

Dear Mayor and City Council,

My name is Heidi Sanborn and I am the President of the Arizona Nurses Association (AzNA). We are the oldest and largest nursing association in Arizona, and our more than 3,700 members represent the full spectrum of the nursing practice and provide care in every corner of Arizona.

As nurses, our focus is always to provide the best possible care to our patients. That is why I write today in support of a new hospital and ambulatory care center sought by Northern Arizona Healthcare (NAH) as part of its proposed Health and Wellness Village in Flagstaff.

Though Flagstaff Medical Center has been a cornerstone of medical care in northern Arizona for 50 years, this facility is showing its age and cannot be further expanded to handle the kind of increased patient demand projected as Flagstaff and northern Arizona continue to grow. NAH's proposed hospital and ambulatory care center – including a Level 1 trauma facility – will be built with the needs of modern healthcare in mind. That means state-of-the-art facilities and the latest treatment options to help nurses, doctors and other healthcare professionals focus on what they do best: Care for patients.

As healthcare providers, we're pleased the proposed Health and Wellness Village will centralize inpatient treatment. The hospital's design will also allow for increased bed count under one roof and provide room for future expansion and improvements in patient care. Additionally:

- Patient care areas are being designed to ensure optimal nurse-to-patient ratios.
- Nurses and doctors will have appropriate storage for equipment and supplies without infringing on clinical space.
- The facility will include modern, suite-style rooms for improved patient care and privacy, as well as an expanded Emergency Department.
- Healthcare providers will have expanded clinical options and specialty treatments at their fingertips – comprehensive oncology services, additional therapy and rehabilitation, a wound-healing program with hyperbaric chambers, convenient outpatient imaging and more.

All of this means better access to care for patients – and all without having to make the trip to Phoenix!

It's important to remember Flagstaff Medical Center is a regional facility relied upon by all of northern Arizona. A new location immediately adjacent to I-17 and I-40 will provide improved accessibility to Flagstaff residents and the entire region.

Now is the time to ensure Flagstaff has a hospital built for the future with the amenities and services healthcare providers need and patients deserve. On behalf of the Arizona Nurses Association, I ask that you support the proposed NAH Health and Wellness Village.

Respectfully,



Heidi Sanborn DNP, RN, CNE
President, Board of Directors
Arizona Nurses Association



Dawna Cato PhD., RN, NP-BC
CEO
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