



May 13th, 2015

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

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MAY 18 2015

HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

RE: 15-021 OSF Saint Anthony Medical Center

Dear Ms. Avery:

This letter shall serve as a letter of support for OSF Saint Anthony Medical Center Modernization Project 15-021. As the world of healthcare continues to change, and, as our region's healthcare systems are a critical component to our quality of life and our local economy, we believe this project addresses a need in our community.

This proposed project will provide for nearly all private rooms at OSF Saint Anthony Medical Center. There are many benefits to achieving this model, including improved patient experience and privacy, creating a greater healing environment by eliminating distractions, and the accommodation of higher tech equipment in treating and monitoring of patients. Further, because OSF Saint Anthony Medical Center is Level I trauma center, the project will benefit the community by improving Rockford's ability to continuing being a destination for higher level health care services.

With regard to the Rockford region, OSF Saint Anthony Medical Center is a strong partner within the overall healthcare system, such as physicians, other providers and insurers. This project is well thought through and is designed to be a comprehensive solution in the most economical way possible. OSF Saint Anthony Medical Center has served the Rockford region for over 100 years and is a stable employer of nearly 2,000 people in the region. As mentioned earlier, having our health systems be in a position to grow and enhance patient experience is an integral component to our community's growth and sustainability. It is estimated that there over 12,000 jobs linked directly to healthcare in our region.

I urge you to give this project its utmost consideration and agree that support for this project is more than warranted. I would appreciate your support in approving this Certificate of Need.

Very Truly Yours,

Einar Forsman
President/CEO

Respectful Care

Office of the President and CEO

Gary E. Kaatz

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2350 North Rockton Avenue, Suite 402
Rockford, Illinois 61103
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525 West Jefferson St., 2nd Floor
Springfield, IL 62761

Dear Ms. Avery,

This letter is in support of the OSF Saint Anthony Medical Center Modernization Project 15-021.

It is my understanding that the project will provide for nearly all private rooms, enhance the patient experience, and improve privacy. Furthermore, larger rooms will better accommodate today's new technologies.

Please let me know if I need to provide additional comment.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Gary E. Kaatz
President and CEO

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**Rockford Memorial
Hospital**

2400 North Rockton Avenue
Rockford, IL 61103

**Rockford Health
Physicians**

2300 North Rockton Avenue
Rockford, IL 61103

**Van Matre HealthSouth
Rehabilitation Hospital**

950 South Mulford Road
Rockford, IL 61108

Visiting Nurses Association

4223 East State Street
Rockford, IL 61108

**Rockford Memorial
Development Foundation**

2400 North Rockton Avenue
Rockford, IL 61103