

January 17, 2025

Debra Savage  
Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board  
525 W. Jefferson St., Second Floor  
Springfield, IL 62761

**RE: Opposition to Proposed NorthPointe Neighborhood Hospital Project 24-018**

Dear Chairwoman Savage,

At its October, 29, 2024, meeting, this Review Board engaged in a thorough and detailed examination of Project 24-018, NorthPointe Neighborhood Hospital proposal. Members of the Review Board asked a number of questions regarding the project in an effort to determine its appropriateness.

After hearing from the project's supporters, all but one member of the Review Board voted against the proposal due to concerns about the proposed facility's size, safety, and relevant need in the community given the significant access of healthcare options currently available in the area.

Beloit Health System ("BHS") submitted a request for the opportunity to return to the Review Board for further consideration. Additionally, they modified their application to change the address of the proposed facility and increase the project's costs by \$552,146 dollars. BHS also filed supplemental information in an attempt to address the many issues raised during their presentation in October.

As a Type A Modification under your rule, the general public has the ability to call for a public hearing to discuss the modification. Mercyhealth considered the opportunity to request an additional public hearing however, neither the submitted modifications nor the supplemental information presents additional substantive information addressing the Review Board's stated concerns. With no new information for consideration, and to avoid wasting the Review Board's time and resources with another public hearing, we instead submit this letter expressing our continued opposition to the proposed NorthPointe Hospital.

To be clear, we along with several other existing health care providers in the community continue to strongly believe that this project will only create risk of harm to patients in the community due to its limited size and on-site capabilities, that it is primarily intended to offset space concerns in a Wisconsin hospital, and that it will only drain necessary resources from the community's existing safety net providers.

We thank you for your continued dedication to ensuring that hospital projects within the state truly meet the needs of our communities.

Sincerely,



Javon R. Bea  
President and CEO  
Mercyhealth