



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
AGENDA LETTER

Agenda Number:

Clerk of the Board of Supervisors  
105 E. Anapamu Street, Suite 407  
Santa Barbara, CA 93101  
(805) 568-2240

**Department Name:** Public Health  
**Department No.:** 041  
**For Agenda Of:** January 9, 2024  
**Placement:** Administrative  
**Estimated Time:**  
**Continued Item:** No  
**If Yes, date from:**  
**Vote Required:** Majority

---

**TO:** Board of Supervisors  
**FROM:** Department Mouhanad Hammami, Director  
Director(s): Public Health Department  
Contact Info: Nick Clay, 805-681-5394  
Emergency Medical Services Director  
**SUBJECT:** EMS Trauma Revenue Agreement with Santa Barbara Cottage Hospital for Level I Adult and Level II Pediatric Trauma Center Designation; EMS Trauma Revenue Agreement with Marian Regional Medical Center for Level II Trauma Center Designation

---

**County Counsel Concurrence**

As to form: Yes

Other Concurrence: Risk Management

As to form: Yes

**Auditor-Controller Concurrence**

As to form: Yes

**Recommended Actions:**

That the Board of Supervisors:

- a) Approve, ratify, and authorize the Chair to execute an Agreement (Attachment A) between the Public Health Department and Santa Barbara Cottage Hospital (SBCH) to provide Trauma Services as the locally designated Level I Adult and Level II Pediatric Trauma Center. The Agreement term is January 1, 2024 through December 31, 2024 with the County receiving \$98,540 for the oversight, administration, and maintenance costs of the trauma system; and
- b) Approve, ratify, and authorize the Chair to execute an Agreement (Attachment B) between the Public Health Department and Marian Regional Medical Center (MRMC) to provide Trauma Services as the locally designated Level II Trauma Center. The Agreement term is January 1, 2024 through December 31, 2024, with the County receiving \$77,425 for the oversight, administration, and maintenance costs of the trauma system program; and
- c) Determine that the above actions are not a "Project" under the California Environmental Quality Act review per CEQA Guideline section 15378(b)(4), since the actions are government fiscal activities that do not involve commitment to any specific project which may result in a potentially significant physical impact on the environment.

**Summary Text:**

This item is on the agenda to authorize the Chair to execute designation Agreements with Santa Barbara Cottage Hospital as a Level-I Adult and Level-II Pediatric trauma center (Attachment A) and locally designate Marian Regional Medical Center as a Level-II Adult trauma center (Attachment B). California Health and Safety Code section 1798.165 gives the Local Emergency Medical Services Agency (LEMSA) the authority to designate trauma facilities as part of their trauma care system, pursuant to the regulations promulgated by the State of California EMS Authority. The Trauma Care System requires that all designated trauma centers have a written agreement with the LEMSA. (22 CCR § 100255(g).)

Traumatic injuries continue to be the leading cause of death for individuals under 45 years of age in the United States. In fact, since 2011 there have been over 23,000 trauma patients that have been treated in Santa Barbara County's Trauma System. The Santa Barbara County Trauma System, supported by our Level I Adult Trauma Center and Level II Pediatric Trauma Center at Santa Barbara Cottage Hospital (SBCH) and our now Level II Adult Trauma Center at Marian Regional Medical Center (MRMC), collectively treated over 3,541 patients in 2022. Pediatric patients account for approximately 5.9% of the patient population treated at our local trauma centers. In 2022, 271 (7.6%) of these patients endured injuries meeting the most severe criteria (Injury Severity Score greater than 15), putting them at a high-risk for death without the care provided by the comprehensive trauma system in Santa Barbara County.

On March 21, 1999, your Board approved Santa Barbara County's Trauma System Plan ("Plan") based on the State Trauma System Regulations. The Plan provides the framework needed to establish a formalized, inclusive system of care for injured patients. LEMSA has worked with all hospitals and all Emergency Medical Services (EMS) system providers to establish trauma specific policies and procedures. A performance improvement process is also in place to ensure a quality trauma system for Santa Barbara County.

SBCH continues to meet the requirements to maintain the designation of a Level I Trauma Center by LEMSA and as verified by the American College of Surgeons (ACS) Committee on Trauma. In February 2013, SBCH also met the requirements (as verified by the ACS Committee on Trauma) to be designated as a Level II Pediatric Trauma Center and EMS Agency granted that designation in March 2013. Last year, MRMC received verification by the ACS as a Level II Trauma Center. The LEMSA will submit an updated Trauma Plan to the California State EMS Authority for approval.

**Performance Measure:**

The Agreement includes an annual evaluation of SBCH's and MRMC's reporting requirements in addition to the submission of each hospital's Trauma Plan. These reporting requirements ensures that the LEMSA is able to monitor patient admissions per Trauma Center, analyze population impact, and work with centers to maintain minimum requirements to maintain level of verification.

**Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:**

Budgeted: Yes

**Fiscal Analysis:**

<b>Funding Sources</b>	<b>FY 2023-2024</b>	<b>FY 2024-2025</b>	<b>Agreement Total</b>
Contractual Agreements	87,983	87,982	175,965
TSAC	22,379	22,379	44,758
<b>Total</b>	<b>110,362</b>	<b>110,361</b>	<b>220,723</b>

Narrative: Under the proposed Agreements, Santa Barbara County will receive \$175,965 for the one-year term. SBCH agrees to pay \$98,540 and MRMC agrees to pay \$77,425 for services provided by the EMS Agency for oversight, administration, and maintenance costs of the trauma system program. These Agreements cover 80% of the existing cost for trauma services. The remaining 20% in the amount of \$44,758 will be funded by a one-time Tobacco Settlement Allocation (TSAC). The Public Health Department is in the process of exploring future cost recovery and cost sharing options for these services. Most of the allotment is included as part of the Public Health Department FY 2023-24 Adjusted budget. Once approved by your Board, the department will return with the necessary budget revision to add the FY 2023-24 TSAC allocation in the amount of \$22,379. There is no increase in the use of the County’s General Fund resources as a result of executing this agreement.

**Key Contract Risks:**

N/A

**Staffing Impacts:**

There are no staffing impacts from this action.

**Special Instructions:**

Please execute two (2) original Agreements with Santa Barbara Cottage Hospital and two (2) original Agreements with Marian Regional Medical Center and retain one (1) original of each Agreement and one (1) Minute Order for pick-up by the department. Please email [PHDGroupContractsUnit@sbcphd.org](mailto:PHDGroupContractsUnit@sbcphd.org) when available for pickup.

**Attachments:**

- A. Agreement with Santa Barbara Cottage Hospital for Designation as a Level I Adult and Level II Pediatric Trauma Center.
- B. Agreement with Marian Regional Medical Center for Designation as a Level II Adult Trauma Center.

**Authored by:**

Gabby Modglin, EMS Agency Specialty Care System Coordinator, Public Health Department