

June 7, 2023

Via Electronic Mail

Debra Savage, Chair  
Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board  
525 West Jefferson, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Springfield, Illinois 62761

Re: The University of Chicago Medical Center ("UCMC")  
Project No. 23-011 (the "Project")

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Dear Chairperson Savage:

As an integral part of our Cancer Hospital project we worked actively with the community we serve and the many stakeholders involved for our original Master Design Permit that the Board approved in 2022. The Master Design process afforded us the opportunity continue to work with these stakeholders as we moved from concept to the detail on our proposed Project. We worked proactively through surveys, public hearings and outreach to seek input from organizations and individuals to create an even better project.

We are pleased to have received so much support for our Cancer Hospital Project with almost 40 letters filed as of today with no letters of opposition. We are thankful to the many people who have taken the time to write to the Review Board and thought it may be helpful to Board members to compile and summarize the points made in these letters.

**Policy Makers and Elected Officials**

Policy makers and elected officials have long recognized that there is an immense disparity in health outcomes between South Side residents of Chicago compared to North Side residents. South Siders in some neighborhoods have a 30-year lower life expectancy. From 2014-2018, the residents on the South Side of Chicago were 28.6% more likely to receive a cancer diagnosis than residents in other parts of the City and 25.2% more likely than others in Illinois.

Chicago Department of Public Health, Allison Arwady, MD, Commissioner

UCM has worked hard with the Chicago Department of Public Health over the years and we were pleased that Dr. Arwady provided her support on behalf of CDPH, noting that *"We know that inequities in health outcomes related to cancer are largely a product of the social determinants of health, including access to cancer prevention and care. A new cancer facility will simply provide South Side residents with healthcare resources that other neighborhoods in the*

*city often take for granted. She also noted that CDPH and UCM have remained partners in the fight against cancer inequities in Chicago.*

A number of elected officials also echoed their concern about the disparities of care that many of their constituents experience and their support of for a Project that can help alleviate these disparities, including:

Robert Peters, State Senator, 13th District  
Kam Buckner, State Representative, 26th House District  
Curtis J. Tarver II, State Representative, 25th District  
Mattie Hunter, Assistant Majority Leader, Illinois State Senator, 3rd District  
La Shawn K. Ford, State Representative, 8th District  
City Council, City of Chicago, Leslie A. Hairston, Alderman, 5th Ward  
House of Representatives. Bobby L. Rush, Member of Congressional, 1st District of Illinois\*

#### **Hospital and Other Health Care Providers**

UCMC has sought to work collaboratively with other health care providers and we have been pleased to have the support of area hospitals, FQHCs and others, that recognize the need for advanced cancer care on the City's South Side, including

St. Bernard Hospital and Health Care Center, Charles Holland, President and CEO  
Shirley Ryan AbilityLab, Peggy Kirk, CEO  
Silver Cross Hospital and Health System, Ruth Colby, President  
Friend Health Center, Verneda Bachus, CEO  
Sinai Hospital, Airica Steed, COO, Executive Vice President – Sinai Chicago Interim President, Mount Sinai Hospital\*  
St. Bernard's Hospital, Charles Holland, President & CEO\*  
South Shore Hospital, Timothy A. Caveney, President & CEO\*

#### **Other Community Leaders**

As part of this Project we reached out to the community we serve and to leaders of area organization and appreciate the support we received from these organizations, including:

South East Chicago Commission, Diane Burham, Executive Director  
Hyde Park Chamber of Commerce, Phil Moy, Executive Director  
Greater Auburn Gresham Development Corporation, Carlos A. Nelson, CEO

Chicago Hyde Park Village; Inagrace Dietterich, President of the Board of Directors and Lucas Livingston, Executive Director  
Chicago Hyde Park Village, Susan Alitto, Founding President and Board Member  
Alliance of the South East, Amalia Niete Gomez, Executive Director

### **Faith Leaders**

Faith leaders serve an important role in the lives of many on the South Side. As part of the community outreach UCMC conducted a separate community hearing and listening session with over 50 faith leaders. Their input and counsel played an important role in UCM developing the details of this Project and the complement of services provided to our community. We thank those leaders listed below for their support.

University Church, Rev. Julian DeShazier, Senior Pastor  
Bright Star Church, Pastor Chris Harris Sr., Founder and CEO, Bright Star Outreach  
Apostolic Church of God

### **Community Investment**

With the construction of a dedicated comprehensive cancer facility, UCMC commits to making approximately an \$800 million investment on the South Side, one of the largest capital development projects in the area's history. Of this amount, UCMC strives to obtain participation from at least 35% certified MBE/DBE and 6% percent certified WBE vendors and to obtain 40% of on-site workforce hours from Chicago residents emphasizing the eight zip codes surrounding the Medical Center's Hyde Park-Woodlawn campus (60609, 60615, 60616, 60619, 60621, 60637, 60649 and 60653). UCMC is proud of its history in partnering with contractors to achieve these economic goals that the level of this support is shown by our numerous construction partners, including those below:

Air Design Systems, Inc., Patricia Hickey, President  
Evans Electric, LLC, Michael Evans, MBE/CMS Certified Contractor  
Canino Electric, Kathleen T. Canino, President  
Escarpita, George Escarpita, President  
Dynamic Heating and Piping Co., Guillermo Rivera, President  
J.S.R. Enterprises, Inc., Jerry Roberts, President  
II in One Contractors; Robert J. McGee Jr., President  
Vision Painting and Decorating, Edward T. McKinnie, General Manager  
MJC Demolition; Michael J. Childress, President  
BOWA Construction, Nosa Ehimenman  
McCauley Mechanical Construction, Inc., Kathleen H. McCauley, President  
Live Wire Construction, Angela Drexel  
Black Rock Construction, Shon Harris, President

B3 Integrated Solutions, Inc., A. Jason Bonaparte, President  
Tylor Electric Company, Kendra Dinkins, President and CEO

**Community Advisory Group and Patients**

As part of our Trauma Center and Mitchell project the Board approved in 2016 we had formed a Community Advisory Council to advise UCM on providing service to the community. That Council provided such valuable advice on that project that we have continue to rely on that resource since and on this Cancer Hospital Project in particular. We are also pleased that some of our patients who have been active in working with us chose to write letters of support.

Community Advisory Council, Candace Henley, Chair  
Barbara and Wayne Pearson  
George Pupura  
Courtney A. Jones  
Silvia Robertson

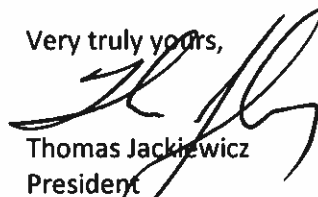
**Cancer Societies and Associations**

Cancer Associations and Societies have appreciated that the proposed Cancer Hospital can provide valuable advancements in the treatment for cancer and even for research for a cure for cancer and have also supported this Project.

American Cancer Society, Kathleen H. Gross, Senior Vice President  
Society of Gynecologic Oncology, Pierre M. Desy, CEO

We look forward to presenting this Project to the Board at your June meeting.

Very truly yours,



Thomas Jackiewicz  
President  
The University of Chicago Medical Center