

300 Lucinda Avenue
Belleville, IL 62221
November 11, 2014

Mr. Mike Constantino
Supervisor, Project Review Section
Illinois Health Project & Services Board
525 West Jefferson St. 2nd Floor
Springfield, IL 62761

RECEIVED

NOV 14 2014

HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

Dear Sir,

We are writing to you concerning project #14-043.

First, do no harm.

This long-time tenant of the medical community is applicable to the choice of building a new St Elizabeth's Hospital in O'Fallon or keeping it in Belleville. Belleville has faced many challenges in the past and is revitalizing itself. The closing of St. Elizabeth's would be a crushing blow to that revitalization.

We understand that building a new hospital in O'Fallon may be good for that community, but it will not be harmed if the hospital is not built there. Please support our city and keep St. Elizabeth's in Belleville. Remember:

First, do no harm.

Respectfully,

 
Ken and Donna Kinsella

7221 Town Hall Road
Belleville, IL 62223

November 10, 2014

Ms. Courtney Avery
Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board
525 W. Jefferson St. 2nd Floor
Springfield, IL 62761

RECEIVED

NOV 14 2014

HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

Re: St. Elizabeth's Project #14-043

Dear Ms. Avery,

I am writing as a Belleville resident and healthcare provider to express my opposition of St. Elizabeth's Certificate of Need (Project #14-043) to build a hospital in O'Fallon therefore moving from Belleville.

This relocation has multiple issues. It will limit access to care for those patients who rely on public transportation as well as those who live in rural areas to the south and west of O'Fallon. As a resident on the west end of Belleville, traveling to O'Fallon is currently difficult due to distance and traffic. In turn, it would be even more challenging to obtain immediate medical care at the St. Elizabeth's O'Fallon location in a crisis situation.

A decrease in beds and services will place an additional strain on Memorial Hospital's Emergency Services and bed availability for admissions. With a lack of beds, patients will need to be stabilized and transferred which is not conducive to a positive patient outcome.

By relocating, St. Elizabeth's project will be a duplication of the services that Memorial East will provide. This is not the best use of healthcare resources.

While it is very important to build an infrastructure to support and provide the technology of today, I feel there is ample space along the west corridor in which St. Elizabeth's Hospital can relocate and continue to provide quality healthcare.

Thank you for allowing me this opportunity to voice my opposition to this project.

Respectfully,



Colette Hoffarth