

Mayor Mike Schutzbach
Comnr. Hank Stephens
Comnr. Larry Micenheimer
Comnr. Merv Gillenwater
Comnr. Libby Moeller

September 2, 2020

Courtney Avery
Administrator
Illinois Health Facilities & Services Review Board
525 W. Jefferson Street, 2nd Floor
Springfield, IL 62761
Courtney.avery@illinois.gov

Re: Letter of Clarification - Certificate of Need - CON Project #20-30

Dear Ms. Avery:

Please accept this letter as clarification to my August 26, 2020 letter regarding the above matter.

As stated in my previous letter, I truly desire the Review Board find a win-win for our community. The City is neutral on this matter and desires the Illinois Health Facilities & Services Review Board find a way to maintain our existing HSHS St. Anthony's Memorial Hospital and allow for a modern medical clinic at the SBL Effingham Bonutti Clinic location.

Sincerely,

Steven W. Miller, P.E.

City Administrator, City of Effingham

201 E. Jefferson Avenue

Effingham, IL 62401

Cc:

Mike Constantino

Project Reviewer

Illinois Health Facilities & Review Board



Mayor Mike Schutzbach Comnr. Hank Stephens Comnr. Larry Micenheimer Comnr. Merv Gillenwater Comnr. Libby Moeller

August 26, 2020

Courtney Avery
Administrator
Illinois Health Facilities & Services Review Board
525 W. Jefferson Street, 2nd Floor
Springfield, IL 62761
courtney.avery@illinois.gov

Re: Concern about CON Project #20-30

Dear Ms. Avery:

I echo the sentiments of our mayor and urge the Review Board to somehow find a win-win solution on this CON application. It should be feasible to modernize and replace a medical office building for a valued business in our community without duplicating existing hospital services at our vitally important 144-year-old rural hospital.

We understand the basic hospital accounting, meaning relatively higher margin services (i.e., like those outpatient procedures involved in this CON application) must subsidize the relatively lower and negative margin services (i.e., the emergency room, under-reimbursed Medicaid services; charity care; and community engagement). The critical importance of the medical services provided by HSHS St. Anthony's Memorial Hospital (SAH) is reflected in its designation by the federal government as a Sole Community Hospital. Among the many ways SAH supports the greater Effingham community are its contributions to:

- Effingham Community Schools Unit District No. 40 (free vision and hearing screening, health/safety classes, CPR instruction)
- Effingham Fire Department (safety physicals for firefighters)
- Effingham Police Department (provision of Narcan medication to reduce overdose deaths)
- Effingham Park District (including support for the Workman's Sports Complex and Harmony Plaza)
- Crisis Nursery of Effingham County
- Community Support Systems
- Effingham Catholic Charities (counseling, prescription drug assistance, legal aid)
- Meals on Wheels

Each day, the greater Effingham community benefits from and depends upon these services and contributions by SAH. There simply must be a way to replace an outdated medical office building without simultaneously withdrawing relatively higher margin revenue out of our Sole Community Hospital. I respectfully encourage the Review Board to somehow find that ultimate win-win outcome.

Respectfully submitted,

Steven W. Miller, P.E.

City Administrator, City of Effingham

201 E. Jefferson Avenue Effingham, IL 62401

Cc:

Mike Constantino Prolect Reviewer