



REY COLÓN

**ALDERMAN
35th WARD**

SERVICE OFFICE

2710 N. SAWYER
CHICAGO, IL 60647
(773) 365-3535
(773) 365-7391 (FAX)
www.reycolon.org

**CITY OF CHICAGO
CITY COUNCIL**

CITY HALL, ROOM 203
121 N. LA SALLE STREET
CHICAGO, IL 60602

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ZONING

November 15, 2011

Mr. Dale Galassie
Chair
Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board
525 West Jefferson Street, 2nd Floor
Springfield, Illinois 62761

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**HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD**

11-109

Re: Logan Square Dialysis Relocation and Expansion

Dear Mr. Galassie,

I am writing to express my support for DaVita's relocation and expansion of Logan Square Dialysis. DaVita proposes to relocate and expand its existing dialysis facility located at 2659 North Milwaukee Avenue, Chicago, Illinois 60647. The new dialysis facility will be located approximately one-third of a mile northwest at 2816 North Kimball Avenue, Chicago, Illinois 60618.

The new facility will improve access to dialysis services to the residents of Logan Square. In the City of Chicago, Logan Square is a diverse neighborhood with a large Hispanic community. Importantly, the Hispanic population is disproportionately affected by end-stage renal disease with an incident rate 1.5 greater than the general population.

The current facility is consistently full and cannot be expanded to accommodate current or future patient demand. As a result, patients cannot schedule their dialysis at an optimal time. In contrast to most communities in the State, Chicago is underserved by dialysis providers. It is especially important to meet the needs of chronically ill, low-income minorities who live in the City. Avoiding delays in approving (CON and zoning) applications is crucial because of the challenges associated with development in the City of Chicago, which include, (1) lack of available undeveloped real estate, (2) lack of existing buildings which can be retrofitted, (3) dense configurations, (4) a complex zoning process, and (5) lack of contiguous zoning districts within neighborhoods.

The proposed site is adequate to allow for the development, construction, operation, maintenance, and use of the premises for the operation of a dialysis facility. The proposed building and use will reflect the scale and character of the neighborhood and will reinforce the existing mixed-use corridors that currently have commercial overlays while protecting the residential character of side streets.

This project will meet the growing demand for dialysis to the residents of Logan Square. I fully support DaVita's efforts to relocate Logan Square Dialysis.

Respectfully,

Rey Colón
Alderman, 35th Ward

CC: Penny Davis
Kara M. Friedman, Esq.
064628 426508