From: <u>alan zunamon</u>

To: <u>DPH.HFSRB.PublicHearings</u>

**Subject:** [External] 20-039 Mercy Hospital Closure Public Hearing

**Date:** Thursday, October 29, 2020 8:56:31 PM

I am writing as a member of the public to register my protest again the closing of Mercy Hospital. First of all Mercy Hospital has a rich history and amazing legacy. Dating back to before the Civil War the Sisters of Mercy have taken care of Chicago residents whether rich or poor. In addition the hospital has trained many physicians and health care professionals. I myself was taken in by Mercy as an intern in 1983. It was only 15 years after the opening of the current hospital and a wonderful place to train. Mercy Hospital and its community changed my life. Ultimately I spent over 10 years in training and as an attending cardiologist and first director of Cardiac Electrophysiology until my commuting to the north suburbs took its toll and I changed jobs. However I have many wonderful memories of a community of people who cared for and about each other. Most importantly the hospital has served a community that is typically underserved for a variety of reasons--most importantly-structural racism that persists to this day. The loss of Michael Reese was a major blow and without Mercy Hospital the neighborhoods served will be under that much more stress with less access to vital services.

Please reconsider and find a way to save this important and legendary institution.

Sincerely,

Alan Zunamon, MD, FACC, FACP, MMI 130 N. Garland #4105 Chicago, IL 60602

847-287-2665