

January 15, 2021

University of California Regents
Office of the Secretary and Chief of Staff to the Regents
1111 Franklin St., 12th floor
Oakland, CA 94607



Dear UC Board of Regents,

I write to convey the full support of the OC Black Chamber for the approval of the UCI Medical Center Irvine-Newport by the UC Board of Regents.

In the original planning for the UCI campus a hospital was slated to be included. Although it has taken over 50 years to come true, the growth of Orange County's population and expectation to increase significantly over the next four decades, the timing couldn't be better to serve our community. The UCI Medical Center Irvine-Newport will offer unique services such as the UCI Health Center for Advanced Care, the Center for Children's Health, a nationally designated cancer center and an integrative, evidence-based approach to personalized patient care.

As advocates for business and economic developments for our community, we believe the new medical center will positively contribute to the health of the local economy. It is expected that the UCI Medical Center Irvine-Newport will contribute upwards of 2,500 new construction and staffing jobs. This will also provide economic development opportunities with Orange-County-based businesses, suppliers and vendors.

Further, our members appreciate and acknowledge the steps UCI has taken to overcome racism with their ambitious UCI Black Thriving Initiative that will improve the campus culture, increase recruitment and success of Black students, and engage Black communities to link the campus' future to the success of Black communities.

Please accept our enthusiastic support for the approval of the UCI Medical Center Irvine-Newport.

Sincerely,

Bobby McDonald

Bobby McDonald
Orange County Black Chamber