



## AGENDA REPORT

SAN CLEMENTE CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
Meeting Date: April 19, 2016

Agenda Item 11-D(1)

**Approvals:**

City Manager [Signature]

Dept. Head [Signature]

Attorney \_\_\_\_\_

Finance \_\_\_\_\_

**Department:** City Manager  
**Prepared By:** James Makshanoff, City Manager

**Subject:** *POSTPONEMENT OF HOSPITAL CLOSURE REQUEST*

**Fiscal Impact:** Yes, if the hospital closes on May 31, 2016 the City could face a potential increase in public safety costs of approximately \$1.2 million.

**Summary:** The Orange County Emergency Medical Services (OCEMS)/ Emergency Medical Care Committee (EMCC) is holding a Public Hearing on April 29, 2016 on the proposed hospital closure. The purpose of the hearing is to ensure the community has an opportunity to advise OCEMS prior to the completion of an impact evaluation.

**Background:** On March 2, 2015, Saddleback Memorial Medical Center announced their intent to close the San Clemente hospital on May 31, 2016. As they begin the process of closing the hospital, MemorialCare is required to file notice with the State and the County of Orange. The County of Orange is required to conduct a hearing and perform an impact evaluation that will be forwarded to the State.

**Discussion:** At the April 5, 2016 City Council meeting, the City Council directed to staff to prepare a letter to request that OCEMS postpone the potential closure of May 31, 2016. Staff has prepared a draft letter for the City Council to consider, it is attached for your reference.

**Recommended Action:** STAFF RECOMMENDS THAT the City Council direct staff to send the letter immediately and send a copy of the letter to those listed.

**Attachments:** 1. Draft Letter Requesting Hospital Closure Postponement  
2. Notice of Public Hearing

**Notification:** None



Office of Mayor and  
City Councilmembers

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Robert "Bob" Baker, *Mayor*  
Kathy Ward, *Mayor Pro Tem*  
Tim Brown, *Councilmember*  
Lori Donchak, *Councilmember*  
Chris Hamm, *Councilmember*

James Makshanoff, *City Manager*

April 12, 2016

Tammi McConnell  
Orange County Emergency Medical Services  
405 W. Fifth Street  
Suite 301A  
Santa Ana, CA 92701

**RE: Postponement of Hospital Closure**

Dear Ms. Tammi McConnell:

With the recent filing by MemorialCare to close the Saddleback Memorial San Clemente Campus on May 31, 2016, we urge you to slow this process down until an alternative healthcare provider can be found. While the City has had a number of interested parties, MemorialCare has provided non-responsive replies.

It is evident that MemorialCare's actions do not reflect the true spirit of a nonprofit public benefit corporation, but rather that of a for-profit company. MemorialCare's expeditious desire to close this hospital, reflects Memorial Care's disregard for the public's well-being. If this hospital is to close, it will negatively affect the residents of San Clemente. Not only will medical transport times increase significantly with the closure, the City may incur \$1.2 million in additional public safety costs, and an increase in mortality rates between 5% and 15% throughout the entire South Orange County region.

In conclusion, the City of San Clemente respectfully requests that you postpone the proposed May 31, 2016 Saddleback Memorial San Clemente Campus closure until an alternative healthcare provider is found.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Bob Baker  
Mayor

cc: Senator Pat Bates, 36<sup>th</sup> Senate District  
Assemblyman Bill Brough, 73<sup>rd</sup> District  
Lisa Bartlett, Supervisor 5th District  
San Clemente City Council

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING  
IMPACT EVALUATION REGARDING  
SADDLEBACK MEMORIAL MEDICAL CENTER – SAN CLEMENTE  
CLOSURE OF EMERGENCY SERVICES**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Orange County Emergency Medical Services (OCEMS) / Emergency Medical Care Committee (EMCC) will hold a public hearing regarding the proposed closure of the Emergency Department at Saddleback Memorial Medical Center – San Clemente. The hearing will ensure that community members and health care providers have the opportunity to advise OCEMS prior to the completion of an impact evaluation.

DATE OF HEARING: April 29, 2016

TIME OF HEARING: 9:00 A.M. or as soon thereafter as possible.

LOCATION OF HEARING: Commission Hearing Room, County of Orange Hall of Administration, 333 West Santa Ana Blvd., Santa Ana, California, 92701.

**PROPOSAL:**

To hear input from the community, hospitals, fire departments, and ambulance providers impacted by the closure of emergency services at Saddleback Memorial Medical Center – San Clemente. Public comments will be utilized to assess the impact on community access to emergency medical care. Findings from the hearing will be included in the OCEMS Impact Evaluation Report to be submitted to the California Department of Public Health.

**INVITATION TO BE HEARD:**

All persons are invited to present their views before the EMCC.

Any written material to be submitted to the EMCC must be submitted to OCEMS at least 24 hours prior to the hearing.

For further information, please contact Tammi McConnell, MSN, RN, EMS Administrator of the Orange County Health Care Agency Emergency Medical Services program at (714) 834-3500.