

Ken Koehler

July 6, 2021

Via Electronic Delivery

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

Re: OrthoIllinois Surgery Center Elgin, LLC (“OrthoIllinois”)
Project No. 20-040 (the “Project”)
Letter of Opposition

Dear Ms. Savage:

I want to thank you and your fellow Review Board members for giving the opportunity for me to provide further public comment on the Project referenced above.

I was pleased to see that the Review Board voted an Intent-to-Deny at your May 4 meeting. In reviewing the limited material the Applicants provided in response to the Intent-to-Deny, I see nothing that should cause the Board to reverse its earlier decision.

As a former Chairman of the McHenry County Board and a current member of the Metra Board of Directors, I understand that for you as Board members there are sometimes difficult issues where there may be an issue for which there is strong community or strong policy reasons for approving something even if it does not fully comply with all requirements. This is not the case here. Instead, it appears that none of those factors weigh in favor of approving this Project. It appears to me that this Project goes completely counter to your regulations and the purpose of the Review Board. There is clearly duplication of services, no calculated need and the Project negatively impacts other area providers, including safety net providers. Moreover, the Project has received far more opposition than support from elected officials, community leaders and area health care providers who best know the needs of this community. Finally, it seems counter to public benefit to approve a new facility that will likely offer no generally recognized safety net services, no charity care and little other care for the medically indigent.

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This is not the time nor the service area for this proposed surgery center. I believe other health care priorities are more important for the community and encourage the Board to again vote to not approve this Project.

Very truly yours,



Kenneth D. Koehler