

CITY OF CONCORD
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June 8th, 2021

Mariana Moore, Chair
Measure X Community Advisory Board
County Administrator's Office
1025 Escobar Street, 4th Floor
Martinez, CA 94553

As Mayor of the City of Concord, and on behalf of the Concord City Council, I am writing to endorse the work of the Community Crisis Initiative, which is requesting Measure X funding for the development of a comprehensive system to respond to behavioral health crises in our community. The initiative is a partnership between cities from across the county and Contra Costa Health Services to develop a comprehensive community crisis response system **with services provided by mental health professionals** and a system that can be accessed by **anyone, anytime, anywhere**.

Since July 2020, a representative group of City Managers from the Contra Costa Public Managers Association (PMA) has been collaborating with Contra Costa Health Services (CCHS). Under the sponsorship of this group, a multi-disciplinary team, including law enforcement, community advocates, behavioral health staff, people with lived experience and others looked at existing capacities and created an initial framework where anyone in Contra Costa County can access timely and appropriate behavioral health crisis care anywhere at any time. This team looked at best practices nationally, regionally and locally, and held three week-long workshops to test various aspects of the model. **The model includes three components of a comprehensive crisis response system, including a virtual hub (regional call center), crisis response teams and alternate destinations.**

It has become clear to us that individuals involved in these emergency and crisis mental health situations are in need of behavioral health interventions. We fully support the recommendations to develop a comprehensive crisis response system available 24/7 and serving all of the regions and cities in the county. We are committed in Concord to help support the new system. We think establishing a regional effort that builds on expansion of a comprehensive mobile crisis system with mental health professionals is the most likely way to create a sustainable system.

We urge you as the Measure X Community Advisory Board to support this effort as well. Using Measure X funding to support the launch and development will go a long way to making sure

that mobile crisis services are conducted in an age appropriate, geographically accessible, and culturally competent manner to all residents of Contra Costa County whatever their insurance status may be. This work is just what Measure X was intended to support, especially since all members of our county and all communities will benefit.

Sincerely,



Tim McGallian
Mayor
City of Concord

CC: City Council
Valerie Barone, City Manager
Susanne Brown, City Attorney
Joelle Fockler, City Clerk
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