

Ms. Debra Savage, Chair
Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board
25 West Jefferson Street, 2nd Floor
Springfield, IL 62761

RE: OrthoIllinois Surgery Center Elgin, LLC
Project No. 20-040, Letter of Concern

Dear Review Board,

For the past 30 years, we have been involved with "safety net" services for the residents of Elgin, IL. The basic needs of food, housing, and health services are out of reach for many of our residents without the help of others. Whether it is a Soup Kettle, PADS of Elgin, The Crisis Center or a temporary winter warming shelter, our community has tried to meet and serve our less fortunate fellow citizens.

Elgin is a diverse community of caring individuals and we strongly care that all residents have their basic needs met for a healthy lifestyle.

Advocate Sherman Hospital has always been a member of that caring community. As the City has grown, other hospitals and clinics (Poven St. Joseph, Northwestern, Central DuPage, Alexian Brothers, Delnor, VA facilities, and Elgin Family Clinic, and more) have taken part of the load. Each of these helping facilities have provided care for those unable to pay for their services because they have clients who can and do pay the procedural costs either personally or through insurance.

By covering the cost of their selective surgeries, those who are able provide funds that allow these hospitals and clinics to extend care to those who can not pay and/or have no insurance. Our understanding is that OrthoIllinois is not such a facility. Since they are a private corporation, they are not required to provide any "charity" care for residents unable to pay for needed services. If you allow OrthoIllinois to construct a surgical center in the Elgin area, you will deprive funds from all the hospitals and clinics currently providing a somewhat balanced coverage of health care to our whole community. By allowing one institution to provide services at a reduced cost, since they have no responsibility to the community at large, your actions could result in all residents of the greater Elgin area losing the level of balanced health care they currently utilize and enjoy.

This greater Elgin area has no need or want to add a for-profit surgical center that has no interest or responsibility in becoming a member of our all-inclusive, well balanced, health providing community. As concerned citizens of Elgin, IL, we ask that you deny the current proposal from OrthoIllinois to construct a new surgical center in our area.

Sincerely,



Jim and Rita Corbett

683 Bent Ridge Lane, Elgin IL 60120