

Midcoast Community Council

representing Montara, Moss Beach, El Granada, Princeton, and Miramar
P.O. Box 248, Moss Beach, CA 94038-0248 - www.MidcoastCommunityCouncil.org

Claire Toutant . Len Erickson . Dave Olson . Barbra Mathewson . Dan Haggerty . Tamar Powell . Michelle Weil
Chair Vice Chair Secretary Treasurer

September 11, 2019

The Honorable Xavier Becerra, California Attorney General
(via email: piu@doj.ca.gov)

Subject: Seton Coastside Hospital Conditions of Sale

Dear Mr. Becerra:

Since Seton Coastside Hospital is the only health care provider in the area we represent, the Midcoast Community Council would like to add our concerns for your consideration.

When the hospitals were previously sold, since they had previously been run on a not-for-profit basis, conditions were imposed on their continuing operation. With a new sale in process, these conditions are being reconsidered by your office.

We see Seton Coastside as providing two types of services, ambulatory care and skilled nursing facility (SNF). We have concerns about both.

Seton Coastside provides the only 24-hour emergency care and the only lab services and x-ray services between Pacifica and Santa Cruz, a distance of 70 miles. They also offer physical and occupational therapy to both the community and the SNF. These services should be expanded and focused, as they provide an essential resource for our community, which is isolated by both geography and transportation.

The skilled nursing facility is likewise the only one in this 70-mile stretch. It is known for providing personalized and humane care for a patient population that is otherwise difficult to provide for due to both medical and financial complications. We have two concerns about this aspect of Seton Coastside. First, if there are shortfalls in financial reimbursement due to a predominance of patients with Health Plan of San Mateo coverage, every effort should be made to obtain supplemental sources of financial support to preserve this unique San Mateo County resource.

Secondly, we would like to see local residents have priority admission to the SNF. Without that, people needing long-term care are often sent to facilities in other parts of the County and even the State, essentially ending support from families, particularly given the isolation of our communities.

Thank you for considering our concerns as you process the change in ownership.

Sincerely,

MIDCOAST COMMUNITY COUNCIL
s/Claire Toutant, Chair

cc: Verity Health CEO Rich Adcock
KPC Health Chairman Kali Chaudhuri
San Mateo County Supervisor Don Horsley