RESOLUTION NO. 2026-0625A

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF IMPERIAL VALLEY HEALTHCARE DISTRICT CALLING FOR A GENERAL ELECTION TO CONFIRM A SPECIAL TAX UPON ALL TAXABLE PARCELS OF REAL PROPERTY WITHIN THE DISTRICT AND REQUESTING IMPERIAL COUNTY TO CONSOLIDATE THE ELECTION ON BEHALF OF THE DISTRICT

WHEREAS, the Imperial Valley Healthcare District ("**IVHD**") was formed pursuant to Assembly Bill 918 (Chapter 549, Statutes of 2023), which added Chapter 11 (commencing with Section 32499.5) to Division 23 of the Health and Safety Code, establishing a local health care district designated as the Imperial Valley Healthcare District within the County of Imperial, with the territory of the district including all of the County of Imperial; and

WHEREAS, AB 918 requires that the initial board of directors of IVHD recommend a permanent funding source mechanism to be presented to and approved by voters via ballot measure; and

WHEREAS, Senate Bill 1070 (Chapter 1013, Statutes of 2024) amended Section 32499.6 of the Health and Safety Code to require the initial board of directors, elected board of directors, or a combination of the initial and elected board of directors of IVHD to recommend a permanent funding source mechanism to be presented to voters via ballot measure, and further required that the funding source mechanism be placed on the ballot on or before the November 2026 election; and

WHEREAS, IVHD is the successor to the Heffernan Memorial Healthcare District and the Pioneers Memorial Healthcare District, and upon their dissolution, all assets, rights, and responsibilities of those districts were transferred to IVHD, including the operation of Pioneers Memorial Hospital and related healthcare clinics and facilities; and

WHEREAS, Pioneers Memorial Hospital is not seismically compliant, and must be seismically compliant by the year 2030 unless granted a waiver; and

WHEREAS, El Centro Regional Medical Center and Pioneers Memorial Hospital are the only two hospitals serving the entirety of Imperial County, both serving a significant immigrant population and low-income community, and both providing important acute care and emergency services in a predominantly farmworker, immigrant, Spanish-speaking community where the nearest alternative hospital can be over an hour away; and

WHEREAS, IVHD's income from all sources, including current taxes and managed care contractual fees generated from patient care services, is inadequate for operating its hospitals and related services, and financing future seismic improvements; and

WHEREAS, IVHD is currently financially unable to either fund an expansion of services or make necessary health and safety repairs to their facilities, including mandatory seismic upgrades to meet earthquake safety standards that are legally required to be implemented by 2030; and

WHEREAS, sufficient revenue cannot be raised through fees generated from patient care services because of financial assistance programs, a significant volume of uncompensated care provided to uninsured and underinsured patients, including undocumented individuals who are ineligible for federally funded insurance programs, cutbacks from third-party payors (including Medicare, Medi-Cal, insurance plans, health maintenance organizations, and similar payors), high cost of labor, supply, and equipment costs due, in large part, to inflationary pressure, and other reasons; and

WHEREAS, effective August 1, 2025, IVHD, El Centro Regional Medical Center, and the City of El Centro approved and executed an Asset Transfer Agreement for the acquisition and transfer of El Centro Regional Medical Center and related hospital real property and improvements, including outpatient centers, to IVHD; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Health and Safety Code section 32499.6 and Government Code sections 50075-50077.5, and 53720–53730.02, a special tax may be assessed in IVHD by an affirmative vote of two-thirds of the voters within the District voting upon a measure to authorize this special tax; and

WHEREAS, Government Code section 50075.1 requires that special tax be levied for specified purposes and that the local government establish a method of accountability to ensure the special tax proceeds are used only for the specified purposes; and

WHEREAS, this Board of Directors finds that the special tax would benefit all parcels within the District because keeping the local hospitals open and continuing to provide other health care services (1) increases the value of all property located within the District; (2) helps promote the highest and best use of the land in the District; (3) is essential to help promote the health of the residents of the District; (4) promotes the local economy by employing a number of residents of the District; (5) improves the quality of life for residents of the District by providing health care services and programs for everyone from infants to senior citizens; (6) provides expeditious treatment for employees who become ill or are injured on the job; (7) helps attract and retain new businesses; and (8) benefits commercial and industrial properties and their businesses by making the area more attractive to residents who may patronize or be employees of the businesses; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Government Code section 53724(c) and Elections Code sections 10400 *et seq*., the District may request the County to consolidate a district election with a regularly scheduled general election; and

WHEREAS, on **June 25, 2026**, the IVHD Board of Directors held a regular meeting after due notice and a public hearing to consider calling an election for the purpose of submitting to the qualified electors of the District a ballot measure proposing the imposition of an annual special parcel tax commencing July 1, 2027 until repealed, to provide for the continued operation and maintenance by IVHD of its hospital(s) and their associated services, including the ability to finance future seismic improvements necessary in order to comply with legal requirements, in compliance with the requirements of AB 918 and SB 1070; and

