



OFFICE OF THE CITY COUNCIL

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10:00am

FINAL REPORT

TO: Clay Yarborough, Council President

FROM: Matt Schellenberg, Chair
Special Committee on Utilizing UF Health as a Healthcare Delivery Organization

RE: Final Report of the Special Committee on Utilizing UF Health as a Healthcare Delivery Organization

CHARGE: Discuss, review, examine and make recommendation(s) to Council committees and the full Council the findings and conclusions gathered through exploring the utilization of UF Health as the City's healthcare delivery organization.

MEMBERS: Matt Schellenberg – Chair
Johnny Gaffney
Robin Lumb
Clay Yarborough

CONCLUSIONS / RECOMMENDATIONS:

As Chair of the Special Committee on Utilizing UF Health as a Healthcare Delivery Organization, I wish to report that the committee has officially concluded its discussions and deliberations on the subject as charged by the Council President. The committee's main goal was to investigate ways in which the city could assist UF Health, a city-owned hospital, with their increasing financial demands, while reducing health care costs to the city and its employees. The committee has concluded that while requiring city employees to utilize UF Health for healthcare is neither practical nor feasible, incentivizing current and retired employees with quality care at lower monthly premiums and/or lower co-pays would boost revenues to UF Health without extra cost to the city. The city currently contributes approximately \$26 million per year to UF Health, with an additional \$2.5 million being requested in the upcoming fiscal year, meaning the city has substantial interest in the success of the hospital. The committee believes the following items should be pursued:

- 1) Incentivize current and retired employees to utilize UF Health.

- 2) Require a full-time liaison between UF Health and the city as part of the additional funding in the upcoming fiscal year 14/15, which will provide for better coordination between the two entities.
- 3) More aggressively pursue the use of “Telemedicine” in conjunction with the possibility of on-site clinics at public sites (City Hall, Jail, etc).
- 4) Parkland Hospital in Dallas, TX was similar to UF Health in many regards. They have been able to engage the community, the business community, and the city to enhance and grow their hospital. The committee recommends a delegation be sent to Parkland Hospital to investigate how they were able to overcome their challenges, and how we learn from their experience, and implement their strategies here in Jacksonville. The delegation would consist of me, District Council Member, Jeanne Miller, Executive Director of the Civic Council, Karen Bowling, CAO of the City of Jacksonville, Daniel Davis, the President of the Jacksonville Chamber, and Russ Armistead, President of UF Health. I have spoken to Frederick Cerise, CEO of Parkland Hospital, and he has indicated his willingness to host such a delegation.
- 5) Where the committee left off, the Civic Council has agreed to continue to pursue and study many of these items and any additional issues or opportunities that may present themselves.

I sincerely appreciate the opportunity to chair this committee and work with my fellow Council Members who devoted much time and energy to studying the issues surrounding UF Health and the city’s current healthcare policy. Many members of Florida Blue, UF Health, and the Administration also attended and provided significant insight and direction to the committee. I look forward to pursuing this issue further and working with all parties to ensure the best healthcare for employees at the best price to the taxpayers.

Matt Schellenberg
City Council Member
District 6

MS/alb

cc: Council Members/Staff
Cheryl Brown, Director/Council Secretary
Jeff Clements, Chief, Research Division
Dana Farris, Chief, legislative Services Division
Rachel Welsh, Information Systems Administrators
Kirk Sherman, Council Auditor
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