



Date: August 8, 2024

To: Board of Directors

Submitted by: David Aranda, Interim General Manager

Prepared and presented by: Berkeley Councilmember Sophie Hahn

Subject: Presentation and Discussion of Health Impacts of Alta Bates Hospital Closure

Background

President Spath was approached by the Berkeley City Councilmember Sophie Hahn and requested a bit of time to inform the KPPCSD directors and citizens of Kensington about the hospital closure and its potential impact for the Kensington area.

Exhibit(s)

- Key Findings and Conclusions – Rapid Health Impact Assessment – Proposed Closure of Alta Bates Hospital Presentation by Berkeley Councilmember Hahn

KEY FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

RAPID HEALTH IMPACT ASSESSMENT – PROPOSED CLOSURE OF ALTA BATES

BERKELEY INSTITUTE OF URBAN AND REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT – DECEMBER 2018

Prepared by Councilmember Sophie Hahn



INTRODUCTION

- **Impetus:** Sutter Health, which operates Alta Bates Hospital, proposes to close the hospital in 2030.
- **Study:** The Rapid Health Assessment study was commissioned in 2018 by Mayor Arreguín's Office to understand potential impacts of closure of Berkeley's Alta Bates Hospital.



ALTA BATES HOSPITAL - OVERVIEW

347 beds

3rd largest
general acute
care facility in
the region

66,268 patient

discharges, 2nd highest
of non-Kaiser hospitals
in Alameda County
2016

16,494

discharges from
Contra Costa
County in 2016
- 31% increase
since 2013

45,900
ER visits

in 2016 - 7%
increase since
2013

61% of ER visits
were **Medi-Cal**
and Medicare in
2016

7% of ER visits
were **uninsured**
patients in 2016

19

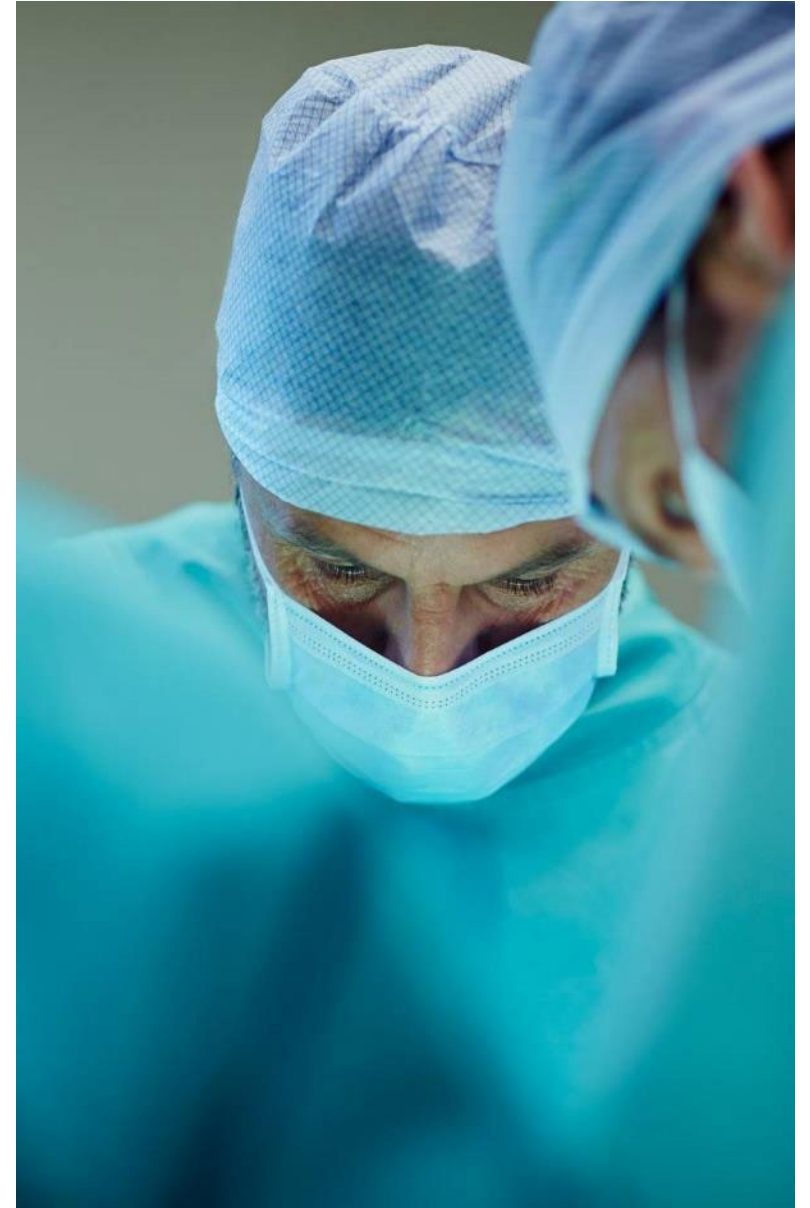
5,863 live
births in 2016
- highest in the
region



