



City Council

Susan Candell, Mayor  
Teresa Gerringer, Vice Mayor  
Carl Anduri, Council Member  
Cameron Burks, Council Member  
Gina Dawson, Council Member

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

June 15, 2021

Dear Chair Moore and members of the Measure X Community Advisory Board,

The Lafayette City Council endorses 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 goal of this initiative, which is a partnership between cities from across the county and Contra Costa Health Services, is to develop a community crisis response system **with services provided by mental health professionals** that can be accessed by **anyone, anytime, anywhere**.

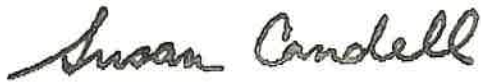
At the direction of the Contra Costa Mayors Conference, a representative group of city managers from the Contra Costa Public Managers Association (PMA) has been collaborating with Contra Costa Health Services (CCHS) on this effort since July 2020. Under the sponsorship of this group, a multi-disciplinary team, including law enforcement, community advocates, behavioral health staff, people with lived experience and others looked at existing services and 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 studied best practices nationally, regionally and locally, and held three intensive week-long workshops to test various aspects of the model. **The tested model included 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 need compassionate and timely behavioral health interventions. We fully support the recommendations to develop a comprehensive crisis response system available 24/7 and serving all the regions and cities in the county. We are committed in Lafayette to help support the new system. We believe that 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 ensure that mobile crisis services are offered in an age appropriate, geographically accessible, and culturally competent manner

to all residents of Contra Costa County. This work is just what Measure X was intended to support and all members of our county and all communities will benefit from this transformational and innovative program.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Susan Candell". The ink is dark and the signature is fluid.

Susan Candell  
Mayor

CC: Supervisor Candace Andersen  
Monica Nino, County Administrator  
City Council