

RESOLUTION NO. 14-61

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SAN CLEMENTE, CALIFORNIA, OPPOSING THE POTENTIAL CLOSURE OF THE SADDLEBACK MEMORIAL CARE SAN CLEMENTE CAMPUS.

WHEREAS, Memorial Care Health System has announced plans to conduct a feasibility study to replace the current Saddleback Memorial Medical Center San Clemente Campus and Emergency Room, with an ambulatory health care campus; and

WHEREAS, San Clemente Hospital has served the communities of San Clemente, Dana Point and San Juan Capistrano since 1972 when the San Clemente population was approximately 17,000; and

WHEREAS, San Clemente's current population now exceeds 65,000, and it and the surrounding geographical area will continue to experience increases in population; and

WHEREAS, San Clemente's unique geographic location, with the Pacific Ocean to the West, a military base to the South, and a land conservancy to the East, limits the availability of medical care to that which can be obtained within its city limits or to the North; and

WHEREAS, major transportation improvement projects, including the I-5 widening/car-pool lanes, the Avenida Pico interchange replacement and completion of the La Pata extension, will be taking place through 2017, with concerns over anticipated traffic delays that would impact the timeliness of emergency response and subsequent transport to the nearest emergency department; and

WHEREAS, community members have voiced their concerns about the potential loss of the acute care hospital and emergency services and fear for the health and welfare of the residents and visitors who are in critical need to be transported at minimum an additional 9 miles from the current Emergency Room to the nearest hospital; and

WHEREAS, the emergency room operation has saved the lives of current emergency room patients and visitors alike; and

WHEREAS, the I-5 freeway is routinely congested with traffic, delaying travel time to alternative emergency room sites; and

WHEREAS, the potential closure of the local emergency room may take sheriff and fire safety personnel out of the community.

NOW THEREFORE the City Council of the City of San Clemente does hereby resolve as follows:


Section 1 - Oppose the potential closure of the Saddleback Memorial Medical Center, San Clemente Campus and Emergency Room, until the City has met with appropriate stakeholders to determine necessary resources, personnel, costs and timeframe involved to meet the demands of the community.

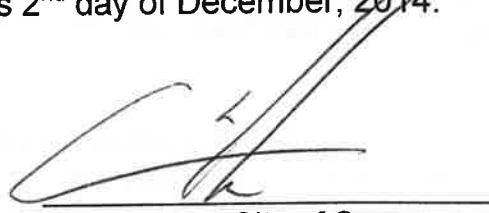
Section 2 - Support Memorial Care Health System in efforts to pursue state legislation that would allow a free standing Emergency Room.

Section 3 - Support Memorial Care Health System in efforts to include San Clemente in a planned pilot program allowing EMS service to free standing advanced urgent care centers.

APPROVED, ADOPTED and SIGNED this 2nd day of December, 2014.

ATTEST:


City Clerk of the City of
San Clemente, California


Mayor of the City of San
Clemente, California

STATE OF CALIFORNIA)
COUNTY OF ORANGE) §
CITY OF SAN CLEMENTE)

I, JOANNE BAADE, City Clerk of the City of San Clemente, California, do hereby certify that Resolution No. 14-61 was adopted at a regular meeting of the City Council of the City of San Clemente held on the 2nd day of December, 2014, by the following vote:

AYES: BAKER, DONCHAK, WARD, MAYOR HAMM

NOES: NONE

ABSENT: BROWN


CITY CLERK of the City of
San Clemente, California

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

/s/ Jeff Oderman
City Attorney