



**CITY OF TACOMA, WASHINGTON
OFFICE OF THE CITY COUNCIL
COUNCIL CONSIDERATION REQUEST (CCR)**

TO: Mayor & City Council
FROM: Councilmember Victoria Woodards
COPIES TO: T.C. Broadnax, City Manager; Mark Lauzier, Assistant City Manager; Nadia Chandler Hardy, Assistant to the City Manager; Elizabeth Pauli, City Attorney; Executive Leadership Team; File
SUBJECT: Contribution for the new Behavioral Health Hospital on the Allenmore Hospital Campus
DATE: May 26, 2016

ITEM/ISSUE PROPOSED FOR COUNCIL CONSIDERATION:

I ask for your support for the inclusion of the following item on the agenda at the earliest available meeting .

Requesting the City Manager identify available funds for the City of Tacoma, on behalf of the City Council, to contribute \$1.5 million to support the creation of a new behavioral health hospital on the Allenmore Hospital Campus on South Union in Tacoma.

BRIEF BACKGROUND:

The Alliance for South Sound Health (a joint venture of MultiCare Health System and CHI-Franciscan Health) had been granted approval to build and operate a new \$41 million behavioral health hospital. This hospital would provide year round treatment for up to 5,000 patients and include 120 beds for voluntary and involuntary admissions.

Currently the state of Washington ranks 48th out of the 50 states for prevalence of mental health services and access to care, particularly when it comes to inpatient capacity. The national average for beds is 26.1 per 100,000 population. Washington State averages 8.3 and Pierce County averages 2.8 beds per 100,000. Our community therefore is critically underserved and we must act to ensure the citizens of Tacoma have access to the mental health services they need. Building this facility would push our average beds to 16.6 beds per 100,000 people. This is still under the nationwide average, but significantly expands our current capacity.

The City of Tacoma has repeatedly shown our commitment to expanding mental health services, as evidenced by the implementation of the Mental Health Sales Tax. However, mental illness continues to be an issue in our community. Untreated mental illness or substance use disorders and their related problems have clear and negative impacts on businesses and urban residential living. Mental illness and substance use disorders often result in increased poverty, homelessness, and the breakdown of families.

We all share in the ultimate costs for dealing with the issues of substance use disorders and mental health. For example, an individual without substance abuse treatment can cost a community approximately \$22,000 in emergency room visits, criminal justice services, and child welfare every year. By ensuring adequate treatment, we can reduce that cost to an estimated \$2,430.

Several local municipalities have pledged funds to ensure this critical project is built to serve the residents of our communities, so I therefore respectfully urge my colleagues to join me in supporting a contribution of \$1.5 million in the 2017-2018 biennium for a one-time expenditure to the Alliance for South Sound Health to build a new behavioral health hospital on the Allenmore Hospital Campus in Tacoma.

Requesting funding to support the creation of a new behavioral health hospital on the Allenmore Hospital Campus on South Union in Tacoma with a \$1.5 million contribution contingent on the funds being available and subject to future City Council appropriation. The City's funding request is contingent on securing other funds needed to complete the project before the City funding is released.

SUBMITTED FOR COUNCIL CONSIDERATION BY: *Victoria Woodards*
Council Member Victoria Woodards

SUPPORTING COUNCILMEMBERS SIGNATURES (2 SIGNATURES ONLY)

1. *Ryan D. Mellor* POS # 8
2. *Andrew Bell* POS# 3



To: City Manager TC Broadnax
Mayor Strickland

From: Tim Thompson

Date: March 24, 2016

Re: South Sound Behavioral Health Coalition

Thank you for taking the time to meet with the Coalition and discuss the CHI Franciscan Health and MultiCare Health System community effort to building a 120 bed behavioral health hospital. Brad Cheney and Dr. Bill Weyerhaeuser are Co-Chairing the South Sound Behavioral Health Coalition to support this effort.

As we discussed, the Coalition will be briefing the City in a joint study session to discuss our current effort to build the Behavioral Health Hospital. The Coalition would like to make a 20 minute presentation on the current plan, the status of our efforts to date and answer any questions the City may have. Enclosed is a list of coalition members for your information and I would be glad to send you a suggested agenda for the meeting if you desire. We anticipate about 4 – 5 people from the Coalition that will speak in the 20 minutes allotted and approximately 20 – 25 coalition members will attend. We are just beginning to schedule similar meetings with all the local jurisdictions in the area.

