



THOMAS L. GARTHWAITE, M.D.
Director and Chief Medical Officer

FRED LEAF
Chief Operating Officer

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES
313 N. Figueroa, Los Angeles, CA 90012
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October 20, 2005

TO: Each Supervisor

FROM: Thomas L. Garthwaite, MD 
Director and Chief Medical Officer

SUBJECT: **AUGMENTATION OF TRAUMA SERVICES IN SAN GABRIEL VALLEY**

On September 27, 2005, your Board took several actions to augment the current trauma services provided to the San Gabriel Valley. After determining that it is not feasible for local hospitals to reenter the trauma system at this time, your Board instructed the Department's Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Agency to take actions that will upgrade the level of trauma services to the San Gabriel Valley.

Trauma Center Designated for East San Gabriel Valley

Effective October 4, 2005, the EMS Agency expanded the trauma catchment area for LAC+USC Medical Center to include all portions of the San Gabriel Valley that are currently not covered by Huntington Memorial Hospital's trauma center catchment area. Attachment I is a copy of the official notice and maps sent to trauma centers and EMS providers regarding this designation.

Air Ambulance Helicopter in the San Gabriel Valley

Your Board directed the EMS Agency to work with the Fire Chief to expand Los Angeles County Fire Department's paramedic air helicopter services in the San Gabriel Valley to 24 hours, seven days per week and to physically locate the helicopter in the East San Gabriel Valley. The projected date for the Fire Department to permanently station an air

Honorable Board of Supervisors
October 20, 2005
Page 2

ambulance in the Valley is January 2006. The Fire Department, in collaboration with this Department, will return to the Board within 60 days with the budget detail utilizing Measure B funds in an annual amount not to exceed \$450,000 to support this program expansion.

In addition to these actions, your Board requested that we provide information regarding the capability of designated trauma centers to receive different types of helicopters used by approved air ambulance providers. Attachment II is a matrix of Helicopter Landing Sites at Trauma Centers. A contract requirement of designated trauma centers is the availability of a "helipad with a permit issued by the State of California, Department of Transportation, Division of Aeronautics".

It is important to point out that when the trauma system was developed in this County, small aircraft, such as Bell 412 helicopters, were used to transport critical trauma victims from distant areas of the County. In recent years, the Los Angeles County Fire and Sheriff's Departments have purchased larger format helicopters to be used for multi-purpose air capability, including transport of multiple patients. As hospitals upgrade their facilities to meet seismic safety requirements, they are also working with the EMS Agency and the air transport providers to address the helipad requirements for heavier weight/size helicopters. Based on a joint analysis by the Health and Fire Departments, the current helicopter landing sites are adequate to meet the needs of the trauma system at this time.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please let me know.

TLG:cm
509:015

Attachments

c: Chief Administrative Officer
County Counsel
Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors
Auditor-Controller
Fire Chief, LA County Fire Department



**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES • DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES
EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES AGENCY**

5555 Ferguson Drive, Suite 220
Commerce, CA 90022
Phone: (323) 890-7500
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Carol Meyer
DIRECTOR

William J. Koenig, M.D., FACEP
MEDICAL DIRECTOR

October 4, 2005

TO: Paramedic Coordinator, Los Angeles County Fire Department
Paramedic Coordinator, La Verne Fire Department
Paramedic Coordinator, West Covina Fire Department
Prehospital Care Coordinator, Huntington Memorial Hospital
Prehospital Care Coordinator, LAC+USC Medical Center
Prehospital Care Coordinator, Methodist Hospital
Prehospital Care Coordinator, Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center
Prehospital Care Coordinator, Presbyterian Intercommunity Hospital
Prehospital Care Coordinator, Queen of the Valley – Citrus Valley
Trauma Program Manager, Each Trauma Center

FROM: Carol Meyer
Director

**SUBJECT: DESIGNATED TRAUMA CENTER FOR EAST SAN GABRIEL VALLEY –
LAC+USC MEDICAL CENTER**

Effective immediately, the Board of Supervisors (BOS) approved LAC+USC Medical Center as the designated trauma center for any portions of the San Gabriel Valley that are currently not covered by Huntington Memorial Hospital's trauma center catchment area.

