



April 8, 2015

TO: City Council

FROM: Kate Noble, Acting Director, Housing and Community Development Department

RE: Hospital and Health Care Study Group – Resolution 2014-19

BACKGROUND:

Resolution 2014-19 was approved in February 2014 and authorized “the establishment of a study group to examine the effects of the affordable Care Act and other changing conditions on the safe effective and efficient delivery of health care services to the Santa Fe community, including workforce considerations such as workforce status and development training needs and programs, the cost of health care in Santa Fe and delivery of health care services to the indigent.”

For the past year the Housing and Community Development Department has worked to populate the 35 member group and has requested referrals from members of the Governing Body, emailed each of the organizations to be represented and discussed nominations with representatives of District 1199NM Hospital Workers Union.

The Resolutions also calls for a third party facilitator to support the work of the study group and the Fiscal Impact Report (FIR) accompanying the Resolution designated \$50,000 for this purpose. Staff has also drafted a possible professional services contract with UNM Health Sciences Center.

To date, no official communication has been received from key organizations to be represented on the Study Group including: Presbyterian Medical Services, SVH Support and Santa Fe County. Santa Fe County has an existing Health Policy and Planning Commission which produced the 2013 Community Health Profile with a great deal of input and participation from Christus St. Vincent and other key service providers in the community. Some concerns have been expressed informally that the City’s efforts would replicate or not add value to the work already produced. Christus St. Vincent sent a letter to the Mayor in February outlining what has changed in the past year and proposing a partnership to instead focus on growing and retaining a high skilled workforce for the community.

The formation of the Study Group was initially delayed during the nurses’ union contract negotiations because the Resolution is explicit in the desire of the Governing Body “to respect the employer/employee collective bargaining relationship.”

ITEM AND ISSUE:

Staff requests direction on next steps.