



**City Of San Diego
COUNCILMEMBER JIM MADAFFER
DISTRICT SEVEN**

M E M O R A N D U M

M-07-09-05 Please refer to this number when responding to this memo

DATE: Monday, October 08, 2007

TO: Mayor Jerry Sanders
Council President Scott Peters
Honorable City Councilmembers
City Attorney Mike Aguirre

FROM: Councilmember Jim Madaffer

SUBJECT: Proposed New Municipal Code Requirements for Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs)

For many years I have championed the use of automatic external defibrillators (AEDs) in the City of San Diego in our public places as life saving devices. AEDs or automatic external defibrillators are small, portable devices that help restore the heartbeat of someone undergoing sudden cardiac arrest. They are simple to operate and designed for the public to use. Without an AED, a person has a 5 percent survival rate. With an AED, their survival rate skyrockets to 90 percent.

I'm proud of having helped launch Project Heartbeat in 2001, which installs AEDs in fire stations, life guard facilities, libraries, schools, parks, airports, hotels, colleges, office buildings, government buildings and other places where large numbers of people gather. We have been hugely successful in getting over 3,300 AEDs in public places. My goal continues to be to achieve having AEDs as widely available as fire extinguishers in order to save lives.

In order to engage the local community and to help achieve this goal, similar to fire extinguishers being a staple of most buildings visited by the public, I am proposing new municipal code language that will require AEDs to be installed in new construction in San Diego. The purpose of these ordinance changes would be to create a Citywide AED program that will establish requirements for the installation of, and access to; and

provide for registration and data collection of usage of AEDs. Specifically, the draft municipal code language will be applicable to:

- buildings over three stories or over 10,000 square feet, including office and commercial buildings, medical, dental and out-patient clinics, hotels, motels, restaurants, and common areas of residential condominiums and apartments.
- Additionally AEDs would be required in places of assembly with capacity for over 300 people, educational facilities with over 200 students, and all gyms and fitness facilities in excess of 2,000 square feet.
- The law will require new construction to be pre-wired on all floors with dedicated wall mounts for the AED system, with self acting alarms.
- AED owners would be required to register their equipment with the the Fire and Life Safety Department, test it annually, and notify the Fire Department each time the device is used.

I am asking the City Attorney's office to draft the necessary changes in the municipal code so it can be deliberated amongst user groups and interested industry associations, such as BOMA (Building Owners and Managers Association) and other trade interest groups for their review prior to being heard before the City Council's Land Use and Housing Committee. My office will distribute the draft ordinance changes to various industry associations prior to it coming to committee for consideration. I have attached some suggested municipal code language for inclusion in this draft ordinance.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact my office. Thank you for your assistance with this matter.

JM/el

Attachments:

1. Suggested Language for new Municipal Code for AEDs
2. Existing Municipal Code for Fire Extinguishers

cc: Fire Chief Tracy Jarman
City Clerk Liz Maland
San Diego City Firefighters Local 145
San Diego Medical Services Enterprise
Karen McElliott, San Diego Project Heartbeat