

**From:** [Rick McMullan](#)  
**To:** [DPH.HFSRB.PublicHearings](#)  
**Subject:** [External] the Rockton Avenue hospital in Rockford, IL.  
**Date:** Wednesday, February 23, 2022 8:36:13 PM

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To whom it may concern:

I would like to express my concern about limiting services at the Rockton Avenue hospital in Rockford, IL.

I saw the request for feedback relative to limiting services there when in town visiting my Mother. The hospital is near her home. I was even born at what was then Rockford Memorial Hospital. I suspect many in the area are in my mother's age group and do not have a way to give feedback as they do not own a computer, even if they happened to see the announcement on Eye Witness News. I fear the input you have received may not accurately reflect the views of those most impacted by this decision.

Mercy Health advertises that care is close. Over the last few years, as parts of the hospital services have moved to the east side of town, it has become increasingly difficult for my mother to access the care she needs. She does not drive and needs to rely upon others to take her to medical appointments. When those appointments are across town, it dramatically increases the time she needs to ask of others to give her a ride.

It is not clear to me what services will continue to be offered on Rockton Avenue. Over the last few years many of her doctors have moved their offices to the east side of town. I feel the west side of town has been increasingly underserved as things have continued to be built on the east side of town. (I have heard this shift actually began even before my time with the decision to build the freeway on the east side of town.)

Please consider the vast population near Rockton Avenue that are in need of the care and services (and even the jobs) that this hospital can provide. It is understandable that the hospital is in need of renovations, remodeling and upgrades, due to its age. The aging as well as the younger population is in need of this care closer to home, not all the way across town.

I urge you to consider the people and not just the bottom line. The Rockton Avenue Hospital provides much needed services. Rather than turn its back on part of the Rockford community, signal that it is willing to support the community in which it is placed - in all ways possible.

Sincerely,  
Juanita McMullan