



December 6, 2018

Ms. Courtney Avery  
Administrator  
Illinois Health Facilities & Services Review Board  
525 W. Jefferson Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Springfield, IL 62761

Re: Project #18-039, Fresenius Kidney Care Grayslake

Dear Ms. Avery:

I am a board certified urologist, practicing in Grayslake as part of UroPartners. I am writing to encourage the Board to recognize the need for another dialysis clinic in Grayslake to serve patients who are currently in end stage renal disease (ESRD) and those who have declining kidney function and will require dialysis soon.

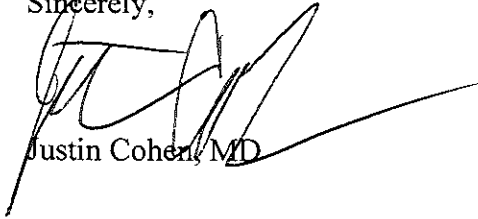
Many of these patients live in the Grayslake area and visit us in our offices here so we are excited about the opportunity for dialysis services to readily be available in Grayslake. This will allow the ESRD patient to access a complement of their healthcare services right in the community where they live.

I understand that there is a growing need for additional access to dialysis in the area due to a high volume of patients being treated at surrounding facilities in Round Lake, Gurnee, Mundelein and beyond. I can attest to the outstanding care my patients receive at these Fresenius Kidney Care facilities and welcome a clinic in Grayslake to enable future patients the same care close to home.

ESRD alone takes a tremendous toll on the patient's life and transportation to and from treatment is often an insurmountable hurdle. Many rely on family members who essentially give up three days of each week to provide transportation. I have heard from patients of the issues they have trying to use public transportation, which often require long wait times and complete loss of services if they must dialyze in the evening. The Grayslake facility will let these patients dialyze in their community, allowing more accessible transportation options and additional daytime treatment shifts when transportation services are operating.

I respectfully ask that the Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board approve the Fresenius Kidney Care Grayslake area to ensure that are patients have accessible dialysis services as the rate of ESRD is increasing in Lake County.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Justin Cohen', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Justin Cohen, MD