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February 9, 2016

Good Morning Commissioners,

On behalf of the LILA Board of Directors, thank you for giving me the opportunity to give public comment.

The issues involved in this award are extremely important to our community and the consumers we serve. As a consumer driven organization, LILA is presenting the voice of consumers in our community. We hope that the following issues can be seriously addressed before an award is made.

LILA is a member of the Severe and Persistent Mental Illness group, which worked towards the creation of a proposal for a community crisis center. The collective vision was for a single hub from which all crisis services would emanate. Our community needs a single community crisis hub.

Location is extremely important for access to crisis services. White Bird is in such a location, close to the Emergency Department, bus lines, downtown and other needed services.

For over 40 years White Bird has built a solid relationship within our community, based on trust and familiarity. Their reputation is a powerful factor in crisis services and a huge part of why we are here today.

We have nothing against Columbia Care but we firmly believe that our community would be better served by White Bird.

Because we feel that all the issues to be considered were not fully addressed, we recommend withdrawal of the RFP. Please take another look.

14.25% increase for a service we are already paying for.

This appears to be a way to totally change funding for the sheriff, and possibly in the future, other services for all of Lane Co. Each area will have to create their own special levy to bring their level of enforcement up to an acceptable level.

20,000 property owners in West Lane will then be subsidizing sheriff's law enforcement in the balance of Lane Co because there will not be a line item in the budget for us.

Or are we getting a rebate on what we are currently assessed to support the sheriff.

If the residents Veneta-Elmira feel a need for more law enforcement they should consider a Veneta-Elmira Police Dept. or get annexed to Eugene and have Eugene Police Dept. coverage. Leave me out of it.

James TEMPLE
David Cordell
David Cordell