

RESOLUTION NO. 106-14

RESOLUTION OF THE RICHMOND CITY COUNCIL IN SUPPORT OF THE PROPOSED “5 by 8” SHARED COMMITMENT PLAN WITH OPTIONS TO KEEP DOCTORS MEDICAL CENTER OPEN AND RESTORE EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT SERVICES AND TO PROVIDE HEALTH CARE SERVICES TO RESIDENTS OF RICHMOND AND TO ALL RESIDENTS OF WEST CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

WHEREAS, all Richmond residents should have the opportunity to make choices that allow them to live a long, healthy life, regardless of their job, neighborhood of residence, level of education, immigration status, sexual orientation, or ethnic background; and,

WHEREAS, health is not simply the absence of disease, health starts where we live, learn, work and play, and everyday decisions within the City of Richmond can promote greater health and equity. Good health enhances quality of life, improves workforce productivity, increases the capacity for learning, strengthens families and communities, supports environmental sustainability and helps reduce overall economic and social insecurity; and,

WHEREAS, in developing strategies to address health disparities, it is important to recognize that promoting equity is not just about providing more services. It is also about how services are developed, prioritized and delivered; and,

WHEREAS, West Contra Costa County residents suffer significant health disparities such as cardiovascular disease, asthma, and respiratory illnesses in the county; and,

WHEREAS, access to health care should include hospital care and outpatient care equal to all other areas of the county; and,

WHEREAS, access to health care in West Contra Costa County should be accessible to all; and,

WHEREAS, at the moment, West Contra Costa County is disproportionately lacking in health care providers compared to other areas of Contra Costa County; and,

WHEREAS, Doctors Medical Center (DMC) is the only public, safety-net hospital in West Contra Costa County; and,

WHEREAS, the future of DMC, and its life saving services may soon be terminated; and,

WHEREAS, should DMC close, residents would need to travel to other hospitals in the region to receive medical care, such travel would cause adverse health impacts and financial hardship for many of our residents; and,

WHEREAS, the closure of DMC would put a significant strain on the Kaiser Permanente Richmond Medical Center; the Kaiser facility would be negatively impacted due to the influx of non-Kaiser member patients; and,

WHEREAS, DMC serves thousands of patients from all over the region, and also cares for victims of all industrial accidents within the immediate area; and,

WHEREAS, the DMC Emergency Room serves more than 40,000 people each year, many of whom are residually uninsured and have nowhere else to go for medical care in an emergency; and,

WHEREAS, the proposed “5 by 8” Shared Commitment Plan relies on contributions from other East Bay hospitals, local government, industry, DMC employee groups, and West Contra Costa Healthcare District taxpayers;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Richmond City Council supports the “5 by 8” Shared Commitment Plan with options as set forth by DMC to provide full service hospital services to residents of Richmond and to all residents of West Contra Costa County.

I hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was passed and adopted by the Council of the City of Richmond at a regular meeting thereof held on December 16, 2014, by the following vote:

AYES: Councilmembers Bates, Boozé, Butt, Myrick, Rogers, Vice Mayor Beckles and Mayor McLaughlin.
NOES: None.
ABSTENTIONS: None.
ABSENT: None.

DIANE HOLMES
CLERK OF THE CITY OF RICHMOND
(SEAL)

Approved:

GAYLE MCLAUGHLIN
Mayor

Approved as to form:

BRUCE GOODMILLER
City Attorney

State of California }
County of Contra Costa : ss.
City of Richmond }

I certify that the foregoing is a true copy of **Resolution No. 106-14**, finally passed and adopted by the City Council of the City of Richmond at a regular meeting held on December 16, 2014.