

March 6, 2026

The Honorable Ted Lieu
United States House of Representatives
2454 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Lieu,

On behalf of the City of Redondo Beach, I am pleased to provide this letter of support for the Beach Cities Health District's FY27 Community Project Funding Request for the construction of Allcove Beach Cities.

Allcove centers are youth-designed, youth-centered mental health and wellbeing hubs serving young people ages 12–25. These centers provide low barrier, walk in access to integrated mental health and substance use services, peer and family support, care coordination, and school and community connections in a developmentally appropriate, stigma free setting. Since allcove Beach Cities opened in a temporary location in November 2022, there have been more than 16,000 visits by young people, and more than 1,600 young people and their families have received vital behavioral health services. Demand continues to grow each month, reflecting both the rising behavioral health needs of youth and the community's trust in allcove as a safe place to seek help. The program has also become a critical partner to local schools, community organizations, and families who rely on allcove as an accessible entry point into care.

The \$2 million request for health facility construction and equipment costs will fund the construction of the permanent allcove Beach Cities facility. This new 9,400 square foot building in Redondo Beach, California, will strengthen the South Bay's behavioral health continuum of care and address persistent access gaps so that young people can receive timely mental health care and supportive services in a safe, welcoming environment.

We strongly support this important community project and respectfully request that you submit it for funding. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at james.light@redondo.org.

Sincerely,

James A. Light

Mayor, City of Redondo Beach