Over the past year, representatives from the Board of Supervisors and the EMS Agency have been meeting with the San Gabriel Council of Governments to explore the feasibility of a dedicated trauma center in the East San Gabriel Valley (ESGV). The San Gabriel Valley is comprised of over 30 cities and covers 417 square miles with a population of 1.6 million. However, since the designation of a trauma center in the ESGV is not feasible at this time, the BOS proposed and approved LAC+USC Medical Center to be dedicated as the primary trauma center for patients from the San Gabriel Valley not covered by Huntington Memorial Hospital.

In addition to the aforementioned, the BOS directed Los Angeles County Fire to permanently station an air ambulance in the ESGV to provide transport services for the residents. The projected date for the air ambulance to be stationed in the ESGV is January 2006.

It is imperative that all Prehospital Care Providers are educated regarding the following which are a direct result of these actions:

- ALL patients from the ESGV, via ground or air (excluding pediatric patients transported by air), shall be transported to the designated trauma center, LAC+USC Medical Center.
- Childrens Hospital Los Angeles will continue to be the primary trauma center for pediatric trauma patients transported via air from the ESGV.

- **Direct base contact with the designated trauma center, LAC+USC Medical Center, shall be made by prehospital care providers on all trauma center criteria and/or guideline patients or if in the paramedic's judgment it is in the patient's best interest to be transported to the designated trauma center, per Prehospital Care Policy Manual, Reference No. 506, Trauma Triage.**
- **Ground transport should be encouraged over the use of air transportation whenever feasible.**
- **When air transportation is used, it is imperative for the air unit to contact the Medical Alert Center regarding its impending arrival at LAC+USC Medical Center to ensure ground transportation is available to meet the air ship upon arrival.**
- **This action eliminates the East County Air Ambulance Trauma Transport Program, Prehospital Care Policy Manual, Reference No. 515.1.**

Detailed maps for LAC+USC's revised trauma catchment area and the entire trauma system are enclosed for your review, distribution, and educational purposes.

If you have any questions, please contact Christy Preston, Trauma System Program Manager, at (323) 890-7600.

CSG:CP:cp

Attachments

cc: Board of Supervisors
Director and Chief Medical Officer, DHS
Chief Operating Officer, DHS
Medical Director, EMS Agency
Emergency Medical Services Commission
Hospital Association of Southern California
Nurse Manager, Medical Alert Center
Trauma Hospital Advisory Committee
Chief Executive Officer, Each Trauma Center
Trauma Director, Each Trauma Center

Los Angeles County Trauma Centers

- CAL: California Hospital Medical Center
- CHH: Childrens Hospital Los Angeles
- CSM: Cedars-Sinai Medical Center
- HGH: Providence Holy Cross Medical Center
- HGH: LAC Harbor/UCLA Medical Center
- HGH: Huntington Memorial Hospital
- HMN: Henry Mayo Newhall Memorial Hospital
- LBM: Long Beach Memorial Medical Center
- NRH: Northridge Hospital Medical Center
- SFA: St. Francis Medical Center
- SMM: St. Mary Medical Center
- UCL: UCLA Medical Center
- USC: LAC-USC Medical Center

-  Trauma Center
-  Trauma Area Boundaries
-  Freeways
-  Air Ambulance Area
-  Shared Coverage by HCH, NRH, and USC

