

ILLINOIS HEALTH FACILITIES & SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

HEARING HELD ON

November 6, 2024

1:00 P.M.

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ILLINOIS HEALTH FACILITIES & SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

HEARING held on the 6th day of November,  
2024, between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. of that day, at  
City of O'Fallon City Hall: Council Chambers, 255  
South Lincoln, O'Fallon, Illinois 62269, before  
Rebecca L. Tuggle, a Certified Court Reporter within  
and for the States of Missouri and Illinois, in the  
above-styled certain cause now pending Before The  
Illinois Health Facilities & Services Review Board.

1 APPEARANCES:

2 Health Facilities & Services Review Board:

3 Mr. George Roate, Program Reviewer

Mr. John P. Kniery, Administrator

4 Ms. Blanca Dominguez, General Counsel (Via Zoom)

Ms. Sharie Ryan, Administrative Assistant

5 525 W. Jefferson Street, 2nd Floor

Springfield, IL 62761

6 (217) 557-1700

7 george.roate@illinois.gov

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1 MR. ROATE: Good afternoon. My name is  
2 George Roate. I'm accompanied by Mr. John Kniery,  
3 board administrator, and Sharie Ryan, board  
4 administrator staff. We are from the Illinois  
5 Department of Public Health and we represent the  
6 Illinois Health Facilities & Services Review Board.

7 We are here to conduct a public hearing on  
8 the proposed project known as 24-032 HSHS St.  
9 Elizabeth Hospital ASTC and Medical Office Building in  
10 O'Fallon. As per the Rules of the Illinois Health  
11 Facilities & Services Review Board, I would like to  
12 read the legal notice into record.

13 In accordance with the requirements of the  
14 Illinois Health Facilities Planning Act, notice is  
15 given of receipt to establish a medical office  
16 building and ambulatory surgery treatment center in  
17 O'Fallon, Project 24-032 HSHS St. Elizabeth's Hospital  
18 ASTC and Medical Office Building, O'Fallon.

19 The applicants are Hospital Sisters Health  
20 System, Hospital Sisters Surgery Center, O'Fallon,  
21 LLC, HSHS Medical Group, Incorporated, and St.  
22 Elizabeth -- St. Elizabeth's Hospital of the Hospital  
23 Sisters of the Third Order of St. Francis.

24 The applicants propose to establish a  
25 three-story medical office building containing a

1 multispecialty ambulatory surgery treatment center on  
2 the campus of HSHS St. Elizabeth's Hospital, O'Fallon.  
3 The hospital is located at 1 St. Elizabeth Boulevard,  
4 O'Fallon. The project cost is \$49,790,781.

5 A public hearing will take place pursuant to  
6 20 ILCS 3960. This hearing is scheduled for  
7 Wednesday, November 6, 2024, at 1:00 p.m. at the City  
8 of O'Fallon, City Council Chamber, 255 South Lincoln  
9 Street, O'Fallon. The public hearing is to be held by  
10 the Illinois Department of Public Health pursuant to  
11 the Illinois Health Facilities Planning Act. The  
12 hearing is open to the public and will afford an  
13 opportunity for the parties with interest to present  
14 written and/or verbal comment relevant to the project.

15 All allegations or assertions should be  
16 relevant to the need for the proposed project and be  
17 supported with two copies of documentation or  
18 materials that are printed or typed on paper, size  
19 eight-and-one-half inches by 11 inches. Consideration  
20 by the State Board has been tentatively scheduled for  
21 the October -- for the March 18, 2025, Illinois Health  
22 Facilities & Services Review meeting.

23 If you have not done so, please sign in  
24 using the appropriate registration forms. One form is  
25 for individuals who want to provide testimony in favor

1 or opposition to the project. The other form is for  
2 individuals to register their attendance who do not  
3 wish to testify.

4 To ensure that the Illinois Health  
5 Facilities & Services Review Board's public hearings  
6 protect the privacy and maintain the confidentiality  
7 of an individual's health information, covered  
8 entities is defined by the Health Insurance  
9 Portability Act of 1996, such as facilities, hospital  
10 providers, health plans, and healthcare clearinghouses  
11 submitting oral or written testimony that discloses  
12 protected health information of the individuals, shall  
13 have a valid written authorization from that  
14 individual. The authorization shall allow the covered  
15 entity to share the individual's protected health  
16 information at this hearing.