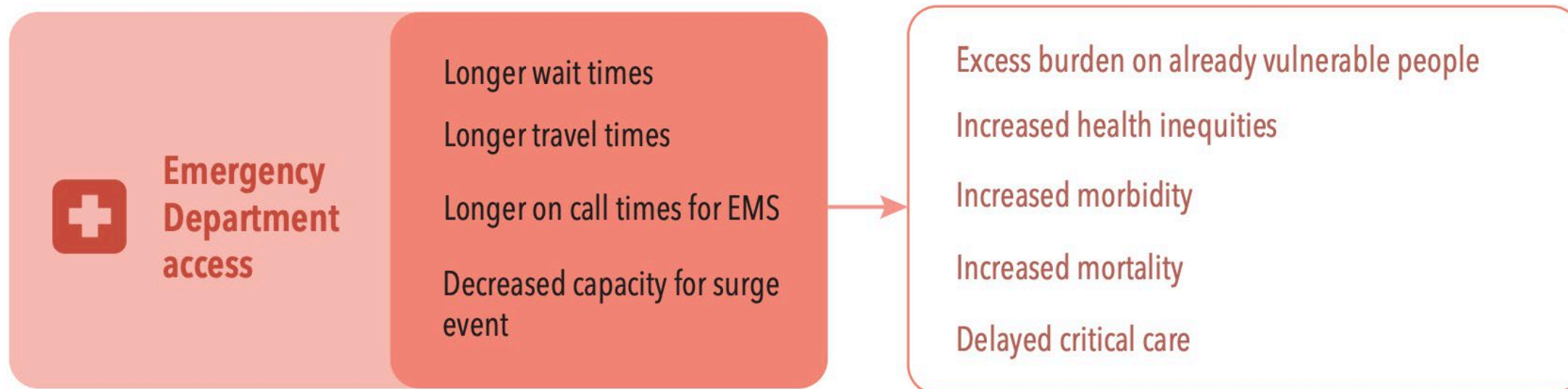
Figure 11. AB utilization
overview 2016

EMERGENCY

KEY FINDINGS



IMPACTS – EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT ACCESS



- Increased burden on regional emergency medical services, including emergency department overcrowding and increase in ambulance diversions – Sutter Oakland already has significant emergency wait times.
- Increase in private vehicle travel times to Emergency Department and Hospital; lengthy and difficult access for patients using public transit.

IMPACTS – VULNERABLE POPULATIONS

- Decreased access to urgent & chronic care for vulnerable populations
- Loss of high-performing birthing center and related maternal & newborn care
 - *Alta Bates has over 6,000 births per year – **the highest in the region***
- Loss of Emergency Department, including mental health & suicide prevention services and in-patient care
- Increasing elderly population will increase need for hospital care just as Alta Bates closes
- Homeless people and families likely to experience delayed or missed care

ALTA BATES PATIENT DEMOGRAPHICS 2016

56% of ED patients and **63%** of hospitalized patients were people of color

41% of patients are uninsured/self pay or are Medi-Cal recipients

23% of hospitalized patients are elderly

68% of inpatient discharges were women

IMPACTS – REGIONAL ECONOMY

- Decreased regional spending
- Increased costs for local governments
- As a nonprofit hospital, Alta Bates is required to reinvest any surplus revenue back into the community in the form of community benefit programs.
- Every \$1.00 a hospital earns in patient revenue generates between \$2.63 and \$2.69 in economic activity for the surrounding region.

