

## To Whom It May Concern:

On behalf of the Harris County Medical Society (HCMS), we write in strong support of Harris Health's proposal to acquire 8.9 acres of land across Lamar Fleming Street to expand Ben Taub Hospital. As physicians who care for Houstonians every day, we know firsthand the strain on Ben Taub's capacity and the critical need for additional space to meet the growing demand for trauma care, specialty services, and medical education.

Founded in 1903, HCMS is the largest county medical society in the nation, representing more than 15,000 physicians and medical students. Our mission is to advocate for physicians, their patients, and the health of our community. That mission compels us to support projects that improve access to care, strengthen training for future physicians, and ensure that lifesaving services are available to all who need them.

Ben Taub Hospital is a cornerstone of Houston's health care safety net. Every day, it provides essential care for underserved patients, functions as a premier teaching hospital, and anchors the region's Level I trauma system. The proposed expansion—through a new patient tower made possible by this land acquisition—will allow Harris Health to deliver care more efficiently, train more physicians, and better serve the county's rapidly growing population.

HCMS members believe this project represents not just an expansion of a hospital, but a commitment to Houston's future. We respectfully urge city and county leaders to move forward with this proposal as an investment in the resilience, health, and well-being of our community.

Thank you for your leadership and consideration.

Sincerely,

Dwane G. Broussard, MD

President

Harris County Medical Society

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