



CITY OF EMERYVILLE

MEMORANDUM

DATE: January 16, 2018

TO: Carolyn Lehr, City Manager

FROM: Sheri Hartz, City Clerk

SUBJECT: Resolution Of The City Council Of The City Of Emeryville Authorizing The Contribution Of \$5,000 Toward The Cost Of A Health Impact Assessment (HIA) Related To The Imminent Closure Of Alta Bates Hospital

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that the Council Members discuss this matter as requested by Council Member Donahue. Whether to adopt the resolution is at Council's discretion.

BACKGROUND

At the City Council's December 19, 2017 meeting, Council Member Donahue requested that an item be brought forward to discuss whether to support the City of Berkeley and the Alta Bates Regional Task Force in the preparation of a Health Impact Assessment (HIA) related to the imminent Closure of Alta Bates Hospital, and whether to provide a monetary contribution in the amount of \$5,000 toward the cost of the HIA.

DISCUSSION

Alta Bates Summit Medical Center has been providing full service, acute care hospital services in Berkeley at the Herrick Campus since 1904, and at the Alta Bates Campus since 1905, and from their merger in 1984. These facilities serve the entire East Bay I-80 corridor. Alta Bates' Berkeley facility is crucial for providing timely health care services for both residents of Berkeley as well as neighboring communities. Despite this, Sutter Health Corporation has announced its intention to close Alta Bates' Berkeley facility. Sutter has also closed the Cardiac Catheterization Unit and the Pulmonary Sub-Acute Unit at Alta Bates, requiring cardiac and stroke cases to be rerouted to other locations.

Many hospital departments are often at capacity, and all the local Emergency Departments reportedly already have long delays in service. These delays would be exacerbated by the merging of two full-service acute care hospitals - Alta Bates and Summit - to one Oakland location, which would increase even further the wait and admission times. Additionally, the increased travel time to a more distant location could potentially cause negative health outcomes, particularly for cardiac, stroke, and pulmonary patients.

Further, when first responders are mandated to travel to Summit Campus in Oakland, they may take longer to respond to subsequent emergencies, raising questions about the impact that the closure of Alta Bates may have on public safety.

An HIA is an analysis and community education tool that will allow residents of the East Bay I-80 corridor to learn about the potential impacts to public health and equity if Alta Bates Hospital were to close. The proposed scope of the HIA will be approved by the Alta Bates Task Force and the University of California, Berkeley, will be contracted to produce the report.

The cost of the HIA has been estimated at \$50,000. The City of Berkeley will be contributing 50% of the cost and are asking other affected jurisdictions to contribute \$5,000 to support this effort.

FISCAL IMPACT

The \$5,000 contribution, if approved, would come from the City's General Fund.

STAFF COMMUNICATION WITH THE PUBLIC

None

PREPARED BY: Sheri Hartz, City Clerk

**APPROVED AND FORWARDED TO THE
CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EMERYVILLE:**



Carolyn Lehr, City Manager

ATTACHMENTS

1. Draft Resolution