



Silicon Valley Regional Interoperability Authority

Alternate Board of Director Policy  
Adopted March 24, 2022

## **1. Introduction**

The Joint Powers Agreement (“JPA”) of the Silicon Valley Regional Interoperability Authority (“SVRIA”) requires, at Article 5, Section 5, that an Alternate Director be appointed by the appointing authority for each sitting Director. Neither the JPA nor the JPA Bylaws describe the role of the Alternate. The following policy outlines the proposed role of the Alternate.

## **2. Policy**

The SVRIA Joint Powers Agreement at Article 5, Section 5 requires that the appointing authority for each Director also appoint an Alternate Director.

SVRIA’s operations and mission are critical parts of the public safety infrastructure in Santa Clara County. SVRIA built the Silicon Valley Regional Communication System (“SVRCS”) that is presently used by all public safety entities in every city in the County. SVRIA’s equipment is complex, highly technical and costly. Hence, SVRIA is best served by Directors or Alternates who have experience with SVRIA for a period of years and have a rudimentary familiarity with the technical portion of SVRIA and SVRCS. The term of a Director or Alternate is three years in order to help maintain continuity and understanding of SVRIA.

SVRIA encourages Alternates to review each SVRIA meeting agenda and to attend meetings as required in the absence of their designated Director. Should the Alternate wish to attend a Board of Directors meeting at the same time as their Director is present, they will assume a role similar to that of a member of the public, except, at the discretion of the chair, they may make comments or questions after being called on by the Chair, at the same time as Directors. In the event an Alternate attends a meeting where their corresponding Director is present, the Alternate will not be counted towards the quorum, will not have voting privileges, and will not be entitled to attend closed sessions, due to the Attorney General’s opinion in 82 Ops. Cal. Atty. Gen’l 29 (1999) concluding that an alternate could not attend a Board meeting’s closed session if the primary member was present.