

COUNTY BUILDING

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Chairman Health and Hospitals Committee
Chairman Environment & Sustainability Committee
Chairman Human Relations Committee
Vice-Chairman FPD Finance
Vice-Chairman FPD Environment & Sustainability

**DENNIS DEER**

COOK COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
COMMISSIONER - 2ND DISTRICT

June 15, 2021

Courtney Avery
Board Administrator
Health Facilities and Services Review Board
Illinois Department of Public Health
525 West Jefferson Street, Second Floor
Springfield, Illinois 62761

Re: Rush Specialty Hospital

Dear Ms. Avery,

As the Cook County Commissioner for the 2nd District, I am pleased to submit this letter of support for the proposed Rush Specialty Hospital, a joint venture between Select Medical and Rush University Medical Center ("Rush"). Rush is a fixture in my community and is a trusted healthcare provider on the West Side.

I serve as Chairman of the Health and Hospital Committee for the Cook County Board and I am all too familiar with the challenges faced by the hospitals in the area. Rush is the only hospital in the Illinois Medical District that offers rehabilitation services and none of the hospitals currently offer long-term acute care services. Specialty healthcare services like these are needed in our area and Rush is precisely the provider that should be granted approval to deliver on it.

Our neighborhoods are still reeling from the impact of the pandemic, and a project like this will help our community at a critical time. I also know that the Cook County Health System will benefit from this project as we count on Rush as a strategic partner for our patients who require specialty care. Every day I work to find

new avenues for better jobs and improved healthcare opportunities for my District, and this project would provide both.

I strongly urge the Health Facilities and Services Review Board to approve this project.

Sincerely,

Dennis Deer

Commissioner Dennis Deer
Cook County Board of Commissioners (2nd District)