



18-020

PALOS HOSPITAL
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November 13, 2018

Courtney Avery
Administrator
Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board
Illinois Department of Public Health
525 West Jefferson Street, Second Floor
Springfield, Illinois 62761

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**HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD**

Dear Ms. Avery:

On August 16, Palos Community Hospital received notice from Silver Cross Hospital of their intent to file a Certificate of Need for open heart surgery services.

Please accept this letter as Palos' opposition to this application. Palos has offered open heart surgical services for more than 10 years. The approval of this service at Silver Cross will have a negative impact on Palos, and more importantly, on the service area by creating an unnecessary duplication of services and increasing the overall cost of health care delivery for the community served by Palos and Silver Cross. Palos currently accepts transfers and referrals from Silver Cross for patients requiring open heart surgery services. To our knowledge, there has never been a delay in service or a question of quality in caring for any of these patients. The patients transferred/referred from Silver Cross to Palos generally live within the geographic service area of both facilities and therefore do not have to migrate out of the community for this service. The physician surgical team at Palos is the same team being proposed by Silver Cross and many of the cardiologists providing referrals have privileges at both facilities.

Palos, along with other area hospitals, has the physical and staffing capacity to care for patients requiring these services and has done so for many years. We would ask the Board to give serious consideration to existing programs and services in their deliberations and acknowledge approval of this application as unnecessary.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Timothy J. Brosnan".

Timothy J. Brosnan
Vice President, Planning and Community Relations