17 Those of you who came with prepared text for  
18 your presentation may choose to submit the text  
19 without giving testimony. However, if you're giving  
20 oral testimony, please be as brief as possible. As  
21 per the legal notice, I would appreciate two copies of  
22 your testimony. When you make your presentation,  
23 please give the court reporter the correct spelling of  
24 your complete name.

25 We have identified a chief spokesperson for

1 the applicant. We would like that individual to make  
2 the first presentation. The remaining testimony will  
3 be taken in order of the names as they appear on the  
4 register. Please hold your questions until all  
5 testimony is presented. And our first speaker, the  
6 board would like to call Mr. Chris Klay.

7 MR. KLAY: Thank you, George. My name is  
8 Chris Klay, C-h-r-i-s K-l-a-y. And I currently serve  
9 as the president and CEO of HSHS St. Elizabeth's  
10 Hospital here in O'Fallon.

11 150 years ago, two sisters came to  
12 Belleville, Illinois, ultimately from Germany with one  
13 intention, and it was to begin providing healthcare to  
14 the citizens of Belleville. There was an unmet need  
15 at the time. Within one year, those two sisters  
16 earned the confidence and trust of the community and  
17 raised enough money to construct a hospital. That  
18 hospital became St. -- was identified as St.  
19 Elizabeth's Hospital. Next year, 2025, we will  
20 celebrate 150 years of being here in Southern  
21 Illinois.

22 When those sisters came to this area 150  
23 years ago, their focus was on serving the communities  
24 and patients based on that unmet need. St.  
25 Elizabeth's Hospital has preserved that commitment to

1 the community since that time. In 2017, we were very  
2 fortunate to have had the opportunity to relocate from  
3 Belleville to O'Fallon. And the reason for that  
4 transition or relocation was purely based on need at  
5 that moment in time.

6 Our years of service in Belleville were  
7 highly successful. We do remain committed to that  
8 community, but the infrastructure at that time didn't  
9 support our work and our obligation and that's where  
10 we are today. Since coming to St. Elizabeth's in  
11 2017, we have experienced substantial growth. When it  
12 comes to surgical services, we are currently operating  
13 greater than -- our utilization of our surgical  
14 services department exceeds 120 percent utilization.  
15 So we are simply out of space as we work to take care  
16 of those patients who are choosing to utilize St.  
17 Elizabeth's Hospital for care today. And that's  
18 ultimately the key driver for the ambulatory surgery  
19 center request. We simply have to be better at  
20 meeting the volume demands that exist at St.  
21 Elizabeth's Hospital today.

22 In addition, the medical office building  
23 piece of our CON application, we have physician groups  
24 that currently exist in our campus, clinical  
25 specialists, and there are also clinical specialists



1     that have an interest in coming to this market and we  
2     simply don't have space available for them. So our  
3     goal is to be more efficient and more accessible to  
4     the patients that currently utilize St. Elizabeth's  
5     Hospital. And then we also want to improve our  
6     ability in providing that specialized care that  
7     patients are asking for. And that's the intent behind  
8     the medical office building.

9                 So this single structure medical office  
10    building and the surgery center will allow us to be  
11    better at our efficiency in taking care of those  
12    patients that choose us today. I want to emphasize  
13    the fact that the driver behind this CON application  
14    is our existing or current volume. So the volume that  
15    is currently at St. Elizabeth's Hospital, this  
16    infrastructure will allow us to be more consumer  
17    centric, access, quality, and cost. That's what our  
18    patients expect of us and this infrastructure --  
19    infrastructure tool will allow us to do that.

20                Thank you.

21                MR. ROATE: Thank you. Next, the board  
22    would like to call Mr. Herb Roach.

23                MR. ROACH: Thank you, sir. Herb Roach,  
24    H-e-r-b R-o-a-c-h. I'm the mayor of the City of  
25    O'Fallon. I've been involved with the construction

1 that has occurred here in the City from the time we  
2 have started work back in 2011 to the current time.  
3 Very familiar with the hospital and the great work  
4 that it does for our community and for the region.