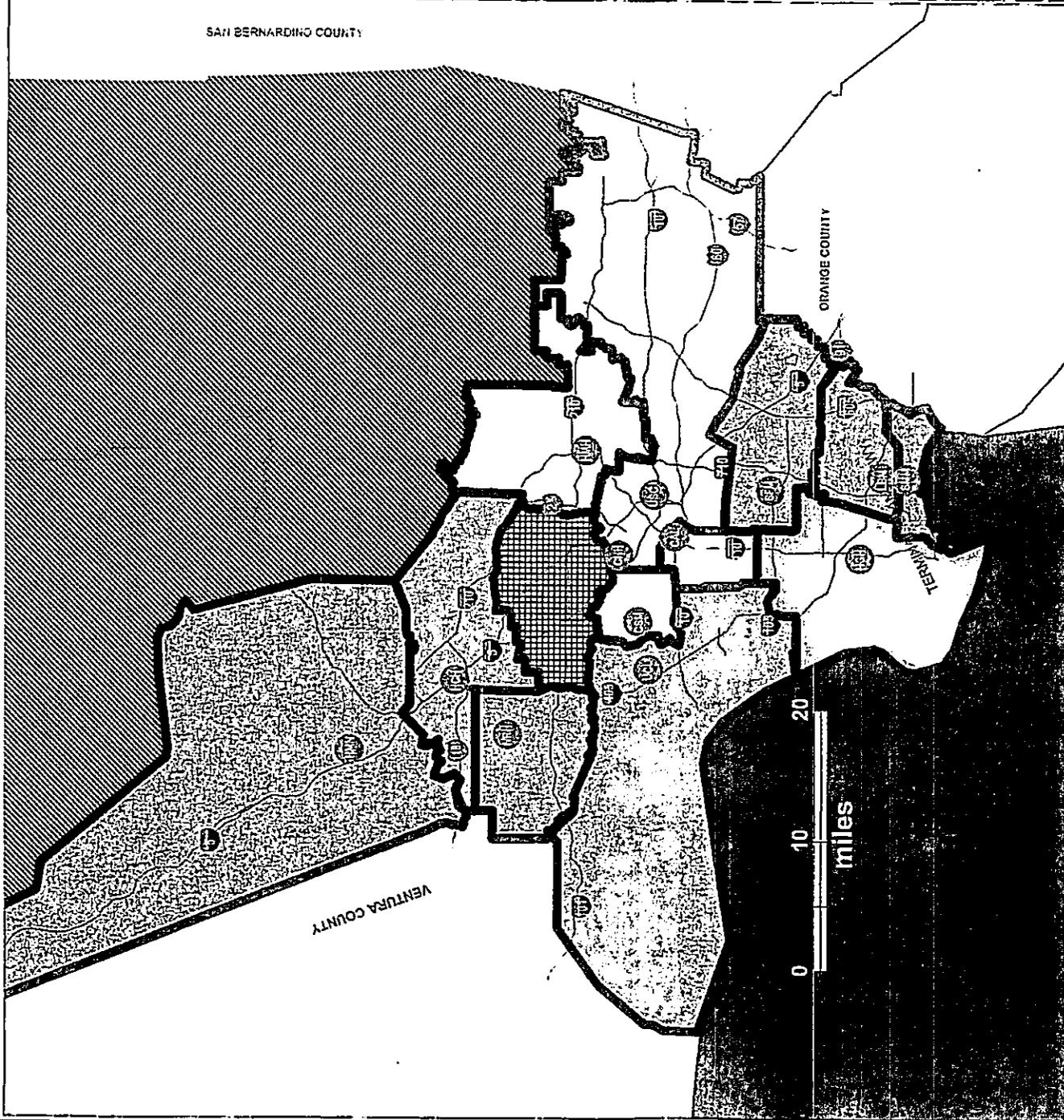
Hospitals CAL, CSM, HMH, HMN, LBM, NRH, SFA, and UCL have STRICT CATCHMENT AREAS.

Hospitals CHH, HCH, HGH, SMM and USC have OPEN CATCHMENT AREAS and will accept trauma patients from outside their catchment areas, if the ETA from the incident location is 30 minutes or less, ground transport time.



