



COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT

For the meeting of: 11/4/2025

File #: 25-1280

To: Board of Supervisors

From: Supervisor Michelle Bushnell

Agenda Section: Consent

Vote Requirement: Majority

SUBJECT:

Letter of Support for Southern Humboldt Community Healthcare District's New Hospital and Clinic Project

RECOMMENDATION(S):

That the Board of Supervisors:

1. Authorize the Chair to sign the Letter of Support; and
2. Direct the Clerk of the Board to email the executed letter to CBrown@shchd.org.

STRATEGIC PLAN:

This action supports the following areas of your Board's Strategic Plan.

Area of Focus: Safe & Healthy Communities

Strategic Plan Category: 1002- Remove barriers to quality healthcare

DISCUSSION:

The Southern Humboldt Community Healthcare District, also known as SoHum Health, has completed its final design documents for a new hospital and primary care clinic in Garberville, to be located adjacent to Highway 101. This facility will replace the existing Jerold Phelps Community Hospital, which cannot meet upcoming statewide seismic requirements. The designs have been submitted for state and county review, with permits expected in 2026. Construction is projected to cost \$85,416,075, with SoHum Health actively fundraising and seeking grants to offset costs.

The district plans to submit a USDA Rural Development Loan application in December 2025 to finance the bulk of the project. A letter of support from the Board of Supervisors will highlight the importance of this project in continuing high-quality emergency and primary care services for the community.

SOURCE OF FUNDING:

General Fund

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

There is no financial impact in sending a letter of support.

STAFFING IMPACT:

None

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OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT:

None

ALTERNATIVES TO STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS:

Board Discretion

ATTACHMENTS:

Letter of Support

PREVIOUS ACTION/REFERRAL:

Meeting of: NA

File No.: N/A