

**From:** [Sonja Reece](#)  
**To:** [Constantino, Mike](#)  
**Cc:** [Patrick Lyons](#); [Frigo, Terry](#); [Patrick Bryck](#)  
**Subject:** Re: [External] Request re Project #16-047 Advocate Christ Medical Center-Cancer Institute  
**Date:** Monday, December 7, 2020 3:59:32 PM

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Hi, Mike,

I learned more about the #16-047 Advocate Christ Medical Center (ACMC) project decision timeline. As you know from the Feb. 19, 2020, Annual Project Report, there were questions raised about the project. There are newer models of LINAC units out that might be a better choice so they were evaluating them.

Shortly after February the impact of COVID was beginning to be felt. Advocate Aurora Health was pausing many projects so they could focus their attention on what was happening.

With the summer, things seemed better with COVID and clinical treatments with radiation started to pick up again. It was then that ACMC noted the one new LINAC was able to do more of the complex treatments and the two older models were handling the rest.

In late September-early October ACMC continued to evaluate their original plan to replace all three units. Unfortunately, COVID started to pick up again and the corporate budget was under even more intense scrutiny. **The new budget was released last week and the Phase II of the Advocate Christ Medical Center project will not be funded for 2021.**

With the success of the way the three units are filling the need, the decision was finally made to request a closure of the project. That would be with only one of the three new units, as opposed to renewing the permit for two more years to gain time for funding and installation.

The management team is aware that they missed the 45 day deadline to file the alteration before the completion date of December 31. They are prepared to request a Permit Alteration (with the added fee) to only have one new unit and with fewer square feet than originally requested. That would essentially close the project.

**Should they submit both the Alteration request and the Closure request at the same time?** It will likely take a week to get all drafted, reviewed, signed, and checks prepared. ACMC would overnight the documents to you with the checks. I see that the Board Chair can approve the alterations requests if she so chooses. This doesn't seem like a change that will have a significant negative impact on the delivery of healthcare in its service area.

**If you think the Alteration approval may not be approved by December 31,** let me know now and ACMC will request a Permit Renewal to get adequate time to get the Alteration approved.

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On Thu, Dec 3, 2020 at 2:27 PM Constantino, Mike <[Mike.Constantino@illinois.gov](mailto:Mike.Constantino@illinois.gov)> wrote:

Hi Sonja:

If we do agree with what they are proposing this would be an exception not the rule. I need to know how long Christ has known they won't be proceeding with Phase II?

**From:** Sonja Reece <[sonjareece1@gmail.com](mailto:sonjareece1@gmail.com)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 3, 2020 11:32 AM  
**To:** Constantino, Mike <[Mike.Constantino@Illinois.gov](mailto:Mike.Constantino@Illinois.gov)>  
**Cc:** Myndee Balkan <[Myndee.Balkan@aah.org](mailto:Myndee.Balkan@aah.org)>; Kokaska, Jim <[James.Kokaska@aah.org](mailto:James.Kokaska@aah.org)>  
**Subject:** [External] Request re Project #16-047 Advocate Christ Medical Center-Cancer Institute

Hi, Mike,

I talked with you Monday about closing out a project. Now I know more about the situation.

- The project is #16-047, Advocate Christ Medical Center (ACMC) – Cancer Institute
- The Permit was granted January 24, 2017
- The project is to modernize the oncology department and replace the three pieces of radiation equipment, to be done in two phases
- Approved cost is \$46,966,265.
- The Completion Date is December 31, 2020.

The February 19, 2019, Annual Progress Report said Phase I was completed.

The February 12, 2020, Annual Progress Report showed the project was essentially at the same point with only half of the design work done on Phase II. The

Anticipated Date of Completion had the following note:

“Due to the increased capabilities of the newly installed radiation therapy equipment and possible revisions to our future equipment purchases, the Project completion date may change. We will keep HFSRB and Staff apprised and will submit all appropriate documentation in the event that Advocate determines it is appropriate to purchase and install different equipment than was identified in the original application and the impact, if any, such change may have on the completion date of the Project.”

Now, after almost two years using the one new radiation therapy unit and the two older units, APMC has determined they are fulfilling the current clinical need.

Furthermore, you are aware that Advocate Aurora Health has reprioritized/reevaluated capital spending projects due to the COVID pandemic. That has resulted in reducing capital expenditures at this time.

As a result, APMC would like to close out the Permit on time, without doing more on Phase II. At this point APMC has spent ~\$19,000,000.

I've been asked to help with the documentation closing the project so to start with I have two questions about this.

1. It seems like a lot of unnecessary paperwork to get a permit renewal and a post permit alteration when the only change that would prompt that is fewer square feet. Nothing new is being added. **Is it sufficient to say in the notice of completion that the “Project is closing at the completion of Phase I” and add more of the above explanations regarding the efficiency of the one new unit and the impact of COVID on capital expenditures?**

2. Assuming we can proceed as requested above, in the following 90 days APMC will send you the itemization of all project costs, both certifications, and the G702 form. **Since the actual expenditures are less than three times the capital expenditure minimum, will it be necessary to include an audited financial report?**

Mike, thanks for your direction on this. I always appreciate your advice.

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