



**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:** ADMHS  
**Department No.:** 043  
**For Agenda Of:** 4-16-13  
**Placement:** Administrative  
**Estimated Tme:**  
**Continued Item:** No  
**If Yes, date from:**  
**Vote Required:** Majority

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**TO:** Board of Supervisors

**FROM:** Department Takashi Wada, MD, MPH, Interim Director  
Director(s) Alcohol, Drug and Mental Health Services, 681-5220  
Contact Info: Marianne Garrity, R.N., ADMHS Deputy Director, 681-5220

**SUBJECT:** Aurora Vista del Mar FY 12-13 Amendment

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**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:

- 1) Approve and authorize the Chair to execute an amendment to the contract with Aurora Vista del Mar Hospital (not a local vendor) for inpatient psychiatric hospitalization services, to increase the contract by \$550,000 for a total contract not to exceed \$1,350,000 through June 30, 2013.
- 2) Determine under CEQA Guidelines Section 15061(b)(3) that this activity is exempt from review on the basis that it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the activity may have a significant effect on the environment.

**Summary Text:**

The Alcohol, Drug and Mental Health Services (ADMHS) Department provides specialty mental health services to Santa Barbara County residents, including acute inpatient psychiatric services through a contract with Aurora Vista Del Mar Hospital (Aurora Vista). Aurora Vista, located in Ventura, provides acute psychiatric inpatient hospital services to adults with severe mental illness who cannot be safely treated at a less intensive level of care. Aurora Vista is on track to provide a greater number of services than contemplated in the original FY 12-13 contract, and will incur expenses beyond the value of the existing agreement. This amendment adds funds allocated during FY 12-13 Budget Hearings to the contract maximum and does not increase the FY 12-13 adopted budget for inpatient hospitalization.

**Background:**

Aurora Vista is the primary acute psychiatric inpatient hospital providing services to county clients in need of hospitalization when Santa Barbara County Psychiatric Health Facility (PHF) is at capacity. Individuals are admitted involuntarily if they are determined to be a danger to themselves or others or gravely disabled pursuant to Welfare and Institutions Code §5150, and meet medical necessity criteria, as defined in the California Code of Regulations Title 9 §1820.205. Aurora Vista provides psychiatric inpatient hospital services such as psychiatric assessment, medication management, individual and group psychotherapy, and intensive one to one supervision, as appropriate.

The cost of one occupied bed at Aurora Vista is approximately \$248,200 per year, which represents high cost care that is standard for psychiatric inpatient services. In accordance with the FY 12-13 Proposed Budget, ADMHS originally set the Aurora Vista contract amount to accommodate 1,176 bed days, an average of 3 beds per day. During FY 12-13 budget hearings, \$496,000 in additional funds were allocated to maintain the level of service, including \$216,000 of one-time General Fund Contribution allotted by the Board. The Aurora Vista contract for FY 12-13 had been processed prior to the allocation of these additional funds, and ADMHS planned to amend the agreement to increase the contract maximum during the year.

ADMHS has implemented a policy to move individuals in need of psychiatric hospitalization more quickly out of emergency rooms and into acute hospital beds. The projection for the FY 12-13 contract total is based on the most recent utilization data, however the full impact of the new policy is difficult to ascertain at this time. ADMHS staff make every effort to avoid costly hospitalization and place individuals in the least restrictive environments that can provide treatment appropriate to the clients' needs. Approval of the recommended action will allow ADMHS to reimburse Aurora Vista for 1,985 bed days, an average of 5.4 beds per day.

**Performance Measure:**

To improve the quality of life for members of the community with serious mental illness (including MHSA clients), the department will provide mental health services to accommodate 5,000 unduplicated adult clients annually.

**Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:**

Budgeted: Yes

**Fiscal Analysis:**

<b><u>Funding Sources</u></b>	<b><u>Current FY Cost:</u></b>	<b><u>Annualized On-going Cost:</u></b>	<b><u>Total One-Time Project Cost</u></b>
General Fund	\$ 216,000.00		
State	\$ 1,134,000.00		
Federal			
Fees			
Other:			
Total	\$ 1,350,000.00	\$ -	\$ -

**Narrative:**

The Aurora Vista amendment is funded by State Realignment revenue and County General Funds. The funding sources are identified in the FY 2012-13 Adopted Budget, Federal and State Revenues and

General Fund Contribution (page D-84 in the FY 2012-14 County Budget) and FY 12-13 Final Budget Adjustments.

**Special Instructions:**

Please return one (1) copy of the minute order and fully executed amendment to:

Alcohol, Drug and Mental Health Services  
ATTN: Contracts  
300 North San Antonio Road, Bldg. 3  
Santa Barbara, CA 93110

**Attachments:**

Aurora Vista Amendment

**Authored by:**

C. Toma