

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES AUTHORITY

10901 GOLD CENTER DR., SUITE 400
RANCHO CORDOVA, CA 95670
(916) 322-4336 FAX (916) 324-2875



DATE: September 17, 2014

TO: Commission on EMS

FROM: Howard Backer, MD, MPH, FACEP
Director

PREPARED BY: Lisa Witchey, Manager
Personnel Standards Unit

SUBJECT: Community Paramedicine

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Receive information regarding Community Paramedicine.

FISCAL IMPACT:

None.

DISCUSSION:

Continuing EMSA's efforts to obtain approval to test Community Paramedicine under the Health Workforce Pilot Project authorized by the Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development (OSHPD), a public hearing was held on July 30, 2014. The hearing provided another opportunity for OSHPD to receive public comment through testimony, in addition to the 45-day public comment period and public meeting held earlier in the year.

Once again, representatives from each pilot project attended the public hearing to provide comment and support the need for the pilot. Each spoke about their dedication and passion for participating in a Community Paramedicine pilot project and how paramedics can safely and effectively work in an expanded role within a community-based healthcare system to improve health care efficacy, cost effectiveness, patient-centered care, and integration of health system resources. Representatives from the Healing Arts Boards were also in attendance at the public hearing, several speaking in opposition to the concept of Community Paramedicine.

Next Steps

Within 60 days of the release of the public hearing transcript, the office of HWPP within OSHPD will submit a recommendation on the HWPP proposal to the Director of OSHPD and will send copies of their recommendation to the interested parties.

The Director of OSHPD will accept comments on the recommendations, and, no sooner than

30 days after transmittal of the recommendations; the Director of OSHPD will approve or disapprove the proposed project.

We anticipate receiving the final decision from OSHPD in Fall 2014, and if approved, the pilot sites will identify Community Paramedics who will participate in core and local training beginning in 2015.

The EMS Authority will continue to keep the Commission informed on the progress of the Community Paramedicine pilot program.