Impact	Magnitude
Low wage workers	165 workers already laid off since 2012
Community benefits	Potential reduction of \$91 million in charity care
Local economic activity	Potential loss of \$1.5B annually in local economic activity

IMPACTS – MAJOR DISASTER EVENTS

Haywired Earthquake Scenario:

84% of households are displaced in Alameda and Contra Costa Counties

14,000 estimated injuries requiring medical attention from Alameda and Contra Costa Counties

\$57 billion in total direct economic loss

Chevron Fire Example:

Estimated **15,000** related emergency department visits over 2 ½ weeks




2,876 visits to emergency departments on peak day (4 days after fire occurred)

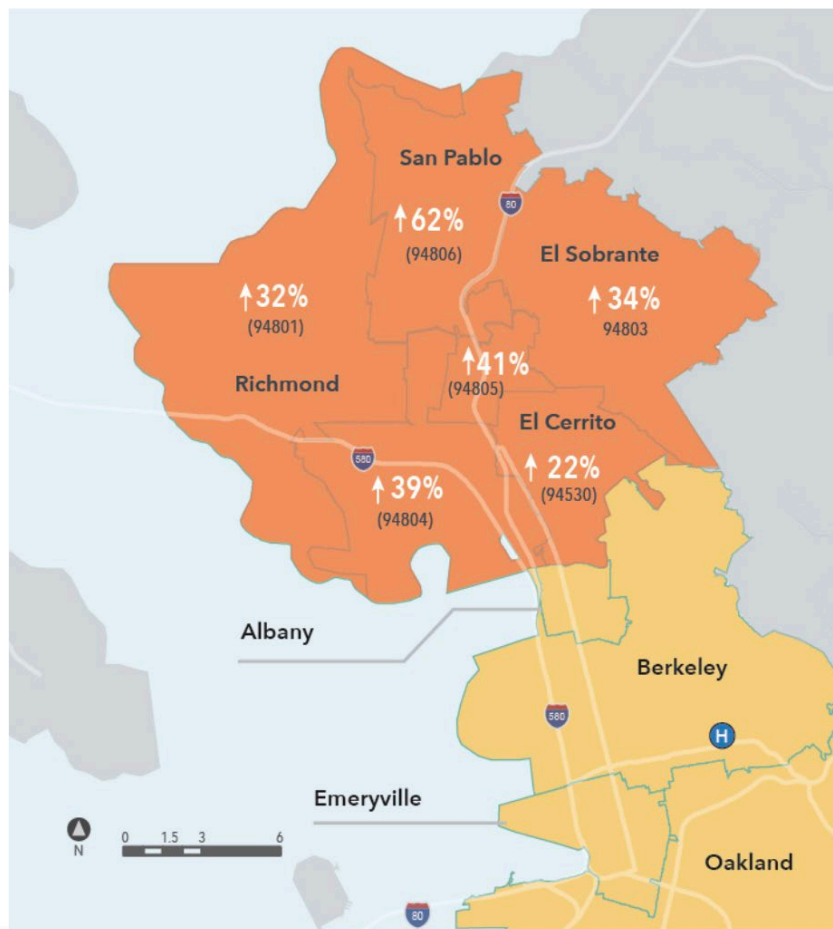
200 ED visits within the first 2 hours after the fire

IMPACTS – WEST CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

Map 4. Large volume increases in Alta Bates ED discharges from West Contra Costa County 2013 - 2016

Source: OSHPD, 2013 & 2016

-  Alta Bates campus
-  West Contra Costa County in the RHIA defined service area
-  Additional Cities in the HSA



