REVISED **AGN. NO. 7**

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS **SEPTEMBER 17, 2013**

Supporting the Medical Home in Department of Health Services Facilities

The Department of Health Services (DHS) is rapidly improving its operations to implement the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (ACA). Among the many benefits of the ACA are two provisions that will largely impact the current population of DHS patients: health care reform's focus on preventative and primary health care; and a substantial expansion of Medicaid coverage effective January 1, 2014.

To address the major shift from a costly "reactive" system of care where uninsured patients resort to the emergency room for basic health care to a truly team-based preventative and primary care-oriented model for newly insured patients, DHS is pursuing system improvements such as the Ambulatory Care Network and continues to empanel patients in newly created "Patient-Centered Medical Home" more commonly known as "Medical Home". The "Medical Home" model improves health outcomes for patients due to its emphasis on enhanced communication among and coordination of patient care by a team of health care providers led by a primary care physician.

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While great strides in operational system improvements like the "Medical Home" are being made, these alone will not achieve successful implementation of health care reform. In order to maximize the potential benefits afforded to patients by the ACA and to improve the likelihood that patients will view DHS as their provider of choice rather than as a provider of last resort, the County of Los Angeles (County) must align existing DHS facilities with the "Medical Home" model of care, particularly its elements of team-based care coordination and communication. Some "Medical Home"-aligned facility improvements may be relatively minor and narrow in scope, providing DHS with the ability to directly and rapidly implement improvements under its own departmental authority in coordination with the Internal Services Department. Other facility improvements may require more substantial capital upgrades and coordination with the Chief Executive Office and the Department of Public Works. To that end, the County should identify medical facilities that will benefit from either type of cost-effective improvement, including facility repurposing and capital upgrades, so that they support the "Medical Home" and other DHS system improvements for the County's existing patient population and all residents throughout the County.

I THEREFORE MOVE THAT BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:

Direct the Director of the Department of Health Services (DHS) or his designee, working in concert and as needed with the Chief Executive Officer (CEO), the Acting Director of the Internal Services Department, and the Director of Public Works (DPW) or their

respective designees, to identify DHS facilities where "Medical Home" system improvements are significantly constrained by existing facility design elements and to implement a reasonable facility redesign plan that will effectively enhance the "Medical Home" and other DHS system improvements resulting from The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act while minimizing disruptions to patient care. Such work shall include but not be limited to:

1) determining which DHS facilities will benefit from medical facility repurposing and upgrades;
2) determining the feasibility of implementing minor, narrowly-defined DHS facility improvements and, if necessary, of establishing and funding Capital Projects (C.P.) to provide medical facility upgrades at these DHS sites with minimal disruption to patient care;
3) proposing specific feasible steps, which may include but are not limited to, establishing and funding C.P. for medical facilities upgrades to better configure existing DHS facilities for the coordinated, team-based "Medical Home" model of care;
4) ~~determining whether proposed projects are categorically exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to State Guidelines Section 15301 (a) and Class 1, Subsection (d) of the County of Los Angeles Revised Environmental Document Reporting Procedures and Guidelines adopted~~

~~by the Board on November 17, 1987; and~~

identifying appropriate environmental documentation necessary under the California Environmental Quality Act and the National Environmental Policy Act, if applicable, for any proposed activities that constitute a project; and

5) determining whether an appropriation adjustment is required to transfer funding from Department of Health Services' Services and Supplies budget to the Capital Project Budget under C.P. to finance these projects.

These findings should be reported back to the Board of Supervisors in writing within 45 days.

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