



Memorandum

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND
CITY COUNCIL

FROM: Vice Mayor Chavez and
Councilmember Chirco

**SUBJECT: Adoption of a Resolution in Support
Of Bringing a Children's Hospital
To San Jose**

DATE: February 27, 2006

Approved:

Cindy C. Fredy Chirco Date: 2-27-06

RECOMMENDATION

That the Council adopt a resolution requesting that Lucile Packard Children's Hospital (LPCH) and Good Samaritan/Hospital Corporation of America consummate a partnership that will make a local community children's hospital of excellence a reality in San Jose.

BACKGROUND

There is an acute shortage of pediatric medical care in Silicon Valley. Children from Santa Clara, San Benito, Santa Cruz, and Monterey County are currently cared for in more than 20 hospitals throughout the region. Only the hospital sites of Lucile Packard Children's Hospital, Santa Clara Valley Medical Center, and Kaiser, Santa Clara have concentrations of pediatric patients greater than 8 patients per day. At all the remaining hospitals, the average daily census of pediatric patients ranges from one to six patients. Quality of service and outcomes are directly related to a higher concentration of patients.

Believing that focusing care for these children in a hospital dedicated to their special needs will improve their outcomes and the healthcare of their entire region's children, concerned physicians, business leaders, and parents came together in October 1999 to discuss the state of children's health care in South Santa Clara County. They identified San Jose as the home of the largest concentration of children in the county – as well as the largest U.S. city without its own community children's hospital.

To address this imbalance and work toward the establishment of a new children's hospital, the Silicon Valley Children's Hospital Foundation (SVCHF) was created with initial seed money from Applied Materials, Inc. and other individual supporters. In addition to many community leaders, the SVCHF includes more than 100 pediatricians and pediatric sub-specialists from South Bay areas including Gilroy, Morgan Hill, Saratoga, Los Gatos and San Jose. The main goal of the SVCHF is to consolidate what is now a fragmented system of pediatric health care in San Jose.

Following its establishment, the Foundation worked to increase public awareness of the need for a San Jose-based children's hospital and to enlist community support. After the completion of an extensive market analysis, the decision was made to partner with a local hospital in order to expedite the process. In 2003, SVCHF announced its partnership with Lucile Packard Children's Hospital (LPCH). LPCH will take the lead in overall operations and management in the new San Jose hospital.

LPCH is currently in the process of developing a location, confirming the financial feasibility of the project, and identifying the programs and services to be provided in the proposed new children's hospital. The vision for the hospital is three-fold: to provide between 40 and 60 beds, eight to ten pediatric intensive care beds, and an adjacent medical office building for pediatricians and pediatric specialists; to be owned and operated by Packard Children's Hospital; to include physicians from the community and from Lucile Packard Children's Hospital to work together at the hospital.

Children are nearly 25% of the Santa Clara County population and 100% of our future. We encourage the Council to support this resolution to bring quality children's health care to San Jose.

RESOLUTION NO. _____

A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SAN JOSE IN SUPPORT OF A CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL IN SAN JOSE

WHEREAS, Lucile Packard Children's Hospital at Stanford (LPCH) and Good Samaritan Hospital, San José, California, part of Hospital Corporation of America (HCA), decided to explore the development of a partnership for the purpose of opening a children's hospital in San José; and

WHEREAS, San José is the home of the largest concentration of children in Santa Clara County, and remains the largest U.S. city without its own community children's hospital, and

WHEREAS, the farther children live from a children's hospital, the less likely they will receive care at a children's hospital: In San José, only 10% of children go to a children's hospital while in Palo Alto, 80% of the children go to a children's hospital; and

WHEREAS, the foremost care for newborns and children is provided in a hospital that specializes in their care and in their specific needs; and

WHEREAS, the Silicon Valley Children's Hospital Foundation, the community of pediatricians, pediatric specialists, nurses, caregivers, and families eagerly anticipate the founding of a children's hospital; and

WHEREAS, HCA's mission is a commitment to the care and improvement of human life; and

WHEREAS, LPCH is committed to serve the community as an internationally recognized pediatric and obstetric hospital that deservedly enjoys vast philanthropic support;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SAN JOSE THAT:

The City of San José strongly requests that Lucile Packard Children's Hospital and Good Samaritan/Hospital Corporation of America consummate a partnership that will make a local community children's hospital of excellence a reality in San José.

ADOPTED this _____ day of _____, 2006, by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

DISQUALIFIED:

RON GONZALES
Mayor

ATTEST:

LEE PRICE, MMC
City Clerk

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SAN JOSE CITY CLERK
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