



**WASHOE COUNTY**  
**OFFICE OF THE COUNTY MANAGER**

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Date: August 17, 2022

To: The Interim Finance Committee

From: Eric P. Brown

Re: Support for Agenda Items F.15 and F.16

I am writing in support of Agenda items F. 15 and 16 and the \$20,800,000 requested for local and regional health authorities specifically, the \$10,000,000 requested for the Washoe County Health District (WCHD) to purchase and renovate a building for a satellite location.

The satellite building will serve several important functions for the Health District and expand the equitable distribution of health services in our community. Our current Tuberculosis Clinic is in an aging building that is reaching end of life. It is the old County Morgue building that the Medical Examiner moved out of a number of years ago, and it is not in good shape, but it is currently the only facility the Health District has with Negative Pressure rooms that are required to test and treat TB patients, and as we were reminded by COVID-19 are essential for infection protection for infectious airborne diseases. The new facility will provide us with an upgraded negative pressure facility for our TB clinic and for use with other novel infectious diseases.

Acquiring a satellite facility will also allow other clinical services (Immunizations, Family Planning, Sexual Health, WIC) provided by the Health District to be delivered at that location, both improving access to services for those receiving them from the Health District and increasing the physical space available to provide those services. Access to services is a big issue, and COVID-19 further demonstrated how important that is.

Lastly, a portion of the building will also be used to provide workspaces and meeting rooms for the Health District staff. Over the last three years WCHD has been one the fastest growing departments in Washoe County. As our community continues to grow, additional office space for WCHD is a high priority to meet the growing needs of our community.

I urge you to approve funding for this important public health investment for the citizens of Washoe County.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Eric P. Brown".

Eric P. Brown  
Washoe County Manager