August 25, 2020

Marin County Board of Supervisors
3501 Civic Center Drive
San Rafael, CA 94903

SUBJECT: Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Public Health requests the first reading of the proposed ordinance amending Marin County Code Chapter 7.60 pertaining to Ambulance Transportation Services.

Dear Supervisors:

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Request clerk to conduct first reading by title only of the proposed ordinance amending Marin County Code Chapter 7.60 pertaining to Ambulance Transportation Services.

2. Schedule a merit hearing for September 15, 2020 at 10:30 a.m.

SUMMARY: The County of Marin has the authority pursuant to State law to regulate ambulance service within Marin County. Marin County Code Chapter 7.60 provides for the establishment of standards for ambulance transport, personnel training and certification, equipment and supply requirements, response time requirements, radio and tracking mechanisms, patient treatment and transportation protocols. Through this chapter, the Department’s Emergency Medical Services Agency is empowered to recommend issuance or denial of permits, monitor performance, enforce standards if necessary and to act in an impartial manner as an arbitrator in matters of consumer complaints.

The last time Chapter 7.60 was amended was April 1996. The proposed amendment revises outdated language, addresses inconsistencies, and includes quality, performance, and data sharing requirements. The training requirements incorporate lessons learned from recent Public Safety Power Shutoff (PSPS) and wildfire events. The proposed changes are reasonable and necessary for effective regulation of ambulance services; and to update the regulations to reflect current practice of ambulance operations within the County. The proposed Ordinance is accompanied by a Resolution providing additional details about the regulations.

The merit hearing to consider this proposed ordinance will be held on September 15, 2020 at 10:30 a.m. Should the proposed Ordinance be passed, it will become effective thirty days from and after its passage.
COMMUNITY BENEFITS: The proposed amendments to this chapter help ensure that when persons in Marin County request ambulance transportation they receive a consistent level of service that meets the minimum acceptable standards as established by the community to improve care.

FISCAL IMPACT: There is no fiscal impact associated with this proposed action.

REVIEWED BY:

- County Administrator
- Department of Finance
- County Counsel
- Human Resources

Respectively submitted,

Benita McLarin
Director