



# County of San Diego

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## SAN DIEGO COUNTY EMS BOARD OF SUPERVISORS PRESENTATION

Today, the San Diego County EMS Office presented an update to the Board of Supervisors describing the *Comprehensive Evaluations of the Base Station Hospital System* and the *Trauma Catchment Area Designations* reports. Accessible at [Engage San Diego County](#), these reports synthesize more than a year and a half of research, national best practice evaluation, and community engagement. National consultants performed an extensive analysis of our current EMS delivery system and made recommendations for future improvements. Today's Board action was to receive these reports; existing San Diego County EMS policy and procedures remain unchanged.

County EMS is committed to modernizing the EMS delivery system to enhance patient-centered, equitable EMS care for all San Diego County residents and visitors. Over the next several months, County EMS will engage stakeholder workgroups consisting of representatives from the San Diego County Fire Chiefs Association, Ambulance Association of San Diego County, Hospital Association of San Diego and Imperial Counties, key clinical leaders, and other experts. Informed by workgroup recommendations, County EMS will develop and pilot improvements to the organized EMS delivery system. Priority focus areas include access to real-time medical direction, quality assurance and clinical improvement processes, and comprehensive, countywide EMS system coordination.

Redesigning the EMS delivery system requires a careful, deliberative, data-driven process to promote exceptional patient outcomes and avoid unintended consequences. This process takes time. As we proceed, **it remains essential that EMS professionals transporting patients continue to notify receiving Emergency Departments prior to arrival.**<sup>1</sup> All current County EMS policies and procedures, including catchment area designations, remain in effect.

We are grateful to our many partners engaged in this vital work. County EMS is dedicated to providing patient-centered, equitable, evidence-informed prehospital and emergency care across our entire community.

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<sup>1</sup> See [S-415 Base Hospital Contact](#) and [S-405 Communication Failure](#)