

**RESOLUTION NO. 88-16**

**RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF RICHMOND,  
CALIFORNIA, IN OPPOSITION TO SUTTER HEALTH CORPORATION'S  
PLAN TO CEASE EMERGENCY SERVICES AND ACUTE CARE HOSPITAL  
OPERATIONS AT ALTA BATES SUMMIT MEDICAL CENTER BERKELEY  
CAMPUS**

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**WHEREAS**, Alta Bates Summit Medical Center has been providing “full service” acute care hospital and emergency services to Berkeley, the East Bay, Alameda and Contra Costa counties for decades; and,

**WHEREAS**, Sutter Health Corporation has announced its intention to dramatically alter services by closing the Alta Bates’ Berkeley facility in light of Senate Bill 1953 to consolidate emergency and inpatient services at its Oakland Summit Medical Center and make the Alta Bates Campus an outpatient hub; and,

**WHEREAS**, Sutter Health Corporation has the financial resources to rebuild and retrofit the structure and a stated mission to continue to provide acute care services to the communities they serve; and,

**WHEREAS**, closing the Alta Bates Campus as an acute care hospital instead of retrofitting the structure to comply with Senate Bill 1953 is a business calculation that does not benefit the extensive Bay Area communities that Alta Bates serves; and,

**WHEREAS**, the West Contra Costa County and Northern Alameda County areas recently suffered the closure of Doctors Medical Center in San Pablo, which provided emergency services to over 40,000 people annually, 38% of its general annual patients being Richmond residents; and,

**WHEREAS**, the termination of yet another acute care hospital and additional emergency services would further increase the threat to public health that West Contra Costa County and the Bay Area as a whole faces with severe earthquakes, wildfires, industrial chemical releases, and mass traffic casualties – all of which require emergency services at an acute care hospital; and,

**WHEREAS**, the ramifications of the Alta Bates Campus closure of emergency services and acute care will significantly impact West Contra Costa County where the closure of Doctors Medical Center in San Pablo left Kaiser Richmond Medical Center with the only emergency room between Martinez and Alta Bates in Berkeley; and,

**WHEREAS**, the closure of Alta Bates in Berkeley would put an even greater strain on the Kaiser Permanente Richmond Medical Center, which has already been negatively impacted due to an influx of patients after the closure of Doctors Medical Center which includes a jump in Kaiser Richmond’s Emergency Room visits from 46,112 patients in 2014 to 58,180 Emergency Room patients in 2015; and

**WHEREAS**, the number of emergency room visits at the Alta Bates Campus has increased over the last five years with the Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development reporting over 40,000 emergency room encounters at Alta Bates in 2015; and,

**WHEREAS**, access to health care should be accessible to all and the City of Richmond firmly believes in health equity; and,

**WHEREAS**, the City of Berkeley and the City of El Cerrito have both adopted such resolutions; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Richmond City Council has an obligation to preserve the remaining resources that promote and protect public health.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the City Council of the City of Richmond opposes Sutter Health Corporation's plan to close its acute care and emergency services at Alta Bates Summit Medical Center Berkeley Campus.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that Richmond City Council respectfully urges Sutter Health to cease all actions in furtherance of any and all plans to close Alta Bates Summit Medical Center Berkeley Campus and requests Sutter Health to begin the planning and execution to bring the Alta Bates Campus up to the necessary standards to comply with Senate Bill 1953 in order to provide an acute care hospital and emergency services at Alta Bates.

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I certify that the foregoing resolution was passed and adopted by the Council of the City of Richmond at a regular meeting thereof held September 20, 2016, by the following vote:

AYES: Councilmembers Bates, Beckles, McLaughlin, Myrick, Pimplé, and Mayor Butt.  
NOES: None.  
ABSTENTIONS: None.  
ABSENT: Vice Mayor Martinez.

PAMELA CHRISTIAN  
CLERK OF THE CITY OF RICHMOND  
(SEAL)

Approved:  
TOM BUTT  
Mayor

Approved as to form:  
BRUCE GOODMILLER  
City Attorney

State of California            }  
County of Contra Costa        : ss.  
City of Richmond               }

I certify that the foregoing is a true copy of **Resolution No. 88-16**, finally passed and adopted by the City Council of the City of Richmond at a regular meeting held on September 20, 2016.

  
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Pamela Christian, Clerk of the City of Richmond