Revised 11/15/04 (L.A. County of Health Services) 11/15/04

SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY



0 10 20
miles

**LAC+USC
Medical Center
Trauma Center
Catchment Area**

-  Trauma Center
-  Trauma Area Boundaries
-  Major Streets
-  Freeways

NORTHERN BOUNDARY

- Los Feliz Blvd.
- South Glendale- City Limits
- York Blvd.
- South Pasadena City Limits
- Alhambra City Limits
- South San Gabriel City Limits
- North Rosemead City Limits
- South Temple City Limits
- East Arcadia City Limits
- Foothill Fwy. (210)
- North Bradbury City Limit
- North Duarte City Limit
- North Azusa City Limit
- North Glendora City Limit
- North San Dimas City Limit
- North La Verne City Limit
- North Claremont City Limit

EASTERN BOUNDARY

- San Bernardino County Line

SOUTHERN BOUNDARY

- Gage Av.
- Garfield Av.
- Washington Blvd.
- Whittier Blvd.
- Orange County Line

WESTERN BOUNDARY

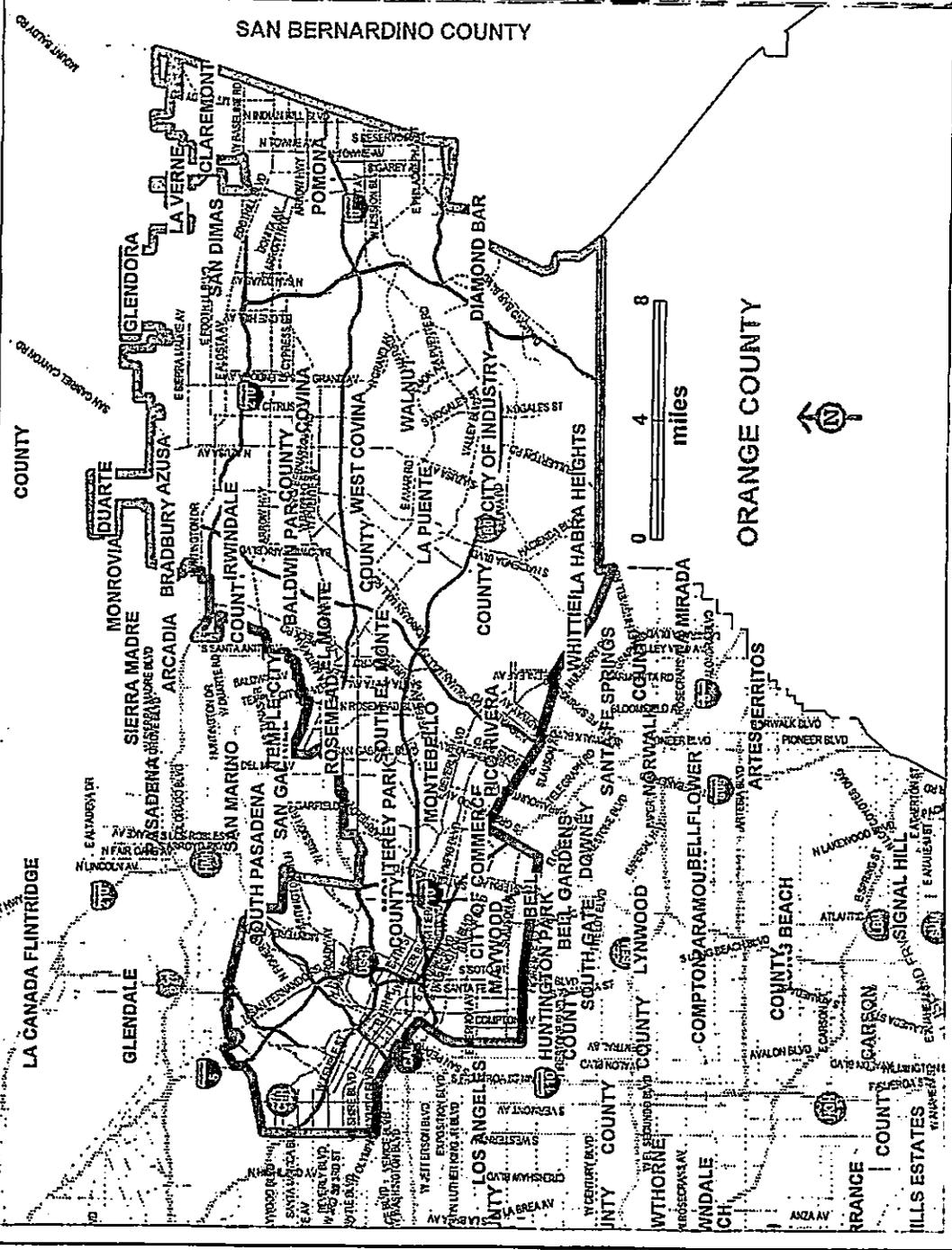
- Western Av.
- Olympic Blvd.
- Central Av.



