

November 30, 2021

Lisa Sherrick, Assistant City Clerk
West Covina City Hall
Room 317
1444 West Garvey Ave South
West Covina, CA 91790
Email: lisherrick@westcovina.org

Re: No 2 West Covina Health Department Initiative

Dear Assistant City Clerk Sherrick,

We write to inform you that we did not obtain the required number of signatures for the initiative we were circulating regarding the public health department. Although we collected thousands of valid signatures, we were not able to obtain the amount needed based on the last election which involved a Presidential contest. As such, we will not be submitting any of the signatures collected for your review.

While we are disappointed, we are proud to have made contact with thousands of our neighbors and voters regarding this issue. We are pleased that we were able to do this as a grassroots community effort and plan to continue to fight this misguided and unnecessary decision by a majority in our West Covina City Council.

Public records request responses confirm that the City is in over its head with this project and that it is far from qualifying for grants or funds that are specifically slated for the health department. West Covina proposes to contract health services to private companies. The City continues to utilize funds and resources that could benefit us elsewhere for a project that is not necessary or sustainable. In addition, while the City purports to be doing this under emergency authority there has been no explanation of how exactly the City with its current financial state would be able to deliver the same or better public health services than the County of LA. Furthermore, the West Covina Unified School District has expressed concern that the City's proposed health department will put at risk the services needed to protect the health of students and families. All this, at a time when COVID-19 remains a public health threat.

Therefore, we will continue to stay connected and encourage voters to contact State officials regarding our concerns. We will also continue to spread awareness about this issue so that West Covina voters are thoroughly informed about the latest with the proposed health department being pursued.

Sincerely,

The No 2 West Covina Health Department Community Group

www.no2WCHealthDepartment.com

cc. Tony Wu, District 5 City Council Member (by email)

Dario Castellanos, District 4 Council Member and Mayor (by email)

Brian Tabatabai, District City Council Member (by email)

Letty Lopez-Viado, District 2 City Council Member (by email)

Rosario Diaz, District 1 City Council Member and Mayor Pro Tem (by email)

Robert Ragland, Chief Compliance Officer (by email)

Ron Chapman, MD, MPH, CDPH (by email)

Governor Gavin Newsom (by mail)

West Covina Residents