

Lena Bonner

From: Sellars, Denise <denise.sellars@dph.ga.gov>
Sent: Thursday, September 12, 2024 4:40 PM
To: Lena Bonner
Cc: Nancy He; Takiyah A. Douse
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Richmond County Board of Health Request for 1% Reinstatement FY2024

Ms. Bonner, I had the pleasure of representing Richmond County Board of Health at our Budget Meeting with Ms. Douse and team on Monday, 9/10/24. Ms. Douse informed me that there was still opportunity to request reinstatement of the 2025 1% reduction in funding. The purpose of this email is to make that request with the following justifications:

1. Richmond County Health Department: In 2015, the Commission's contribution for operating 2 health departments in Richmond county was reduced from \$1,016,592 to 1,004,250 annually. In 2017, the Commission's contribution was reduced again to \$929,250 and further reduced to \$919,960 for 2024. These cumulative reductions amount to an approximate 9.5% reduction since 2017. The bulk of the Commission's contribution covers expenses not allowed from our other revenue sources, such as building maintenance/repairs and operation and service of our vehicles. Our health department buildings, especially Laney Walker location, are in constant need of maintenance. Again, none of our state funds can be used for these activities per Georgia Code. I would like to request that the 1% reduction of \$9,990 in 2024 be reinstated to assist in offsetting maintenance/repair costs.
2. Richmond County Mosquito Control Program: \$485,000 (level funding) was requested for year 2024. The 1% reduction meant \$4,850 less in funding for this program. I would like to request that the 1% reduction of \$4,850 be reinstated for 2024 to minimize the impact to the program of higher prices for fuel, vehicle maintenance, and chemicals.

Please let me know if further information is needed to move these requests forward.

Denise H. Sellars

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