

## Brown Act compliance at your meeting of June 29, 2017

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** Blair Besten <blair@historiccore.bid>  
**Cc:** Rita Moreno <rita.moreno@lacity.org>  
**Subject:** Brown Act compliance at your meeting of June 29, 2017  
**Date:** Thursday, June 29, 2017 4:28 PM  
**Size:** 9 KB

---

Dear Ms. Besten,

I would like to call your attention to three serious violations of the Brown Act that took place at today's HCBID Board Meeting.

First, your sign-in sheet did not state that signing it was voluntary. An explicit statement of this fact is required by Government Code Section 54953.3, which states that:

A member of the public shall not be required, as a condition to attendance at a meeting of a legislative body of a local agency, to register his or her name, to provide other information, to complete a questionnaire, or otherwise to fulfill any condition precedent to his or her attendance.

If an attendance list, register, questionnaire, or other similar document is posted at or near the entrance to the room where the meeting is to be held, or is circulated to the persons present during the meeting, it shall state clearly that the signing, registering, or completion of the document is voluntary, and that all persons may attend the meeting regardless of whether a person signs, registers, or completes the document.

Second, the agenda for the meeting allowed for public comment only at the end of the meeting. This is a violation of Government Code Section 54954.3(a), which states in pertinent part that:

Every agenda for regular meetings shall provide an opportunity for members of the public to directly address the legislative body on any item of interest to the public, before or during the legislative body's consideration of the item.

As you are aware, members of the public were provided absolutely no opportunity to address the Board on their motion to write a letter supporting the 433 Main Street project either before or during their consideration of this item.

Finally, your explicit refusal to let me look at the Board packet at the meeting is a violation of Government Code section 54957.5(a)(c), which state in pertinent part that:

(a) ...agendas of public meetings and any other writings, when distributed to all, or a majority of all, of the members of a legislative body of a local agency by any person in connection with a matter subject to discussion or consideration at an open meeting of the body ... shall be made available on request without delay. ... (c) Writings that are public records under subdivision (a) and that are distributed during a public meeting shall be made available at the meeting if prepared by the local agency...

I hope that you will take measures to make sure that none of these violations occur in the future.

Also, please don't neglect to notify me of your upcoming Executive Committee meeting at the time you notify the members of the committee.

Thanks for your attention to these important matters.

[REDACTED]