



17-044

Support

1900 Silver Cross Blvd. • New Lenox, IL 60451  
(815) 300-1100 • www.silvercross.org

August 21, 2017

Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board  
525 West Jefferson Street / Second Floor  
Springfield, IL 62761

**RECEIVED**

AUG 30 2017

**HEALTH FACILITIES &  
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD**

RE: Granting Certificate of Need to Smith Crossing

Members of the Board:

Silver Cross Hospital wholeheartedly endorses granting a Certificate of Need to Smith Crossing to build a new wing to house 46 additional beds dedicated to short-term stay rehabilitation for older adults.

Because Smith Crossing currently has only 16 rehab beds, with some reserved for its residents, our patients who choose Smith Crossing as their preferred rehabilitation provider cannot currently be accommodated. Between January 1, 2016 and June 30, 2017, for instance, Silver Cross referred 839 patients to Smith Crossing. Only 170 of our patients, however, could be accepted. These numbers are separate and distinct of referrals provided in support of 15-051, Alden Estates-Courts of New Lenox. That means 80 percent of those ready to be discharged for rehabilitation services were not able to have their preferred option for continued care met.

This project would significantly improve Smith Crossing's ability to respond to our and our patients' requests, and those of other healthcare providers. As a result, access and care would be enhanced for the growing population of older adults in our area. We are grateful to Smith Crossing for its willingness to invest in the future care for the elderly.

We have a very high regard for Smith Crossing. Its team of physical, occupational and speech therapists as well as its nursing professionals consistently make it possible for older adults, including those with medically complex diagnoses, to return to a life of independence. Smith Crossing's medical director has staff privileges at Silver Cross Hospital.

Silver Cross Hospital encourages you to grant permission to Smith Crossing so it can increase its capacity to improve the lives of more older adults.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mary Bakken".

Mary Bakken  
Executive Vice President, Chief Operating Officer