

City of White Salmon
Office of City Hall



February 21, 2024

Matt Kollman
Skyline Health Chief Executive Officer
PO Box 99
White Salmon, WA 98672

Subject: Endorsement for Skyline Health’s Advancing Rural Surgical Services Project funding request.

Dear Matt,

On behalf of City of White Salmon City Council Members, I am writing to express our wholehearted endorsement for Skyline Health’s federal appropriations request of \$3 million for the Advancing Rural Surgical Services Project. As a trusted partner in our region’s healthcare landscape, Skyline Health has consistently demonstrated its commitment to providing essential medical services for our community.

The Advancing Rural Surgical Services Project is of paramount importance for Klickitat and Skamania Counties, addressing a critical need for enhanced and improved surgical care for our rural population. Residents of our communities depend on Skyline Health for their routine surgical needs. Modernizing Skyline’s surgical facilities to meet growing demand for services will allow our residents to continue to receive their care locally – without the need for costly travel that places unnecessary burdens on families.

The \$6 million initiative proposed by Skyline Health is a commendable effort to expand surgical capacity within its service area, thereby significantly improving healthcare access for our region’s rural population. Our organization strongly supports this funding request due to our understanding of the immense benefits expanded surgical services will bring to our community.

Moreover, we believe this project deserves support from the federal government. Skyline Health has proven to be a vital community resource, particularly during the challenging times of the COVID-19 pandemic, operating at peak levels to ensure the safety of our community. The Advancing Rural Surgical Services Project represents a sustainable, cost-effective community health investment that will create necessary care options for residents of Klickitat and Skamania Counties requiring surgical care.

We are proud to stand in support of Skyline Health and urge Congress to consider and include this project for the requested funding, recognizing its potential to significantly impact the well-being of our rural community members. Thank you for your attention to this crucial matter.

Sincerely,

Council Member Hartmann

Council Member Ransier

Council Member Lindley

Council Member Giant

Council Member Fink

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