

RESOLUTION NO. 2022-13

Resolution Calling On Sutter Health To Reopen The Mack E. Mickelson Arthritis And Rehabilitation Center Therapy Pool For Community Use At The Mills Health Center

WHEREAS, the Mack E. Mickelson Arthritis and Rehabilitation Center Therapy Pool (the “Mickelson Pool”) is an ADA-accessible, warm water therapy pool previously operated by Sutter Health and located at the Mills Health Center in the City of San Mateo; and,

WHEREAS, the Mickelson Pool was constructed over 25 years ago with grants and charitable contributions from the San Mateo community; and,

WHEREAS, the Mickelson Pool has been used by hundreds of residents of the Peninsula Health Care District and by thousands of residents of San Mateo County; and,

WHEREAS, the Mickelson Pool has provided essential therapy to residents who suffer from arthritis, debilitating injuries, autoimmune disorders, and mobility impairments; and,

WHEREAS, there is an urgent need for the services and therapies provided by the Mickelson Pool due to the increasing number of older residents within the Peninsula Health Care District; and,

WHEREAS, the Mickelson Pool is the only pool of its kind in San Mateo County and there are no comparable warm water therapy pools that can easily accommodate the needs of residents of the Peninsula Health Care District; and,

WHEREAS, the Mickelson Pool was closed in March 2020 and has not reopened; and,

WHEREAS, residents of the Peninsula Health Care District who had relied on the Mickelson Pool for therapy are now suffering from acute and chronic pain, loss of mobility, and other conditions that could be alleviated by reopening the pool; and,

WHEREAS, in spite of the critical and overwhelming needs of residents of the Peninsula Health Care District and San Mateo County, Sutter Health has announced that it will not reopen the Mickelson Pool, thereby removing a valuable healthcare resource from the community without adequate justification; and,

WHEREAS, the continued operation of the Mickelson Pool is critical to the health, safety, well-being, and dignity of residents of the Peninsula Health Care District; and,

WHEREAS, Sutter Health has enjoyed strong financial and volunteer support from residents of San Mateo County; and,

WHEREAS, Sutter Health has substantial reserves available to pay for the cost of any repairs needed to reopen the Mickelson Pool; and,

WHEREAS, Peninsula Health Care District, Sequoia Healthcare District, and the County of San Mateo have expressed willingness to assist with the cost of restoring and operating the Mickelson Pool for the benefit of their residents;

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED that the Board of Directors of Peninsula Health Care District calls on Sutter Health to reopen the Mickelson Pool at the earliest opportunity and further calls on Sutter Health to engage in meaningful dialogue with Peninsula Health Care District, Sequoia Healthcare District, and the County of San Mateo regarding funding for repairs and operations so that the pool may be reopened at the earliest possible date.

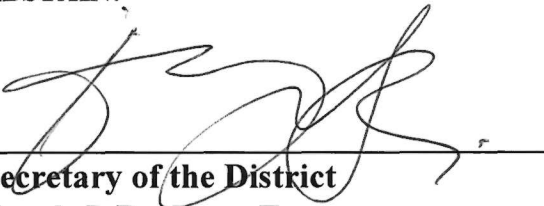
PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Directors of the Peninsula Health Care District this 22nd day of September 2022, by the following vote:

AYES: CAPPEL, PAGLIARO, NAVARRO, ZELL

NOES:

ABSENT: GALLIGAN

ABSTAIN:



Secretary of the District
Frank J. Pagliaro, Esq