5 I was born at the Belleville campus so I'm  
6 very familiar with it. My family has been very -- but  
7 our community -- this has meant so much to our  
8 community since it came here. We do a survey of our  
9 community needs. And in 2011, when we did it, one of  
10 the understatements for our community was healthcare  
11 facility and healthcare for a community that is a  
12 growing community. We are the fastest growing  
13 community in Southern Illinois.

14 Since St. Elizabeth's opened up, that  
15 recognition of the services rendered has improved by  
16 55 percent, even though we still have -- many of our  
17 citizens have to go to St. Louis because, as President  
18 Klay just said, they sometimes can't offer some of the  
19 services that are needed.

20 So we are very, very supportive of them  
21 bringing on these additional services to a growing  
22 community that continues to grow and also to a region  
23 that needs good, solid medical attention. And St.  
24 Elizabeth's has done that. They've done that with  
25 quality and they've treated their patients with

1 dignity. And I cannot say enough of the support for  
2 the needs that they want to bring to this region.

3 Thank you.

4 MR. ROATE: Thank you, sir. Next, the board  
5 would like to call Mr. Walter Denton.

6 MR. DENTON: Hello. I'm Walter Denton,  
7 W-a-l-t-e-r D-e-n-t-o-n. I'm the city administrator  
8 for the City of O'Fallon. I have been for 22 years.  
9 And so I have been involved with the St. Elizabeth's  
10 project from the very beginning when we started  
11 talking about it around 2008, 2009, about having  
12 quality healthcare for Southern Illinois that's  
13 accessible to residents all around and having access  
14 to the interstate. And we felt at the time that that  
15 was a wonderful project and echo everything that Mayor  
16 Roach said about how it has improved the healthcare,  
17 access, and quality for our residents.

18 Another aspect of that is we run our own EMS  
19 department in the City of O'Fallon and so our EMS  
20 people are able to take care of our residents much  
21 better because of the access to St. Elizabeth's being  
22 close and the partnerships that we've had with the  
23 hospital and with our EMS and our -- in addition, our  
24 police and fire has been exemplary and they work very  
25 well together.

1           And so we have been thrilled to have them in  
2   our community and we support their growth because I  
3   know the calls for EMS service have gone up every year  
4   because of our growing community and just needs of the  
5   people in our community. And to have St. Elizabeth's,  
6   particularly with the expansion and more -- and more  
7   facilities and more services, will help our residents  
8   and our first responders.

9           Thank you.

10           MR. ROATE: Thank you, sir. Next, the board  
11   would like to call Mr. Chad Goldschmidt.

12           MR. GOLDSCHMIDT: Hello. My name is Chad  
13   Goldschmidt, C-h-a-d G-o-l-d-s-c-h-m-i-d-t. I'm with  
14   the Southwestern Illinois Building & Construction  
15   Trades. We are in -- we are highly in support of this  
16   project. We were part of the initial project. It has  
17   done nothing but help the community, what's already a  
18   great community, and it has brought great paying jobs  
19   to the residents. And I stand again in support.

20           Thank you.

21           MR. ROATE: Thank you, sir. Lastly, I'd  
22   like to call or the board would like to call Mr. Dan  
23   Lawler.

24           MR. LAWLER: Good afternoon. My name is Dan  
25   Lawler, L-a-w-l-e-r. I'm the Certificate of Need

1 counsel for the applicant, St. Elizabeth's Hospital.  
2 And if I'm the final speaker, I will pass on comments.  
3 Otherwise, I defer to any other person here who's  
4 going to speak.

5 MR. ROATE: Thank you, Mr. Lawler.

6 Is there anyone who wishes to testify who  
7 has not had an opportunity? Seeing none, is there  
8 anyone who has testified who wishes to provide  
9 additional testimony?

