

**Mayor**

*David Allison*

**Council Members**

*Tom Bailer*

*Cathy Sherman*

*Jeff Guard*

*Melina Meyer*

*Anne Schaefer*

*Kristin Carpenter*

*Ken Jones*

**City Manager**

*Helen Howarth*

**City Clerk**

*Susan Bourgeois*

**Deputy Clerk**

*Tina Hammer*

**Student Council**

*Ari Jeppson-Bolin*

**Special City Council Meeting  
May 9, 2022 @ 12:00 pm  
Cordova Center Community Rooms  
Agenda**

**A. Call to order**

**B. Roll call**

Mayor David Allison, Council members Tom Bailer, Cathy Sherman, Jeff Guard, Melina Meyer, Anne Schaefer, Kristin Carpenter, and Ken Jones

**C. Approval of agenda..... (voice vote)**

**D. Disclosures of Conflicts of Interest and Ex Parte Communications**

- conflicts as defined in 3.10.010 [https://library.municode.com/ak/cordova/codes/code\\_of\\_ordinances](https://library.municode.com/ak/cordova/codes/code_of_ordinances) should be declared, then Mayor rules on whether member should be recused, Council can overrule
- ex parte should be declared here, the content of the ex parte should be explained when the item comes before Council, ex parte does not recuse a member, it is required that ex parte is declared and explained

**E. Communications by and petitions from visitors**

**1. Audience Comments regarding agenda items..... (3 minutes per speaker)**

City Council invited the Cordova Community Medical Center Authority Board members and the Native Village of Eyak Tribal Council members to attend the Special Meeting – quorums of either or both of those bodies may be present at the meeting

**F. New Business**

**2. Council approval of letter of support for NVE’s Federal infrastructure..... (voice vote)(page 1) funding request**

**G. Audience participation**

**H. Council comments**

**I. Executive Session**

City Council is permitted to enter into an executive session if an explicit motion is made to do so calling out the subject to be discussed and if that subject falls into one of the 4 categories noted below. Therefore, even if specific agenda items are not listed under the Executive Session header on the agenda, any item on the agenda may trigger discussion on that item that is appropriate for or legally requires an executive session. In the event executive session is appropriate or required, Council may make a motion to enter executive session right during debate on that agenda item or could move to do so later in the meeting.

**J. Adjournment**

**Executive Sessions per Cordova Municipal Code 3.14.030**

- **subjects which may be considered are:** (1) matters the immediate knowledge of which would clearly have an adverse effect upon the finances of the government; (2) subjects that tend to prejudice the reputation and character of any person; provided that the person may request a public discussion; (3) matters which by law, municipal charter or code are required to be confidential; (4) matters involving consideration of governmental records that by law are not subject to public disclosure.
- **subjects may not be considered in the executive session except those mentioned in the motion calling for the executive session, unless they are auxiliary to the main question**
- **action may not be taken in an executive session except to give direction to an attorney or labor negotiator regarding the handling of a specific legal matter or pending labor negotiations**

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**AGENDA ITEM 2**  
**City Council Meeting Date: 5/9/2022**  
**CITY COUNCIL COMMUNICATION FORM**

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**FROM:** Susan Bourgeois, City Clerk  
**DATE:** 5/6/2022  
**ITEM:** Council approval of letter of support  
**NEXT STEP:** Majority voice or roll call vote

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ORDINANCE  
 MOTION

RESOLUTION  
 INFORMATION

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**I. REQUEST OR ISSUE:** Council approval of letter of support for NVE’s federal infrastructure funding request.

**II. RECOMMENDED ACTION / NEXT STEP:** Council motion to approve the draft letter and once that motion is made, Council could opt to make subsequent motions to amend the language.

