizens who do not want to come to a meeting in person for 3-4 hours at night, students, and others should be given the access we deserve to public meetings - via Zoom.

The Youth Commission and Technology Advisory Committee were recently disbanded.

Staffing a Committee or Commission meeting and managing the Zoom platform are certainly within the City's auspices and abilities.

Other cities in Sonoma County routinely provide this.

Sincerely,
Susan Kirks
Petaluma