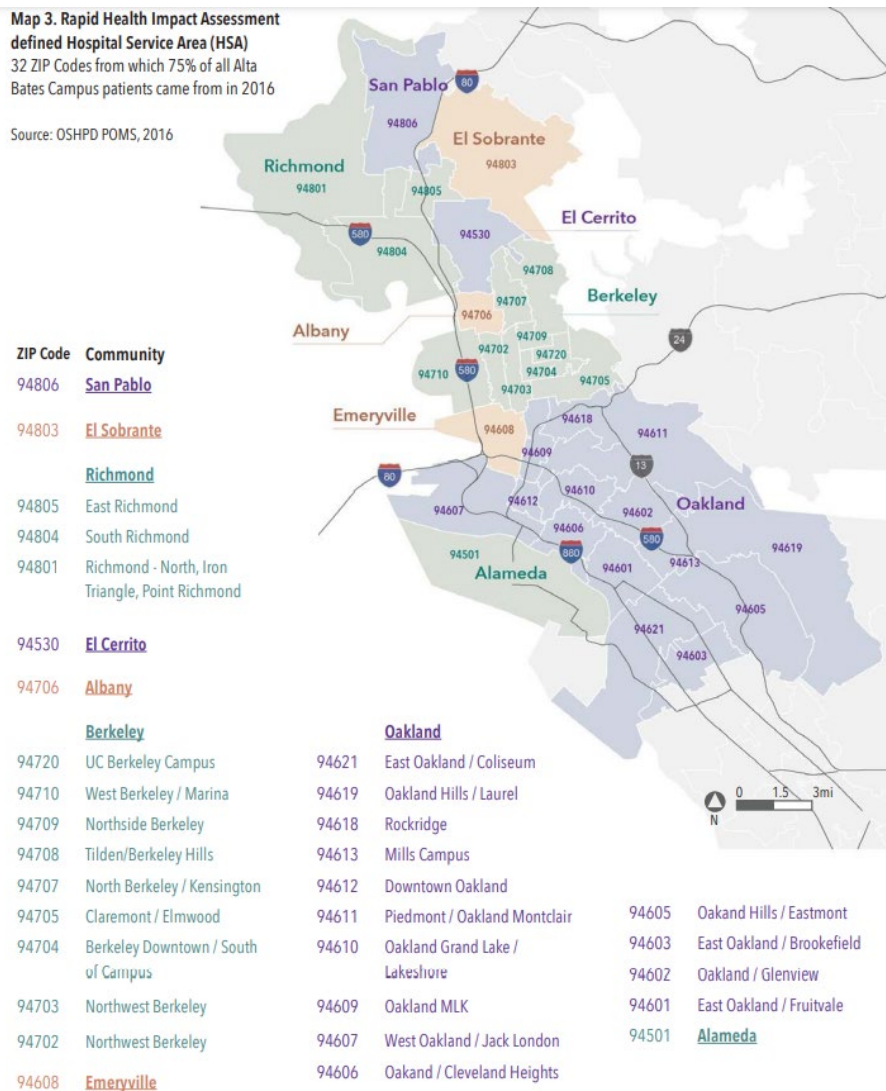
- **Of 66,268** patients that visited Alta Bates Campus in 2016, **approximately 18% were from 6 zip codes in Richmond, San Pablo, El Cerrito, and El Sobrante** (94530, 94801, 94803, 94804, 94805, 94806)
- **39% increase** in patients visiting Alta Bates from the six zip codes above
- **Particularly adverse impact on African-American populations*:**
 - Richmond and San Pablo had the highest health risks and death rates (particularly for African American men) from heart disease, all cancers, diabetes, stroke and homicides.
 - African Americans in Richmond had 254 asthma hospitalizations and ED visits per 10,000 people, compared to 105 for all racial/ethnic groups.

*According to Contra Costa Health Services 2010 Community Indicators Report cited in RHIA.

IMPACTS ON KENSINGTON – IN SUMMARY

Map 3. Rapid Health Impact Assessment defined Hospital Service Area (HSA)
32 ZIP Codes from which 75% of all Alta Bates Campus patients came from in 2016

Source: OSHPD POMS, 2016



- **Emergency Services:**
 - Increased travel times to Summit Campus
 - Potential delays in emergency care and increased ambulance diversions
- **Vulnerable Populations:**
 - Significant impact on elderly, low-income residents, and people of color
- **Economic Impact:**
 - Job losses and reduced economic activity
- **Disaster Preparedness:**
 - Challenges in disaster response due to extended travel times

CONCLUSION

- Alta Bates closure will have devastating impacts on Berkeley and the North/East I-80 Corridor.
- COVID experience and excessive impacts to low-income communities and communities of color reinforce the importance of access to healthcare and hospitals.



THANK YOU!
QUESTIONS?

