**Attachment B**

**Project Justification**

**59 Shady Grove Lane Parking Justification (tied to Wellness Center at 59 Shady Grove Lane)**

Redwoods Rural Health Center (RRHC) is 1 of only 3 non-Indian health facilities in Humboldt County serving over 55,000 Medi-Cal clients and over 26,000 individuals in poverty who rely on our income-based sliding fee scale program. Other healthcare facilities discriminate based on payor type or lack of insurance, so our patient population is growing.

***Issue #1:*** In 2018, RRHC created a new Suboxone program to address the national opioid crisis, the program pairs medically assisted treatment (MAT) with both individual and group counseling. Twice a week during Suboxone Group Counseling days, the Redwoods Rural Medical Building parking lot is so full that patients have been parking on the grassy zone above the parking spaces next to the trees lining the parking lot. Additionally, RRHC Dental has a year-waiting list for adult patients, the parking in the dental lot spills onto the street every day.

***Proposed Solution:*** To alleviate parking overflow into the residential area surrounding our Clinic and mess on our landscaping, Redwoods Rural Health center purchased the neighboring property, 59 Shady Grove Lane so that we could build a Staff Parking Lot next door.

***Access:*** In order to route staff vehicles off West Coast Road into the proposed Staff Parking Lot at 59 Shady Grove Lane as quickly as possible, Redwoods Rural Health Center signed an easement transfer agreement with our neighbor, Mr. Megowan for access to immediately turn left into 59 Shady Grove Lane property. That way, RRHC staff members who arrive between 7:30 - 7:50 am can drive between our dental and medical buildings to access the new Staff Parking Lot. RRHC employees currently use this easement route to park in between the two buildings, but with the expansion and relocation of the behavioral health team to the backside of the dental building, we need to use this space for patient parking.

Routing staff into the Staff Parking Lot using one defined entrance/egress path will keep the headlights along one path of travel therefore impacting fewer neighbors, additionally the new staff parking lot concept would keep staff vehicles in a fenced secure zone and make room for more patient traffic in the medical & dental parking lots. Keeping staff out of the medical and dental parking lots gives closer access to the medical and dental buildings for elderly and disabled patients. Instead of half of our current parking lot spaces being filled with RRHC employee vehicles, our patients would get to use the medical & dental parking lots intended for them.

***Issue #2:*** The medical parking lot is also beyond full because in 2018, RRHC started a new perinatal program, Bloom and Blossom. For the last two decades, pregnant women in Southern Humboldt have had to drive 45 minutes or more one-way North to be seen by medical professionals. The importance of the new program can not be understated and as expected, it’s growing. Additionally, RRHC’s acupuncture program is expanding with the addition of a second acupuncturist who began seeing patients at RRHC in the last couple months.

***Proposed Solution:*** The proposed Wellness Center on the 59 Shady Grove Lane property would house the Bloom and Blossom Perinatal Program along with Nutrition and Acupuncture. By creating the Staff Parking Lot and Wellness Center on the property next to the medical building (101 West Coast Road shares a fence with 59 Shady Grove Lane), pregnant women and acupuncture clients would have access to a dedicated parking lot. Thus, making it easier for pregnant women and their families to get in and out of the designated building for their appointments. Currently the medical building parking lot is full most of the time with both staff and patient vehicles, so pregnant ladies have no guarantee of easy access to the front entrance of the medical building. It will be much easier to create a clear path of travel for the perinatal clients once the Staff Parking Lot and Wellness Center are created.