

**NOTICE OF HEARING REGARDING IMPOSING AND
COLLECTING NON-AD VALOREM SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS
FROM SPECIFIED HOSPITAL PROPERTIES**

Notice is hereby given that the Board of County Commissioners of Okaloosa County, Florida, will conduct a public hearing to consider the approval of the imposition and collection of non-ad valorem special assessments against each private for-profit and not-for-profit hospital that provides inpatient hospital services and that holds a right of possession and right of use to real property in Okaloosa County (each, an “Assessed Property”). The list of affected hospitals is included at the conclusion of this notice. **Approval and imposition of such special assessments is contingent upon passage of a Local Provider Participation Fund ordinance by the Board of County Commissioners on September 3, 2024.**

The assessments are intended to finance intergovernmental transfers, provided consistent with federal guidelines, that fund the non-federal share of certain supplemental payment programs. As a result, the assessments directly and specially benefit Assessed Properties and support the provision of health care services to Medicaid, indigent, and uninsured members of the County’s community.

The public hearing will be held at the County Commission Chambers of the Okaloosa County Administration Building located at 1250 N. Eglin Parkway in Shalimar, Florida, on **September 17, 2024, at 3:00 p.m.**, or as soon thereafter as the matter can be heard. At that time, the Board will receive public comment on the proposed special assessments.

Okaloosa County has prepared the Non-Ad Valorem Assessment Roll being considered for approval. The roll contains the names of the Assessed Properties, the assessment rates, and the amount of the special assessments to be imposed against each Assessed Property. The Non-Ad Valorem Assessment Roll is available for inspection at the Okaloosa County Budget Office during regular business hours through September 17, 2024. The assessment rates set forth in the Non-Ad Valorem Assessment Roll is set to 0.27% of inpatient gross patient revenue.

At the date and time set forth in this notice, the Board of County Commissioners may: (1) approve the Non-Ad Valorem Assessment Roll, with such amendments as it deems just and right, and (2) adopt a resolution (the “Assessment Resolution”) that describes: (a) the supplemental payments proposed for funding from proceeds of the assessments, (b) the benefits to the Assessed Properties, (c) the methodology for computing the assessed amounts, and (d) the method of collection, including how and when the assessments are to be paid.

All interested persons have a right to appear at the hearing and to file written objections with the Board prior to the resolution vote. All objections to the Non-Ad Valorem Assessment Roll being considered for approval must be made in writing and filed with the County by September 13, 2024. Written objections should be sent to the attention of the Okaloosa County Board of County Commissioners at 302 N. Wilson St., Suite 302, Crestview, Florida 32536, or 1250 N. Eglin Parkway, Suite 100, Shalimar, Florida 32579.

Okaloosa County adheres to the Americans With Disabilities Act and will make reasonable modifications for access to these hearings upon request. Requests may be made to the County Commission Offices at the above address and must be made at least 48 hours in advance of the hearings in order to provide the requested service.

The amount of the assessments is to be collected pursuant an additional and alternative method, as specified in § 197.3631, Fla. Stat. Details will be included in the Assessments Resolution.

Pursuant to § 286.0105, Fla. Stat., if a person decides to appeal any decision of the Board of County Commissioners on any matter considered at the public hearing, he or she will need a record of the proceedings. For such purpose, a person appealing the decision may need to ensure the creation of a verbatim record, which captures the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is based.

List of Affected Properties:

The special assessments are to be levied against each private for-profit and not-for-profit hospital operating under a Florida hospital license affiliated with the following providers of inpatient hospital services that holds a right of possession and right of use to real property in Okaloosa County, Florida:

Hospital Name: North Okaloosa Medical Center
Address: 151 E Redstone Ave., Crestview, FL 32539
Parcel ID: 29-3N-23-0000-000A-0000

Hospital Name: HCA Florida Fort Walton-Destin Hospital
Address: 1000 Mar Walt Dr., Fort Walton Beach, FL 32547
Parcel ID: 34-1S-24-0000-0052-0050

Hospital Name: HCA Florida Twin Cities Hospital
Address: 2190 Highway 85 N, Niceville, FL 32578
Parcel ID: 01-1S-23-0000-0003-0000