

**Health Commission
Resolution 13-1**

Endorsing the 2013 San Francisco Department of Emergency Management/San Francisco EMS Agency 2013-2017 Strategic Plan

WHEREAS, the San Francisco EMS Agency was created in 1981 to improve patient care and fulfill state law and regulation in regards to the coordinating the provision of Emergency Medical Services in San Francisco;

WHEREAS, the San Francisco EMS Agency has worked collaboratively with system stakeholders including the San Francisco Fire Department, the San Francisco Department of Emergency Management/Division of Emergency Communications, private ambulance companies, community hospitals, EMS providers, the San Francisco Emergency Physicians Association, the San Francisco Paramedic Association, the Department of Public Health and other emergency care providers; and,

WHEREAS, the San Francisco EMS Agency has developed the EMS System Strategic Master Plan with input from the EMS Advisory Committee, the San Francisco Medical Society, and held 6 open meetings and provided a period of public comment on the Plan; and,

WHEREAS, the current rates of survival from cardiac arrest remain unacceptably low, and survival rates have not increased to a level on par with other cities of similar size over the past 5 years,

WHEREAS, instances of not having an ambulance available immediately for a request for EMS services remain unacceptably high; and,

WHEREAS, communication between EMS providers and their partners in emergency medical care should be improved across all patient encounters to improve patient treatment; and

WHEREAS, training among EMS providers is not standardized and integrated; and

WHEREAS, the Plan includes specific guidelines on enhancing communication, standardizing training, developing mechanisms to decrease periods of ambulance unavailability; and,

WHEREAS, as part of the strategy to reach this goal the Plan includes the goal for system improvements to be implemented over the next 5 years and monitoring of these deliverables along with appropriate outcome measurements to be reported quarterly to the Health Commission and the people of San Francisco; and

WHEREAS, the Health Commission recognizes the Plan outlines a change in the San Francisco EMS care paradigm and may lead to a reconfiguration of EMS services within state law and regulatory direction; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Health Commission commends the DEM and the San Francisco EMS Agency for a thorough and rigorous planning process; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED that the Health Commission endorses the 2013 San Francisco EMS System Strategic Master Plan and the DEM/EMSA's implementation of new directions for EMS Care.

I hereby certify that the San Francisco Health Commission at its meeting of January 15, 2013 adopted the foregoing resolution.



Mark Morewitz
Health Commission Executive Secretary