

From: Usha Rao, MD [REDACTED]
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Hello,

The following is for public comment at today's city council meeting.

My name is Usha Rao – I am a family physician and provide prenatal care to patients in Chula Vista. I am deeply saddened at the decision to close maternity services at Scripps Chula Vista. This decision disproportionately impacts vulnerable women and young families by limiting their access to quality maternity care. With this decision, these pregnant women will have to travel more than **twice** the distance to safely deliver their babies. This can be a huge financial and transportation burden on these women and their families and will lead to additional financial and emotional stress, as well as increases the risks of a medical complication not being adequately addressed.

We have an obligation to protect these women, to ensure that our young families have equal opportunities to start their families in a healthy and peaceful manner. Please act to require a community impact report in order to maintain maternity services at Scripps Chula Vista.

Usha Rao, MD (she/her) | Family Medicine



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