

County of Santa Clara

Office of the County Executive

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October 19, 2009

To: Board of Supervisors

From: Jeffrey V. Smith, County Executive

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Jeffrey V. Smith", written over the printed name.

Subject: Revisions to the Santa Clara County Ordinance Division A18 Health and Welfare

At the October 19, 2009, Health and Hospital Committee meeting, questions were raised regarding the proposal outlined in Board Transmittal CE02 102009 to administratively restructure the Santa Clara Valley Health and Hospital System (SCVHHS). Specifically, three questions were raised:

1. Will this re-organization change any current employee rights, particularly "bumping" rights?
2. Will this re-organization change the contracts with any Community Based Organizations (CBO) or others?
3. When will the community and stakeholders have an opportunity to be involved in the change?

The answers succinctly:

1. Employee rights will not be changed with the re-organization. Historically, "bumping" rights have been within the entire SCVHHS. We will not change this "past practice." After the reorganization, "bumping" will still happen as it does now, within all of the Departments that are currently within the SCVHHS, even though Department of Alcohol and Drug Services and Public Health will be reporting to the County Executive.
2. All contracts with CBOs and others are between the County and those parties. The Departments do not have legal standing to be a party in a contract. Thus, no contract rights will be changed by this administrative change.
3. This is the first reading of the ordinance to change the reporting structure. Another reading will occur in November, and the ordinance will not have legal affect until December 3, 2009. As mentioned in the transmittal, after this first reading, the County Executive and the SCVHHS Director will develop an implementation plan for the change. We will involve all relevant stakeholders in this process with the goal of assuring that the transition to a new administrative structure is smooth and thoughtful.