

## RICHARD H. CARMONA, M.D., M.P.H., FACS

17th Surgeon General of the United States

September 28, 2022

Northern Arizona Healthcare Health and Wellness Village

Dear Mayor Deasy and Flagstaff City Council:

My name is Richard Carmona and I had the privilege to serve as the 17th Surgeon General of the United States. I am also currently a Distinguished Laureate Professor at the University of Arizona.

I write this letter in my personal capacity to express my support for Northern Arizona Healthcare's plan to construct a new hospital and ambulatory care center to replace Flagstaff Medical Center as part of their proposed Health and Wellness Village.

Throughout my medical career, I've seen firsthand the importance and value of having a modern hospital that leverages state-of-the-art health care technologies available to a diverse community. NAH serves a large segment of our state's indigenous and tribal communities as well as communities across Flagstaff and northern Arizona, who all deserve access to modern, quality care.

NAH also has worked closely with regional partners to ensure patients have convenient access to health care. This effort will be improved by moving their Level 1 trauma center from their current Flagstaff campus to the proposed Fort Tuthill location that is accessible via I-17 and I-40.

NAH's effort to expand access to medical, surgical, emergency, ambulatory and other health care services for patients and clinicians is exactly the type of development needed for the northern Arizona region.

Improved access for better outcomes will make us stronger and healthier.

I respectfully ask that you support Northern Arizona Healthcare's proposed Health and Wellness Village.

Sincerely,

Richard Carmona, M.D., M.P.H., FACS

17th Surgeon General of the United States