



Carol Rauschenberger
Elgin City Councilperson

Elgin City Hall
150 Dexter Court
Elgin, IL 60120

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APR 14 2021

HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

April 13, 2021

Debra Savage, Chair
c/o Courtney Avery, Administrator
Health Facilities and Services Review Board
525 West Jefferson Street, 2nd Floor
Springfield, Illinois 62761
courtney.avery@illinois.gov

Re: Opposition to Project #20-040
Orthollinois Surgery Center, Elgin

Dear Madam Chair:

I must respectfully oppose this proposed new surgery center due to its adverse impacts on three Elgin-area hospitals upon which our community relies to provide Safety Net services and care for the uninsured and under-insured. According to the CON application, the proposed new surgery center will provide zero services to Medicaid and other at-risk patients, and will entirely rely upon the redirection of patient volume from existing area facilities. Not only is this new surgery center not needed, it will cause unavoidable financial challenges for our three area hospitals (Advocate Sherman Hospital and Amita Health Saint Joseph Hospital, both in Elgin, and Northwestern Medicine Huntley Hospital) that do serve these at-risk populations and constitute our local Safety Net provider infrastructure. Adding unneeded capacity that will not contribute to our Safety Net provider infrastructure is especially unwarranted during a pandemic.

Born and raised in Elgin, and part of a family that is deeply committed to giving back to the Elgin community, I am now serving my third term on the Elgin City Council. In addition to my volunteer and civic work in the community, my appreciation of the importance of safeguarding a strong Safety Net provider network in Elgin is informed by my professional work as an occupational therapist for Elgin Area School District U-46. I urge denial of Project #20-040.

Respectfully,


Carol Rauschenberger
Elgin City Councilperson