March 1, 1994

Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors
Public Health Department

CODE	Hospital
CAL	CALIFORNIA HOSPITAL MEDICAL CENTER
CHI	CHILDRENS HOSPITAL OF LOS ANGELES
HGH	LAC HARBOR-UCLA MEDICAL CENTER
HMH	HUNTINGTON MEMORIAL HOSPITAL
LBM	LONG BEACH MEMORIAL HOSPITAL
SFM	ST. FRANCIS MEDICAL CENTER
SMH	ST. MARY MEDICAL CENTER
LUSC	LAC+USC MEDICAL CENTER



SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY

ORANGE COUNTY



**LOS ANGELES COUNTY
DESIGNATED TRAUMA CENTERS**

HELICOPTER LANDING SITES

TRAUMA CENTER	LEVEL	PEDIATRIC TRAUMA CENTER	PEDIATRIC MEDICAL CENTER	PERMIT #/ISSUED	LOCATION	LATITUDE/ LONGITUDE	LACoFD/LAFD Bell 412 11,900 lbs	LACoFD Sikorsky/Firehawk 16,000 lbs	LACoSheriff Air Rescue 5 17,000 lbs
CAL	II			Not Applicable	Currently, CAL is developing an approved helicopter landing site.				
CHH (Peds Only)	I	X	X	19-55 (H) / 05/12/1967	Roof Top	34 05'50" N./ 118 17'22" W.	X	X	X
CSM	I	X	X	LA-145 (H) / 09/20/1985	Roof Top	34 04'38" N./ 118 22'44" W.	X	X	X
HCH	II			LA-097(H) / 04/18/1986	Ground	34 16'47" N./ 118 27'38" W.	X	X	X
HGH	I	X	X	LA-82 (H) / 08/25/1988	Ground	33 49'44" N./ 118 17'33" W.	X	X	X
HMH	II		X	LA-143 (H) / 12/20/1983	Roof Top	34 08'01" N./ 118 09'10" W.	X	X	X
HMN	II			LA-114 (H) / 03/22/1989	Ground	34 23'55" N./ 118 33'06" W.	X	X	X
LBM	II	X	X	LA-74 (H) / 02/23/1971	Roof Top	33 48'30" N./ 118 11'11" W.	X		
NRH	II			LA-117 (H) / 02/04/1991	Roof Top	34 13'12.5" N./ 118 31'56" W.	X		
SFM	II			LA-179 (H) / 09/30/1991	Roof Top	33 55'49" N./ 118 12'06" W.	X	X	
SMM	II			LA-120 (H) / 11/24/1981	Roof Top	33 46'44" N./ 118 11'06" W.	X		
UCL	I	X	X	19-98 (H) / 11/21/1977	Roof Top	34 03'54" N./ 118 26'30" W.	X	X	X
USC	I	X	X	LA-091 (H) / 11/14/1973	Ground	34 09'30" N./ 118 12'30" W.	X	X	X

*see Los Angeles County Trauma Center Map for legend

**LOS ANGELES COUNTY
DESIGNATED TRAUMA CENTERS**

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