10 I would remind everyone to submit your  
11 written comments to us so that we have this  
12 information for the record. Also, this project is  
13 scheduled for the consideration by the Illinois Health  
14 Facilities & Services Review Board at its March 18,  
15 2025, meeting. This meeting will be held at the  
16 Bolingbrook Municipal Golf Club, 2001 Rodeo Drive,  
17 Bolingbrook, Illinois.

18 The public can submit written comments to  
19 the board up to and until February 26, 2025. These  
20 comments can be sent to my attention at the Illinois  
21 Health Facilities & Services Review Board, care of the  
22 Illinois Department of Public Health, 525 West  
23 Jefferson Street, Springfield, Illinois 62761.

24 If you prefer, you may e-mail me your  
25 comments. Our e-mail address is

1 dph.hfsrb@illinois.gov.

2 Are there any questions? Seeing that there  
3 are no additional questions or comments, I deem this  
4 public hearing adjourned.

5 Thank you.

6 (Thereupon, the hearing was concluded at 1:15  
7 p.m.)

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- REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE -

I, REBECCA L. TUGGLE, a Certified Court Reporter within and for the States of Missouri and Illinois, do hereby certify that I was present for a hearing, and that the foregoing is a true and accurate transcription of my notes and is a true record of the proceedings.

I further certify that I am not employed by or related to any party to this action by blood or marriage and that I am in no way interested in the outcome of this matter.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 11th day of November, 2024.

*Rebecca L. Tuggle*

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Rebecca L. Tuggle, CCR-MO 1053, CSR, RPR  
Certified Court Reporter within  
and for the States of Missouri and Illinois

