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Dr. Esmaeil Porsa President and CEO Harris Health 4800 Fournace Place

Bellaire, TX 77410

Dear Dr. Porsa,

The Board of Trustees of the Harris County Hospital District Foundation convened on September 10, 2025, and discussed the need for the expansion of Ben Taub Hospital, which consistently operates above capacity. This expansion ensures Harris Health can meet the projected needs of the region's growing population.

Our board understands the importance and necessity for Harris Health to expand Ben Taub Hospital. With this expansion, Harris Health can meet the demands of a consistently rising population and provide the essential emergency services and health care needs of the residents of the City of Houston, Harris County, and surrounding counties.

After careful consideration of the demand for ever-increasing services, the Board voted unanimously in favor of supporting this critical initiative, recognizing that this is the only viable option for addressing the urgent need to provide continued care for Harris County's most vulnerable populations and nationally recognized trauma care, all while building a better Ben Taub Hospital to continue saving lives for years to come.

This vote reflects the Foundation's commitment to making a difference in the lives of the patients served by Harris Health as well as the doctors, nurses, and staff who care for them. While the Harris County Hospital District Foundation does not manage or oversee this expansion project, our overall work aims to enhance the quality of the workplace found at Harris Health facilities for all patients and employees. To that end, we are pleased to publicly express our support for Harris Health's Ben Taub Expansion Project.

We also recognize that this expansion requires the repurposing of land within Hermann Park. The Foundation deeply values the importance of this historic green space to Houston's residents and visitors. We also express our understanding and support for future projects that preserve, restore, and enhance Hermann Park so its cultural, recreational, and critical health benefits continue to thrive alongside the region's healthcare growth. We encourage Harris Health to continue working with stakeholders to minimize impact on Hermann Park.

We urge Harris County leaders to join us in support of this life-saving investment in Ben Taub Hospital and the heart of Houston's healthcare.

Regards.

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