



SPRING GROVE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

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November 18, 2021

Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board

525 W. Jefferson Street, Second floor

Springfield, IL 62761

Reference: E-044-21 Northwestern Medicine McHenry Hospital

As you are aware, Northwestern Medicine is proposing to eliminate imminent emergency obstetrical (OB) care from Northwestern-McHenry and shift it to Northwestern-Huntley. In the event of a woman in labor or for a pregnancy related EMS assessment and transport we will be directed to Huntley.

The distance from the center of Spring Grove to the McHenry ER is 11 miles and takes approximately 21 minutes. The distance from the center of Spring Grove to the Huntley ER is 26 miles and takes approximately 45 minutes. Obviously, transport times to either location can increase based on time of day, road conditions and weather.

While these types of calls are infrequent for us, we oppose this change without any true communication from the EMS System on how operations will be impacted for the EMS providers. We would also like to know what agreements are being made between Northwestern and other Hospital Systems that are closer for us to transport to than Huntley.

We are concerned for our residents and patients and feel there are opportunities for this proposal to be better researched and planned for by all parties involved. Please contact us with any questions or comments.

Respectfully,

Paul Klicker
Fire Chief

Harvey Petska
Board President

Cc: Senator Wilcox