

From: [Christina Turner](#)
To: [BoardOperations](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Public Comment - April 16, 2024 Agenda - Items 9 and 19
Date: Friday, April 12, 2024 4:34:40 PM
Attachments: [Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors 4.16.24 Meeting - Regional Medical Center Service Reduction.pdf](#)
[Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors 4.16.24 Meeting - 911 Emergency Ambulance Services Contract Extension.pdf](#)

Good Afternoon County of Santa Clara Board of Supervisors,

Please find attached letters in response to April 16, 2024 Agenda items:

- #9 - Receive report from the Emergency Medical Services Agency relating to the reduction of trauma and specialty care services at Regional Medical Center of San Jose and provide input and direction relating to the Draft Impact Assessment.
- #19 - Approve Ninth Amendment to Agreement with Rural/Metro of California relating to providing 911 emergency paramedic and ambulance services, extending the agreement for an 18-month period through December 31, 2025, with three one-year extension options, that has been reviewed and approved by County Counsel as to form and legality.

Thank you for the opportunity for the City of Morgan Hill to provide input.

Best regards,
Christina

CITY OF MORGAN HILL

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April 12, 2024

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BoardOperations@cob.sccgov.org

RE: April 16, 2024 Board of Supervisors Meeting
Item #19 – 911 Emergency Ambulance Services Contract Extension

Dear Board of Supervisors,

The City of Morgan Hill is deeply concerned with the shortage of available County-contracted American Medical Response (AMR) paramedic ambulances serving the South County area. We have experienced significant delays in response times for emergency medical dispatching services, with ambulances taking as long as 30 minutes. Furthermore, the current requirement for a First Response Unit (firefighter) to confirm the need for transport, thereby arriving and staying on the scene, is placing undue strain on our first responders.

The delayed ambulance response times, coupled with the shortage of available County ambulances within the City of Morgan Hill, hinder the Morgan Hill Fire Department's ability to respond promptly to the next pending emergency, which could have detrimental consequences.

Additionally, the closest emergency rooms are situated 9 or 13 miles from Morgan Hill and the nearest trauma center is 25 miles away. Given the distance to these medical facilities, immediate and effective responsiveness to South County residents from our Emergency Medical Services (EMS) partners is imperative. The recent announcement of Regional Medical Center of San Jose reducing their services only exacerbates our concerns and leaves South County residents even more unprotected.

The City of Morgan Hill urgently requests that the County address both short-term and long-term solutions to the County ambulance crisis during the negotiation of this contract extension. We ask that the new contract adequately addresses services in South County and incorporates progress milestones to ensure good faith progress of the timely and adequate EMS service. The City of Morgan Hill stands ready to work with the County and other relevant parties to find sustainable solutions that prioritize the needs of our Community.

Respectfully submitted,

Christina Turner
City Manager