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## **Updated Remote Participation Policy**

Pursuant to 1 M.R.S. § 403-B, as amended by LD 1772, P.L. 2022 ch. 666, and after public notice and hearing, the Greater Portland Transit District ("METRO") adopts the following policy to govern the participation, via remote methods, of members of the body, members of all METRO's boards and committees, and the public, in the public proceedings or meetings of METRO.

Members of METRO and its Boards and Committees may participate and vote in meetings by remote methods of participation.

Remote methods of participation may include telephonic or video technology allowing simultaneous reception of information and may include other means necessary to accommodate disabled persons. Remote participation will not be by text-only means such as e-mail, text messages, or chat functions.

The public will be provided a meaningful opportunity to attend via remote methods when any member of METRO participates via remote methods. If public input is allowed or required at the meeting, an effective means of communication between METRO and the public will also be provided. The public will also be provided an opportunity to attend the meeting in person unless there is an emergency or urgent issue that requires the meeting to exclusively use remote methods.

Notice of all meetings will be provided in accordance with 1 M.R.S. § 406 and any applicable charter, policy, or bylaw. When the public may attend via remote methods, notice will include the means by which the public may access the meeting remotely and will provide a method for disabled persons to request necessary accommodation to access the meeting. Notice will also identify a location where the public may attend the meeting in person. METRO will not restrict public attendance to remote methods except in the case of an emergency or urgent issue that requires METRO to meet using exclusively remote methods of attendance.

METRO will make all documents and materials to be considered by METRO available, electronically or otherwise, to the public who attend remotely to the same extent customarily available to the public who attend in person, provided no additional costs are incurred by METRO.

All votes taken during a meeting using remote methods will be by roll call vote that can be seen and heard if using video technology, or heard if using audio technology only, by other members of the body and the public. A member of the body who participates remotely will be considered present for purposes of a quorum and voting.

This policy will remain in force indefinitely unless amended or rescinded.

Adopted 8/25/2022