

From: [Carmaleta Williamson](#)
To: [DPH.HFSRB.PublicHearings](#)
Subject: [External] Opposition: Project number is 20-042
Date: Monday, January 11, 2021 9:20:50 AM

Good morning,

I am a healthcare worker at Mercy and a lifelong resident of the Southside of Chicago. I am a witness to the daily needs of our patients that will be severely thwarted with the hospital's closure. It is a grave injustice and frankly put-- a death sentence to the constituents of the Bronzeville and Chinatown communities. I am even more appalled the administration would attempt to close a safety net hospital in the midst of a pandemic. Has anyone asked the question why a company as large as Trinity Health would purchase a not for profit hospital and attempt to close it due to financial loss? It is a question that is perplexing to say the least.

We as human beings have a moral responsibility to do what is right and in the best interest of those in need. We need INPATIENT care! As for the community this hospital serves, a few minutes can be a matter of life or death. Accessibility, as many live in walking/bus distance. Provident and The University of Chicago are too far. Healthcare is inadequate if it is not full service. If you cut corners in healthcare, real PEOPLE get lost in the fray. The mere fact that this is even a discussion is heartbreaking. What bigger way to say screw you to the predominantly black community this hospital serves!!!! What bigger way to say your lives are not a priority to an administration that is supposed to be FOR and ABOUT the community; as again the neighborhoods are majority medicaid, medicare or self pay patients.

I pray that you deny closure and I will continually pray for a long term solution/buyer to this problem. Thank you for taking the time to read my comment.

Carmaleta Williamson
Healthcare worker and Southside resident