

# CITY OF MORGAN HILL

## CITY COUNCIL POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

CP-04-03

**SUBJECT:** MEDICAL SERVICES POLICY AND OBJECTIVES

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** June 23, 2010

**ORIGINATING DEPARTMENT:** CITY MANAGER

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### **BACKGROUND**

In December, 1999, with the closure of the former Saint Louise Hospital in Morgan Hill, the City experienced a serious loss of medical services and medical service providers. It became apparent that two full service hospitals, at that time, could not both succeed without significant subsidies. The City Council became actively involved in seeking to preserve, restore and expand medical services in the community. The Council took action to support the restoration of medical services.

In 2001, the Morgan Hill Community Health Foundation was formed to lead the effort to restore medical services and increase medical service providers in Morgan Hill. In 2002, the Daughters of Charity separated their hospitals from CHW. Saint Louise Regional Hospital in Gilroy and the former hospital site in Morgan Hill renamed DePaul Health Center and part of Saint Louise Regional Hospital became part of the Daughters of Charity Health System. The medical office building on the DePaul Health Center campus was reopened. Saint Louise Regional Hospital with support from the Morgan Hill Community Health Foundation recruited physicians to practice in Morgan Hill.

In February 2010, Saint Louise Regional Hospital with help from the Morgan Hill Community Health Foundation opened the DePaul Urgent Care in Morgan Hill providing urgent care medical services seven days a week including diagnostic imaging and laboratory services. The medical office building is fully occupied. All primary care specialties are available in Morgan Hill. Outpatient surgery is available at South Bay Surgery Center.

In order to guide the City of Morgan Hill's support of medical services for the community, the City Council adopts the following:

- A statement of policy
- A series of short and long term outcomes or objectives to be achieved
- A description of the role of the City government.

### **PURPOSE**

It is the policy of the City of Morgan Hill to encourage medical services providers to locate and expand in the city in order to deliver balanced, affordable, convenient, and needed medical services to the broadest possible segment of the Morgan Hill community.

## **POLICY**

### **Objectives**

The following objectives set forth the expected outcomes to be achieved by pursuing the Medical Services Policy in the short term (over the next two years or so) and the long term (requiring more than two years to accomplish.).

#### **Short Term Objectives:**

1. Additional primary care physicians and specialists sufficient to meet the needs of Morgan Hill residents, and to enhance the success of other medical services including an acute care hospital.
2. Conveniently located and accessible "urgent care" facilities open normal business hours and on evenings and weekends.
3. Additional obstetrical/gynecology services, a birthing center, and other associated medical services for women.
4. Ancillary medical services and facilities that would meet community needs and re-invigorate the community of medical services providers in Morgan Hill.

Examples include:

- Laboratory, radiology, and clinical services.
- Ambulatory surgery centers.
- Skilled nursing facilities.
- Physical therapy and rehabilitation services.
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#### **Long Term Objectives:**

1. A full service, general acute care hospital with a 24-hour emergency room.  

The hospital can be provided at an existing facility or at a conveniently located new facility.
2. Ancillary medical services and facilities that would support the success of a general acute care hospital (for example, a specialty surgery hospital).

**City Government's Role**

The City of Morgan Hill will be responsible for adopting land use and regulatory policies that facilitate the Medical Services Policy and Objectives.

The City of Morgan Hill has helped establish and initially finance the work of the Morgan Hill Community Health Foundation which is expected to take the lead in community health services planning and implementation. Physician recruitment is currently the City's top priority for expenditure of the public funds previously allocated to the Foundation.

The City of Morgan Hill will expect the Foundation to annually adopt a work plan and report progress to the community at least annually.

**This policy shall remain in effect until modified by the City Council.**

**APPROVED:**



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**STEVE TATE, MAYOR**