As we all know, the Olson, et. al. versus Sutter Health, et. al. Consent Decree sets forth Sutter Health affiliates’ responsibilities for accessibility compliance by 2018 in three primary areas:

1. Policies, Procedures & Programs
2. Accessible Medical Equipment
3. Physical Environment

In order to ensure that we are keeping pace with our commitments and responsibilities, and consistent with Sutter’s method for ensuring success, the Disability Access Compliance group has implemented a dashboard score card by which to highlight the performance of each individual affiliate in each of the three areas. Over the next couple of weeks, affiliates will be receiving dashboard metrics from OGC in various categories related to policies and procedures. See sample of scorecard below.

In addition, FPS PAC will release metrics for Accessibility Plan Review, New Construction Monitoring and Architectural Barrier Removal Percent complete for 2013. See sample of scorecard below.

Overall as a system, we have many opportunities for improvement. We encourage all to carefully review the reports, assess status and make adjustments as required to improve performance. The next round of dashboard scores will be issued at the end of the year. Remember, green is always the desired score!

Question of the month:
Q. I have submitted a project for building permit. Prior to issuing the permit, the City is requiring a third party accessibility review and confirmation letter. Can the review performed by the Sutter approved access specialists be submitted instead?
R. Yes. As of January 1, 2014, per Senate Bill 1608 local building departments are required to employ “sufficient” number of CASp inspectors to review for compliance with accessibility standards. Many AHJ’s have yet to add CASp certified inspectors to their staff and are requesting that the applicant facilitate the review, pay the fees and obtain the certification letter. For those projects that participate in the accessibility plan review as required per the Consent Decree, there is no need to pay for an additional review. Our access specialists can provide the certification letter therefore eliminating the need for another review. However, all the comments issued during the APR must have been fully resolved.

Announcements:
The US Access Board will be holding a webinar about accessible toilets and bathing facilities on Thursday July 10th at 11:30am Pacific time. If interested, register at: http://www.accessibilityonline.org/Schedule/