

July 26, 2021

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

Re: Letter of Support- Rush Specialty Hospital

Dear Ms. Avery,

On behalf of the University of Illinois Hospitals and Clinics ("UI Health") in Chicago, Illinois. Please accept this letter in support of the Rush Specialty Hospital Certificate of Need application. We operate one of the four hospitals located in the Illinois Medical District ("IMD"), and our facility is a 462-bed general medical and surgical facility. Our facility does not currently offer intensive inpatient comprehensive rehabilitation services nor do we offer long-term acute care services at the facility. We would welcome the proposed facility to the area and we support the efforts of our IMD partner Rush University Medical Center ("Rush") and approval of this application.

This joint venture project will complement the range of services offered to residents who utilize the hospitals within the IMD. We also look forward to developing a strong relationship with Rush's proposed joint venture partner Select Medical. When our patients require specialty services that we do not offer at the hospital, we work with partner providers like Rush and others to ensure that our patients do not go without the necessary care best suited to meet their needs.

We appreciate the mission of this Board to increase access to necessary care. This facility will increase access to care that is not currently available in the IMD. Currently our patients are either traveling outside of their community to receive this type of specialty care or they go without this type of care altogether. The Rush Specialty Hospital will provide our patients with an option that is near our facility and that is highly regarded for providing these types of services. We are confident that this facility should not have any negative impact on our ability to provide safety net services at the hospital and will only serve to benefit the City of Chicago as a whole. We are pleased that Rush is committed to accepting Medicaid and Charity Care patients as a part of this project.

Therefore, we ask that the Health Facilities and Services Review Board approve this project.

Sincerely,



Michael B. Zenn  
Chief Executive Officer  
University of Illinois Hospitals and Clinics