

ATTACHMENT

For Item

#13

Tuesday,
AUGUST 27, 2024

PUBLIC COMMUNICATION RECEIVED BY THE
CLERK OF THE BOARD

Vizcarra, Nancy

From: Pamela Ison <Pamela.Ison@sharp.com>
Sent: Tuesday, August 27, 2024 8:09 AM
To: FGG, Public Comment
Cc: Elly Maienschein; Victoria Barba
Subject: [External] From Sharp HealthCare - Item 13

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Good morning.

Attached, please find a letter from Chris Howard, President and CEO of Sharp HealthCare regarding Item 13 on today's Board agenda. Please distribute and include in the record for today's meeting.

Sharp supports the recommendation for CoSD EMS to coordinate with local stakeholders to develop a collaborative process for implementing any changes in the Emergency Medical Services delivery system in San Diego County. We stand ready to participate in this important process with CoSD EMS, pre-hospital agencies and other hospitals in serving the people of San Diego County.

We look forward to engaging with you on this very important issue. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to reach out.

Kind regards,
Pam

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August 26, 2024

San Diego County Board of Supervisors
County Administration Center
1600 Pacific Highway, Rm 335
San Diego, CA, 92101

Subject: RECEIVE REPORTS DETAILING A COMPREHENSIVE EVALUATION OF THE COUNTY'S BASE STATION HOSPITALS AND TRAUMA CENTER CATCHMENT AREA DESIGNATIONS, AND AUTHORIZE STAFF TO COORDINATE WITH LOCAL STAKEHOLDERS TO JOINTLY DEVELOP AND PILOT CHANGES FROM THE REPORTS

Patricia S. Maysent
Chief Executive Officer

Dear Chair Vargas and Esteemed Supervisors,

UC San Diego Health commends the Board of Supervisors' efforts to modernize the prehospital and Base Station Hospital system and to enhance stakeholder collaboration and processes related to Trauma Catchment Area Designations. UC San Diego Health (UCSDH) remains fully committed to delivering world-class emergency and trauma care, and we believe this initiative is critical to ensuring our region's emergency medical services (EMS) system remains responsive, equitable, and effective in serving all communities across San Diego County.

As UCSDH Medical Center at Hillcrest is a base station site and one of the six designated trauma hospitals in the region, we strongly support the outlined recommendations for enhancing real-time medical direction, streamlining patient care processes, and improving ambulance routing coordination. By incorporating advanced technology, optimizing data management, and strengthening collaboration among stakeholders, these measures will help reduce delays, improve emergency department efficiency, and ensure timely, high-quality care for all patients.

UCSDH is currently shouldering a substantial portion of the region's border trauma cases. Our patient intake, especially for border-related trauma cases, has shown a significant and consistent increase over the past five years. We project that we are on track to nearly double our patient load by the end of 2024. Since 2019, we have seen a marked rise in the number of trauma cases linked to border-related incidents, with totals rising from 49 patients in 2019 to 455 in 2023 and 443 patients so far in 2024. During Fiscal Year to Date in February, annualized uncompensated care and services related to border fall patients was about \$15 million. The proposed strategies, including enhanced data capture and strengthened collaboration among trauma center leadership, are essential for optimizing the distribution of trauma care. These measures will be vital in ensuring equitable access to life-saving services for all.

UCSDH welcomes the opportunity to collaborate with County EMS, local hospitals, our fellow trauma facilities, and other stakeholders in implementing these evidence-based recommendations. We are confident that the proposed improvements will not only enhance patient outcomes but also strengthen our shared commitment to equitable, high-quality care for all residents of San Diego County. Thank you for your leadership.

With sincere regards,



Patricia S. Maysent
Chief Executive Officer
UC San Diego Health