

March 17, 2022

Ms. Debra Savage, Chairwoman  
Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board  
525 West Jefferson Street Second Floor  
Springfield, IL 62761

Dear Ms. Savage,

This letter is in support of the Advocate Aurora Health Care Expansion Project at Advocate Illinois Masonic Medical Center for Bed Tower and Center for Advanced Care Expansion. I have practiced at this hospital since 2001 and I have been part of a dramatic transformation in all areas at Illinois Masonic. Recently after I have joined, the AIMMC celebrated 100 years of existence. For the last few years, AIMMC has become a nationally recognized center, being part of 100 Top Hospitals by Thomson Reuters.

Initially, starting as a resident at AIMMC, I have progressed and became chief of cardiovascular services for the last 6 years. In the last 5 years, we have been able to gather a significant team of cardiovascular specialists that can provide a dramatic range of therapies and interventions that were not done before. The outcomes are outstanding and exemplify our goal of providing safe and quality care.

I am also writing as a resident of Lincoln Park/Lakeview community, where AIMMC is a pillar of the Northside health care and can offer advanced care in all areas, including inpatient and outpatient services. There are numerous programs to help the community.

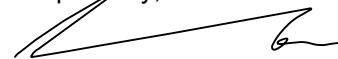
Currently, the bed tower and the critical care beds are semiprivate and most of the current catheterization labs and electrophysiology labs are small and cannot be expanded upon. A new era of cardiology has started with larger outpatient treatment of heart failure and we need new designs to introduce pathways that would respect our patients and assure distancing and maintenance of privacy.

A new outpatient facility is proposed that would be connected to our current hospital and also to a new bed tower. We are looking to create new testing spaces, incorporating the newest technologies, such as coronary CT angiography in care of cardiac patients. We are looking to expand into a new heart failure clinic that will have infusion rooms that will allow to reduce admissions for heart failure. We are expanding Catheterization labs and Electrophysiology labs for better procedures.

A new hospital bed tower would allow larger critical care units in a private setting, all better connected. The staff of the hospital would benefit from integration of new technologies that will allow us to attract new talent that will keep up the standard of our organization.

I believe that a new Bed Tower and Center for Advanced Care is necessary for Advocate Illinois Masonic to continue to provide the outstanding care for our community. This is why I am writing to help support the approval of Illinois Masonic Certificate of Need and be better positioned for the next century of advanced care delivered to our community.

Respectfully,



Sorin Danciu, MD  
Medical Chief, Heart Institute  
Advocate Illinois Masonic Medical Center