

January 6, 2015

Ms. Courtney Avery, Administrator
Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board
525 West Jefferson Street, 2nd Floor
Springfield, Illinois 62761
Re: Opposition to Project Application #14-043

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HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

Dear Ms. Avery,

I am writing this letter in opposition of Project #14-043, St. Elizabeth's proposal to build a replacement hospital in O'Fallon, Illinois. I would like to bring to your attention comments made by Clare Connor Ranalli, a partner with McDermott, Will and Emory, hired to represent HSHS St. Elizabeth's Hospital. In a letter dated November 24, 2014, she states:

The fact is the current Hospital campus is landlocked, located in the heart of the Belleville business district and difficult to access. The current building is outdated and does not allow for the delivery of modern hospital based health care services. Opposition continues to erroneously tell the public that St. Elizabeth's can and will re-build on site if it cannot relocate. This is not true. It will not do so. The investment of over \$350M in a tiny, inaccessible location has been determined to be in imprudent investment and more importantly poor stewardship of health care resources and not for profit dollars. The Hospital will not re-build or modernize on site. Opposition should not mislead the public in this regard.

I want to bring to your attention that she states, as many in support of the project keep reminding you, that the facility is unable to provide the public with "modern" hospital services in the currently "inaccessible" location. Why do they continually claim their facility is out-of-date? What does this say about their long-term planning for maintaining the facility? Are you going to reward their actions that led to the deterioration of one facility with a bright shiny bow and the keys to a new building?

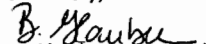
Another interesting point in this letter is the clarification that they are indeed leaving Belleville, regardless of the outcome of the Certificate of Need process. So, what is really the objective here? A new building? Or just an excuse to close a building they are solely responsible for allowing to become functionally obsolete. I wish the news media would pick up on the statement: "The Hospital will not re-build or modernize on site."

What are their plans for the years leading up to the opening of the O'Fallon location, if the current state of the facility is less than adequate? Regardless of my hospital preference, after hearing their own dissatisfaction with the current building and the laundry list of obstacles it presents, I certainly would steer clear of there. They make it sound so awful -- why would anyone want to work or entrust their loved one's life there?

St. Elizabeth's is really not concerned with what your decision will be -- they already have their minds made up.

Thank you for allowing me to express my concern regarding this project.

Sincerely,


B. Glauber

Millstadt Resident