Background

The State of Washington ranks 48th out of 50 states when looking at the prevalence of mental health services compared to access to care, particularly when it comes to inpatient capacity. The national average is 26.1 beds per 100,000 residents. Washington State averages 8.3 beds. The situation is even more critical for Pierce County, which ranks at the bottom of all urban counties in Washington State with 2.8 beds per 100,000 residents. Emergency Departments are overcrowded because people have nowhere else to turn in a mental health crisis. Military veterans live on the streets with untreated post-traumatic stress disorder. Police and first responders devote time and resources to address behavioral health problems that threaten public safety. The mentally ill are lost in the jail and justice systems where they do not belong.

CHI Franciscan Health (CHI Franciscan) and MultiCare Health System (MultiCare) are committed to improving our behavioral health system, and have created a joint venture to build a critically needed 120 bed Behavioral Health Hospital adjacent to the MultiCare Allenmore Hospital campus. The project is expected to cost \$42 million, and the hospital systems have agreed to support \$20 million in capital costs. The State of Washington has committed \$5 million for capital support and is expected to commit more in the current session. Congressman Kilmer is

working to secure federal support, with the support of the Washington Congressional Delegation including Congressman Dave Reichert, Senators Patty Murray and Maria Cantwell.

Status

As we seek State and Federal support, it is imperative that local communities and governments demonstrate their support for this project and we would welcome your support as we proceed with the plans to build the hospital.

This investment will provide great returns to Pierce County. The cost of inadequate behavioral health services impacts insurers, employers, government payers and the health care system as a whole. But the cost to society goes far beyond that. When the cost of incarceration, police, fire and EMT services, services for the homeless, and the cost of boarding psychiatric patients in emergency rooms are factored in, the true costs are staggering.

Above all, the greatest impact of the inadequacy of our behavioral health system is the loss of hope for thousands of people in our community and the pain and helplessness suffered by their families. We respectfully ask the City of Tacoma to partner with us to help bring hope and recovery to those suffering from behavioral health illness and their families.

SOUTH SOUND BEHAVIORAL HEALTH COLAITION MEMBERS

Ron	Adler	Western State Hospital's CEO
Nancy	Backus	Mayor of Auburn
Lois	Bernstein	MultiCare
Keith	Blocker	City Council
Jim	Boulanger	Patriot Fire
Rhonda	Brown	CHI Franciscan
Michelle	Caldier	Representative
Anthony	Chen	Tacoma/Pierce Health Department
Brad	Cheney	CoChair
Loren	Cohen	Pt. Ruston
Jack	Connelly	Lawyer
Dr. Brett	Copeland	Allenmore Psychological Associate
Hon. Frank	Cuthbertson	Judge
Joe	Dacca	Rep. Derek Kilmer
Bruce	Dammeier	Senator
Norm	Dicks	Former Congressman
Bea	Dixon	Optum
Melanie	Dressell	Columbia Bank
David	Fientge	Common Health
Dr. Curtis	Greenfield	Allenmore Psychological Associates, P.S.
Brian	Haynes	Rainier Connect
Tim	Holmes	MultiCare
Denny	Hunthausen	
Bryan	Jeter	Puyallup Chief of Police
Laurie	Jinkins	Representative
Don	Johnson	Port of Tacoma
Kathi	Littmann	
Sara	Long	MultiCare
Mark	Martinez	Building Trades
Pat	McCarthy	County Executive
Ryan	Mello	Council Member
Mark	Miloscia	Senator
Ingrid	Mungia	Multicare
Toby	Murray	Murray pacific
Frank	O'Donnell	Multicare
John	Parrott	Totem/Saltchuck
Paul	Pastor	Pierce County Sheriff
Ketul	Patel	Chief Executive Officer
Rich	Petrich	Vice President, Strategy CHI/Franciscan
Kierra	Phifer	Senator Murray
Tom	Pierson	Tacoma - Pierce Chamber
olonel Michael	Place	Madigan Hospital Commander
Lua	Pritchard	Asia Pacific Cultural Center (APCC)
Lyle	Quasim	
Chief	Ramsdel	City of Tacoma Police
Rod	Rassmussen	IID

Bob	Redd	US Oil
Doug	Richardson	County Council
Maya	Richman	UPS Student
Bill	Robertson	CEO and President of MultiCare
Rob	Roth	Physican
ton. Nathaniehlicher, MD, JD, FAC		ED Doc FHS
Herb	Simon	Simon Johnson
Bill	Sterud	Puyallup Tribe
Dave	Stolz	Stolz and Associates
Rick	Talbert	County Council
Pat	Thompson	AFSCME
Robert	Thoms	Tacoma City Council
Greg	Unruh	President, Franciscan Foundation
Jim	Vollendroff	King County RSN Executive Director
Bill	Weyerhaeuser	Co Chair
Victoria	Woodards	City Council
LaTasha	Wortham	Rep. Denny Heck
Dori	Young	MultiCare
Valerie	Zeeck	Gordon Thomas Honeywell