

From: [Mary Kay Kacmarek](#)
To: [DPH.HFSRB.PublicHearings](#)
Subject: [External] Project #20-242
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Please reconsider the ramifications of closing Mercy hospital and building an outpatient facility to meet the healthcare needs for the surrounding communities.

The position that Mercy ED visits have declined over the last year, reflects the COVID-19 fears not the lessened need for services. Closing hospital services will force transport to services at U of C or NWM adding significant transport time of sick or injured currently served by Mercy.

Mercy provides vital healthcare services to communities that have been abandoned by “for-profit” corporations like Trinity Health. An outpatient clinic can’t provide the diagnostic testing and resources that are available at Mercy. A clinic will not provide 24/7 coverage for emergencies as Mercy currently provides.

Closing Mercy and discontinuing all this healthcare hub provides to its communities will have a negative result!

Sent from my iPhone