



MENDOCINO COUNTY EXECUTIVE OFFICE

NEWS RELEASE

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County of Mendocino Launches Initiative to Determine the Feasibility of an Exclusive Operating Area for Ambulance Services

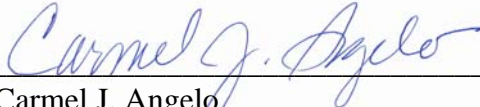
The County of Mendocino is exploring the option of establishing an exclusive operating area for the sustainable provision of emergency ambulance services within the county. The purpose is to improve operational effectiveness and to have a system that meets the diverse needs of the community.

The County is partnering with Fitch & Associates, who, in 2011, conducted an assessment of the emergency medical services system. That study's results highlighted key areas for improvement, including greater performance monitoring, coordination between responders, operational flexibility, provision of necessary resources, and continuous quality improvement oversight. The County Executive Office is beginning this initiative to address the needed improvements.

"The 2011 assessment found critical issues that compromise the sustainability of effective emergency medical services. Part of these issues stem from a 'patchwork' of critical services based on inadequate resources. We're excited to engage providers and the community in this collaborative effort to help increase the level of service and quality of care," stated Carmel J. Angelo, Chief Executive Officer.

In the coming months, Fitch & Associates, Coastal Valleys Emergency Medical Services Agency, and the County Executive Office will be engaging stakeholders for essential input. An update to the Board of Supervisors will be provided on March 12, 2013 to inform the Board and the community of the first phase of this process and related upcoming activities.

For more information, please email MendocinoEMS@fitchassoc.com, or call the Executive Office at 463-4441.

Released by: 
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Chief Executive Officer