Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board Attn: Courtney Avery, Administrator 525 West Jefferson St., 2nd Floor Springfield, IL 62761

## Dear Administrator Avery:

I am happy to provide this letter of support for the Ortholllinois ASTC project in Elgin.

I am a member of the Elgin City Council, and am regularly dealing with economic matters of our city. This project is absolutely needed, if for no reason other than the creation of jobs and economic reinvestment in our community.

COVID-19 has been brutal for our retail businesses, increasing the unemployment of our citizens, and keeping people at home when they otherwise would seek out the healthcare services that they need.

OrthoIllinois is exactly the kind of partner that Elgin wants to see growing in Elgin. We need orthopedic and pain management physicians to expand in our region so residents do not need to travel to find the healthcare they need, or resort to visiting a hospital and unnecessarily filling a hospital bed that could be used for other purposes - obviously right now a tremendous issue due to COVID-19.

The high-paying construction jobs would be a shot in the arm for us, and the facility itself would be a long-term benefit for our healthcare needs but also reinvesting tax dollars into the city.

I strongly endorse this project and hope the Board will approve the CON request.

F John Steffen Elgin City Council