WHEREAS, it is the desire of this IVHD Board of Directors to consolidate an election with the General Election to be held on November 3, 2026, for the purpose of obtaining authorization for the imposition of a special tax within the District;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Directors of Imperial Valley Healthcare District as follows:

SECTION A. BALLOT MEASURE FINDINGS

1. The Recitals are recognized as findings and set forth fully herein.
2. The Board of Directors finds that a special tax is necessary and in the best interest of the District residents in order to maintain local access to advanced, life-saving emergency medical care, fund ongoing hospital operations and maintenance, including the acquisition of up-to-date medical technology and equipment, achieve an expansion of healthcare services, ensure the hospitals have qualified doctors and nurses, and achieve a financial position that will allow the District to finance seismic upgrades necessary to meet earthquake safety standards required by law.
3. The Board of Directors finds that it is in the best interest of the District's residents to invest in improvements, including seismic improvements required by law, rather than delaying or paying for repairs in the future.
4. The IVHD Board of Directors finds that without a special tax, IVHD's local hospital(s) risk service reduction or potential closures.
5. The parcels impacted by the special tax receive both a direct advantage from the improvement, such as proximity to the improved hospital facilities, as well as an indirect, derivative advantage resulting from the overall public benefits of the improvements, such as general enhancement of the district's property values.
6. The Board of Directors further finds that the submission of this proposed tax to the voters satisfies the mandate of AB 918 and SB 1070, which require IVHD to present a permanent funding source mechanism to voters via ballot measure on or before the November 2026 election.
7. The funds generated shall be used exclusively for the purposes specified in Section A.2 above, ensuring accountability and transparency.
8. The amount and method of taxation shall be reasonable, equitable, uniform, and consistent with the needs identified.

SECTION B. IMPOSITION OF SPECIAL TAX

1. If approved by voters, a special tax will be imposed upon all taxable parcels within the District. The records of the Imperial County Assessor as of March 1 of each year preceding the applicable fiscal year shall determine for the purpose of the special tax whether or not any particular parcel of real property is taxable or exempt from taxation, except that the Board of Directors may exempt any specific parcel upon request by the taxpayer in such form and procedure as may be determined by IVHD. "Parcel of real property" as used in this Resolution shall be defined as any unit of real property in the District that receives a separate tax bill from the Imperial County Treasurer-Tax Collector, without regard to whether the real property constitutes a legally subdivided parcel, in accordance with California law.

2. The rate of the special tax shall be **One Hundred Eleven Dollars and No Cents ($111.00)** per parcel.
3. The tax shall be levied annually, commencing on July 1, 2027, and shall continue until repealed.
4. The special tax, together with all penalties and interest thereon, shall constitute a lien upon the parcel upon which it is levied until it has been paid, and the special tax, together with all penalties and interest thereon, shall, until paid, constitute a personal obligation to IVHD by the persons who own the parcel on the date the tax is due.

SECTION C. ADMINISTRATION AND OVERSIGHT

1. The Imperial County Treasurer-Tax Collector shall be responsible for the collection and administration of this special tax. Beginning with the fiscal year 2027–2028, the special tax imposed hereby shall be collected in the same manner, on the same dates, and subject to the same penalties and interest in accordance with established dates as, or with, other charges and taxes fixed and collected by the County of Imperial on behalf of IVHD, and the County may deduct its reasonable costs incurred for such services before remittal of the balance to IVHD.
2. IVHD shall create a special account into which the proceeds of the tax shall be deposited pursuant to Government Code section 50075.1.
3. The IVHD Chief Financial Officer shall file with the Board of Directors no later than January 1 of each year a report identifying (i) the amount of funds collected and expended and (ii) the status of any project funded by the special tax as required by Government Code section 50075.3.
4. The IVHD Board of Directors shall be empowered to amend this Resolution upon the affirmative vote of the qualified directors present in order to carry out the purposes of this measure, in order to conform to state law that permits the County Treasurer-Tax Collector, or other proper official, to collect a tax such as is levied by this Healthcare Measure in conjunction with County taxes, or in order to assign duties pursuant to the measure to other officers; provided, however, that no amendment shall permit the levy of a tax in excess of the amount set forth in Section B.2 without another vote of the electorate.

