



**J. Timothy Stout, MD, PhD, MBA**

Sid W. Richardson Professor

Margarett Root Brown Chair

Director, Cullen Eye Institute

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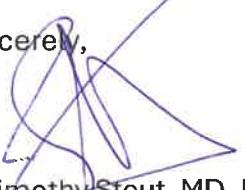
Esmaeil Porsa, MD  
President and CEO, Harris Health  
4800 Fournace Place  
Bellaire, Texas 77401

RE: Proposal to Expand Ben Taub Hospital

Dear Dr. Porsa,

The Department of Ophthalmology, at Baylor College of Medicine, is in full agreement regarding the need to expand Ben Taub Hospital. Expansion is vital to meeting the increasing needs of the population growth in the Houston area, especially considering the increase in the number of uninsured people. This anticipated increase will ultimately affect the timeframe of patients receiving care. A larger, modern facility will provide the required space and equipment necessary to provide quality care for more patients within a shorter timeframe. Dr. Porsa, the ophthalmology clinic at Ben Taub sees approximately 1,400 to 1,500 patients per month. Our current waitlist is 2,156. The proposed expansion will allow us to see additional patients and provide surgical and consultative care. The proposed expansion will substantially prepare Ben Taub to meet our needs and I heartily support. I'm happy to discuss this with you at your convenience.

Sincerely,

  
J. Timothy Stout, MD, PhD, MBA  
Sid W. Richardson Professor  
Margarett Root Brown Chair  
Director, Cullen Eye Institute  
Chair, Department of Ophthalmology  
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