



CITY OF MURRIETA

March 19, 2009

The Honorable Dennis Hollingsworth
State Capitol
Room 5064
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Rancho Springs Medical Center

Senator Hollingsworth:

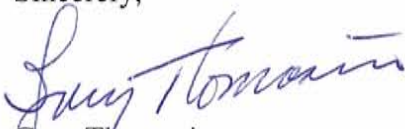
The City of Murrieta is very concerned over delays in the opening of the new Emergency Room (ER) and Women's Center at Rancho Springs Medical Center. Construction of the new facilities was completed in January, and yet they remain vacant. Once open, the new ER and Women's Center will alleviate overcrowding issues caused by limited bed space at our existing hospitals.

Recently, City staff was present at the ER at Rancho Springs Medical Center. Due to the lack of open beds, three ambulances and their paramedics were required to wait with patients on gurneys until beds became available. Murrieta has only two ambulances dedicated to the City, therefore, you can see where the concerns lie with having ambulances out of service due to lack of emergency room capacity. The lack of available bed space is directly affecting our residents. In this environment, ordinary or commonplace illnesses could become potentially life-threatening.

The Murrieta City Council has enjoyed a good relationship with Rancho Springs Medical Center, and has offered whatever assistance we can provide to expedite the opening of the new facilities. Unfortunately, the delays are tied to the State certification process and the City has no jurisdiction. The City Council continues to hear from constituents about the amount of time it takes to receive treatment at the hospital due to overcrowding and lack of available bed space. It seems that by opening the new facilities, these problems can be resolved. Therefore, the City seeks your office's assistance in preventing further delay to the opening of the new facilities at Rancho Springs Medical Center.

The City of Murrieta, as well the entire region, will benefit by the addition of the ER and Women's Center to Rancho Springs Medical Center. We strongly urge your office to provide any assistance that would help expedite the opening of these much needed medical center improvements. As always, we appreciate your support. If you have any questions, my staff is available at (951) 461-6008.

Sincerely,


Gary Thomasian
Mayor

Cc: Assemblyman Kevin Jeffries
City Council



CITY OF MURRIETA

March 19, 2009

The Honorable Kevin Jeffries
California State Capitol
Room 5128
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Rancho Springs Medical Center

Assemblyman Jeffries:


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Sincerely,



Gary Thomasian
Mayor

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City Council