



**METROEAST AREA COMMUNITY OPPOSITION  
TO DUPLICATE  
PROJECTS  
#21-011 & #21-017**

July 7, 2021

**RECEIVED**

JUL 07 2021

**HEALTH FACILITIES &  
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD**

**Via Hand Delivery**

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

**Re: Community Opposition Letter to Project #21-011 (Physicians' Surgical Centre, O'Fallon) and Project #20-017 (MetroEast Endoscopy Center, Fairview Heights)**

Dear Ms. Avery:

The undersigned community leaders and representatives stand opposed to the duplicate applications by the same party in interest to add unnneeded orthopedic surgery services to limited specialty endoscopic surgery centers, namely, Project #21-011 (Physicians' Surgical Centre) and Project #20-017 (MetroEast Endoscopic Surgery Center). Please include this opposition letter in both project files.

Project #20-017 received no positive votes from the Health Facilities and Services Review Board at its meeting on September 22, 2020 and was issued an Intent to Deny. Since then, the only physician providing patient referrals to the project has formally withdrawn all referrals in writing. We do not understand why this project remains before the Board. In any event, we respectfully request that the Review Board proceed to issue a denial of Project #20-017, MetroEast Endoscopic Surgery Center, in accordance with the Board's prior Intent to Deny and in light of the absence of any referral volume to the project.

Project #21-011, Physicians' Surgical Centre, O'Fallon, is essentially a duplication of Project #20-017 at another endoscopy center owned by the same party in interest and located approximately three miles away from MetroEast Endoscopic Surgery Center. As with the prior project voted down by the Review Board, Project #21-011 similarly represents an unnecessary duplication of services and will not improve access.

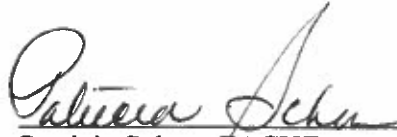
As the Board's staff found on the prior application, the area's six hospitals and two surgery centers (one newly approved) all provide orthopedic surgery services and have excess surgical capacity. Similarly, the project meets none of the Board's criteria for establishing increased access to care given: (a) the excess capacity in the area; (b) the absence of any restrictive admission policies; and (c) the project not being a joint venture with an area hospital.

For the above reasons, we request that the Review Board deny both projects.

Respectfully,



Chris Leidel, B.S., LEHP  
Interim Administrator  
Clinton County Health  
Department



Patricia Schou, FACHE  
Executive Director  
Illinois Critical Access Hospital  
Network



Crystal Albers  
Clinton County Rural Health



Shane Westfall  
Operations Manager  
City of Breese



Brian Wilson

Brian Wilson (Jul 7, 2021 2:35:24 PM GMT)

Brian Wilson  
Chief  
Highland Fire Department



Kurt Prenzler  
Madison County Board  
Chairman



Judy Kuhn  
Madison County Board  
District One



Philip W. Chapman  
Madison County Board  
District Three



Kevin Timmermann  
Mayor  
City of Breese



Bill Sullivan  
President/CEO  
Highland Machine Co.



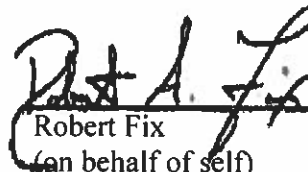
Hillarie Holzinger  
Executive Director  
Highland Chamber of Commerce



Shelly Schadegg  
President  
Breese Chamber of Commerce



Charles R. Kelley  
Chief Operations Officer  
Medstar Ambulance, Inc.



Robert Fix  
(on behalf of self)  
Former Chief of Police, City of Breese  
Former Chairman, Clinton County Board