SECTION D. BALLOT QUESTION

1. An election shall be consolidated with the Statewide General Election to be held on November 3, 2026, to submit to the voters a measure authorizing IVHD to levy an annual special tax on each taxable parcel of real property within the District until repealed, beginning July 1, 2027.
2. The deadline date of July 27, 2026, at 12:00 noon is established for receipt of written arguments for or against the measure. The deadline date of August 6, 2026, at 5:00 PM is established for the receipt of rebuttal arguments. Written arguments and rebuttals may be submitted by members of this Board of Directors, any voter or bona fide association of voters within the District, or any combination thereof. Arguments must be accompanied by form statements in compliance with Elections Code section 9600. Written arguments shall not exceed 300 words in length and shall be filed with the Imperial County Registrar of Voters at 940 West Main Street, Suite 206, El Centro, CA 92243.
3. The Ballot Question to be submitted to the voters shall be as follows:

Maintaining Local Hospitals and Emergency Healthcare Services Measure:

To maintain local access to emergency medical care, fund hospital operations, maintenance, technology and equipment, expand services, retain qualified doctors and nurses, and achieve a financial position allowing the District to finance legally required seismic upgrades; shall Imperial Valley Healthcare District impose a parcel tax of $111.00 per parcel on the secured property tax roll until repealed, with independent audits and all funds dedicated to hospital services?

YES / NO

4. The measure shall require a **two-thirds approval** of the electorate as mandated by law.
5. The Imperial County Board of Supervisors is hereby requested to order that the election on this measure be consolidated with the Statewide General Election to be held on November 3, 2026, and that the Imperial County Registrar of Voters conduct the election for the District. IVHD recognizes that the consolidated election shall be held and conducted in the manner prescribed by Elections Code section 10418. IVHD shall assist the County of Imperial as needed to prepare for and conduct the consolidated election.
6. Pursuant to Elections Code section 10400 *et seq*., the consolidated election will be held and conducted, certificates of election issued, and all other proceedings incidental to and connected with the election shall be regulated and done in accordance with all provisions of law regulating the consolidated election, and the Imperial Valley Healthcare District hereby agrees to reimburse and shall reimburse the County of Imperial for all costs incurred in connection with conducting the election upon presentation of an invoice or bill to IVHD.
7. The Secretary of this Board of Directors, Enola Berker, shall file, or cause to be filed, certified copies of this Resolution with the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors of Imperial County and with the Imperial County Registrar of Voters on or before 5:00 PM on July 3, 2026. The Imperial County Registrar of Voters is requested to publish notice of the election in compliance with Elections Code section 12112.

SECTION E. SEVERABILITY

If the ballot measure imposing IVHD's special parcel tax for hospital and healthcare services is approved by the qualified voters of the District, the special parcel tax shall not apply to any person, entity, or property as to whom or which it is beyond the power of the District to impose the tax herein provided. If for any reason any provision of this Resolution, the Ballot Measure, or the application thereof is found to be invalid, or if the special parcel tax is found inapplicable to any particular parcel within the District by a Court of competent jurisdiction, the balance of this Resolution, the Ballot Measure, and the application of the special parcel tax to the remaining parcels within the District shall not be affected and, to that end, the provisions of this Resolution and the Ballot Measure are severable.

SECTION F. EFFECTIVE DATE

This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption. The Chair/President of the IVHD Board of Directors, the Secretary of this IVHD Board of Directors, and/or IVHD's Legal Counsel are authorized and instructed to take such further action as may be necessary in preparing for and conducting the consolidated election, including making any non-substantial revisions to this resolution as may be required by County officials.

IT IS SO RESOLVED. Passed and adopted by the Board of Directors of the Imperial Valley Healthcare District at a regular meeting held on June 25, 2026.

Katie B

Katherine Burnworth
President of the Imperial Valley Healthcare District Board of Directors

ATTEST:

Enola Berker
Secretary of the Imperial Valley Healthcare District Board of Directors

SECRETARY'S CERTIFICATE

I, Enola Berker, Secretary of the Board of Directors of Imperial Valley Healthcare District, a California healthcare district, County of Imperial, California, certify as follows:

The attached is a full, true, and correct copy of Resolution No. 2026-0625A, A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF IMPERIAL VALLEY HEALTHCARE DISTRICT CALLING FOR A GENERAL ELECTION TO CONFIRM A SPECIAL TAX UPON ALL TAXABLE PARCELS OF REAL PROPERTY WITHIN THE DISTRICT AND REQUESTING IMPERIAL COUNTY TO CONSOLIDATE THE ELECTION ON BEHALF OF THE DISTRICT, duly adopted at the meeting of the Board of Directors of Imperial Valley Healthcare District, which was duly held on June 25, 2026, at which meeting a quorum of the members of the Board of Directors were present; and at such meeting such resolution was adopted by the following vote:

YES: 1st Goodsell, 2nd Proctor, Garcia, Burnworth, Berker, Irigoyen

NO: Valdez

ABSTAIN: 0

ABSENT: 0

I have carefully compared the same with the original minutes of such meeting on file and of record in my office; the attached resolution is a full, true and correct copy of the original resolution adopted at such meeting and entered in such minutes; and such resolution has not been amended, modified, or rescinded since the date of its adoption, and the same is now in full force and effect.

WITNESS my hand this 25th day of June, 2026

Secretary
Imperial Valley Healthcare District