**III. BACKGROUND INFORMATION:** Funding opportunities have arisen quickly and NVE presented as a guest speaker to Council at the Regular meeting on May 4, 2022 about one such effort they are making next week in Washington, DC. At Pending Agenda on that same night, Council called for a special meeting to approve a letter of support. Council asked that CCMC Authority Board and NVE Tribal Council be invited to the Special Meeting. Council also asked that NVE include an executive summary of the project/proposal they are putting forward. City Manager Helen Howarth drafted a letter that she then distributed to Dr. Hannah Sanders, CEO, CCMC Authority and Bert Adams, CEO, Native Village of Eyak for suggested edits and final assurance that both approved the language. They have approved and will be available for questions at the Special Meeting.



## **Executive Summary - NVE Appropriations Proposal**

The Native Village of Eyak working in collaboration with the city of Cordova has identified an urgent need to replace both aging health facilities in Cordova.

NVE has engaged the services of Benteh- EEIS, a well-respected engineering firm experienced in assessing and designing health facilities.

Benteh has assessed both the CEC and the CCMC buildings several times since 2017. The CEC building which the Native Village of Eyak currently provides services from is considered a “demised” building and no longer fit for significant repairs or renovation. It was built in the early 1950s and has the associated lead pipes and asbestos from that time. In addition to the obvious issues, the only air exchange is by opening windows (which impacts patient privacy) and the building is not ADA compliant.

The CCMC building also has significant issues including foundational damage related to the earthquake in 2019 as well as air handling and window egress.

Benteh concluded that repairs or renovation to either building would be ill-advised due to the many items needing attention and would be less cost-effective than replacement.

In cooperation with Cordova Community Medical Center staff, the Health Services Planning tool has been used to identify essential services needed to adequately provide for the health and well-being of Cordova’s community members. This planning tool can calculate facility size and number of staff needed to provide the services.

The planning tool works by estimating future population size (in this case 3400 people by 2031) and recommending a facility, square footage, and number of staff.

The result of that planning tool was an 88,000 square foot facility which would be able to provide all the current primary, behavioral health hospital and emergency services as well as a dental clinic. It did not include a long-term care facility.

This facility has adequate space to include twelve swing beds in single rooms, which is similar to the current critical access hospital beds. Currently, CCMC has thirteen swing beds in double rooms.

At this time, NVE has identified property which could potentially be used to construct a healthcare facility of this size; however, the overall vision is to have a health care campus which would then also have a long-term care/assisted living facility either attached or in proximity. This healthcare campus could also be used for additional health structures in the future as needed, such as a small outpatient ambulatory care center to provide outpatient surgical procedures. Other property options will be discussed as we go through this process.

## DRAFT CITY COUNCIL LETTER OF SUPPORT

This letter is approved as written by Dr. Hannah Sanders, CEO, Cordova Community Medical Center and Bert Adams, CEO, Native Village of Eyak

May 5, 2022

City of Cordova supports Native Village of Eyak's FY23 Federal Appropriations request for funding to replace their Healthcare Facility.

Cordova's residents, seasonal workers and visitors are currently served by Ilanka Community Health Center, and Cordova Community Medical Center (CCMC), a city owned 13 bed critical access hospital providing comprehensive healthcare services. However, both facilities are in need of substantial repair or replacement to maintain operations in accordance with Life Safety Code.

City believes that coordination of care and integration of healthcare services in Cordova would improve efficiency, safety and health outcomes for community members. City has prioritized working with Native Village of Eyak to maximize healthcare resources in Cordova and identify viable long-term, community-wide healthcare solutions.

Native Village of Eyak's Ilanka Community Health Center has a well-known and respected history of providing health care to all Cordova residents. City recognizes NVE as a community partner in providing essential healthcare services to all. Over the course of the Covid pandemic, NVE and City worked together to provide access to testing, treatment and information for all of Cordova's citizens.

City is dedicated to working collaboratively with Native Village of Eyak to create sustainable health services for all Cordoyans and supports their funding request to bring critical dollars to replace Cordova's aging healthcare infrastructure.

Sincerely,

David Allison  
Mayor of Cordova