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<b>a.m</b> 2:7 <b>ability</b> 9:6 <b>able</b> 11:20 <b>above-styled</b> 2:12 <b>access</b> 9:17 11:13,17,21 <b>accessible</b> 9:3 11:13 <b>accompanied</b> 4:2 <b>accurate</b> 15:5 <b>Act</b> 4:14 5:11 6:9 <b>action</b> 15:9 <b>addition</b> 8:22 11:23 <b>additional</b> 10:21 13:9 14:3 <b>address</b> 13:25 <b>adjourned</b> 14:4 <b>Administrative</b> 3:4 <b>administrator</b> 3:3 4:3,4 11:7 <b>afford</b> 5:12 <b>afternoon</b> 4:1 12:24 <b>ago</b> 7:11,23 <b>allegations</b> 5:15 <b>allow</b> 6:14 9:10,16,19 <b>ambulatory</b> 4:16 5:1 8:18	<b>and/or</b> 5:14 <b>appear</b> 7:3 <b>APPEARANCES</b> 3:1 <b>applicant</b> 7:1 13:1 <b>applicants</b> 4:19,24 <b>application</b> 8:23 9:13 <b>appreciate</b> 6:21 <b>appropriate</b> 5:24 <b>area</b> 7:22 <b>asking</b> 9:7 <b>aspect</b> 11:18 <b>assertions</b> 5:15 <b>Assistant</b> 3:4 <b>ASTC</b> 4:9,18 <b>attendance</b> 6:2 <b>attention</b> 10:23 13:20 <b>authorization</b> 6:13,14 <b>available</b> 9:2	<b>better</b> 8:19 9:11 11:21 <b>Blanca</b> 3:4 <b>blood</b> 15:9 <b>board</b> 1:1 2:1,13 3:2 4:3,3,6 4:11 5:20 7:6 9:21 11:4 12:10,22 13:14 13:19,21 <b>Board's</b> 6:5 <b>Bolingbrook</b> 13:16,17 <b>born</b> 10:5 <b>Boulevard</b> 5:3 <b>brief</b> 6:20 <b>bring</b> 11:2 <b>bringing</b> 10:21 <b>brought</b> 12:18 <b>building</b> 4:9,16,18,25 8:22 9:8 9:10 12:14	<b>cause</b> 2:12 <b>CCR-MO</b> 15:16 <b>celebrate</b> 7:20 <b>center</b> 4:16,20 5:1 8:19 9:10 <b>centric</b> 9:17 <b>CEO</b> 7:9 <b>certain</b> 2:12 <b>Certificate</b> 12:25 15:1 <b>Certified</b> 2:10 15:2,17 <b>certify</b> 15:4,8 <b>Chad</b> 12:11,12 <b>Chamber</b> 5:8 <b>Chambers</b> 2:8 <b>chief</b> 6:25 <b>choose</b> 6:18 9:12 <b>choosing</b> 8:16 <b>Chris</b> 7:6,8 <b>citizens</b> 7:14 10:17 <b>city</b> 2:8,8 5:7,8 9:24 10:1 11:7,8,19 <b>clearinghouses</b> 6:10 <b>clinical</b> 8:24,25 <b>close</b> 11:22 <b>Club</b>
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13:16 <b>comes</b> 8:12 <b>coming</b> 8:10 9:1 <b>comment</b> 5:14 <b>comments</b> 13:2,11,18,20,25 14:3 <b>commitment</b> 7:25 <b>committed</b> 8:7 <b>communities</b> 7:23 <b>community</b> 7:16 8:1,8 10:4,7,8,9 10:10,11,12,13,22 12:2,4,5,17,18 <b>complete</b> 6:24 <b>CON</b> 8:23 9:13 <b>concluded</b> 14:6 <b>conduct</b> 4:7 <b>confidence</b> 7:16 <b>confidentiality</b> 6:6 <b>consideration</b> 5:19 13:13 <b>construct</b> 7:17 <b>construction</b> 9:25 12:14 <b>consumer</b> 9:16 <b>containing</b> 4:25 <b>continues</b> 10:22 <b>copies</b> 5:17 6:21	<b>correct</b> 6:23 <b>cost</b> 5:4 9:17 <b>Council</b> 2:8 5:8 <b>counsel</b> 3:4 13:1 <b>court</b> 2:10 6:23 15:2,17 <b>covered</b> 6:7,14 <b>CSR</b> 15:16 <b>current</b> 9:14 10:2 <b>currently</b> 7:8 8:12,24 9:4,15 <hr/> <b>D</b> <hr/> <b>D-e-n-t-o-n</b> 11:7 <b>Dan</b> 12:22,24 <b>day</b> 2:6,7 15:13 <b>deem</b> 14:3 <b>defer</b> 13:3 <b>defined</b> 6:8 <b>demands</b> 8:20 <b>Denton</b> 11:5,6,6 <b>department</b> 4:5 5:10 8:14 11:19 13:22 <b>dignity</b> 11:1 <b>discloses</b> 6:11 <b>documentation</b> 5:17 <b>Dominguez</b>	3:4 <b>dph.hfsrb@illinois...</b> 14:1 <b>Drive</b> 13:16 <b>driver</b> 8:18 9:13 <hr/> <b>E</b> <hr/> <b>e-mail</b> 13:24,25 <b>earned</b> 7:16 <b>echo</b> 11:15 <b>efficiency</b> 9:11 <b>efficient</b> 9:3 <b>eight-and-one-half</b> 5:19 <b>Elizabeth</b> 4:9,22 5:3 <b>Elizabeth's</b> 4:17,22 5:2 7:9,19,25 8:10,17,21 9:4,15 10:14,24 11:9,21 12:5 13:1 <b>emphasize</b> 9:12 <b>employed</b> 15:8 <b>EMS</b> 11:18,19,23 12:3 <b>ensure</b> 6:4 <b>entities</b> 6:8 <b>entity</b> 6:15 <b>establish</b> 4:15,24 <b>exceeds</b> 8:14 <b>exemplary</b> 11:24	<b>exist</b> 8:20,24 <b>existing</b> 9:14 <b>expansion</b> 12:6 <b>expect</b> 9:18 <b>experienced</b> 8:11 <hr/> <b>F</b> <hr/> <b>facilities</b> 1:1 2:1,13 3:2 4:6,11 4:14 5:11,22 6:5,9 12:7 13:14,21 <b>facility</b> 10:11 <b>fact</b> 9:13 <b>familiar</b> 10:3,6 <b>family</b> 10:6 <b>fastest</b> 10:12 <b>favor</b> 5:25 <b>February</b> 13:19 <b>felt</b> 11:14 <b>final</b> 13:2 <b>fire</b> 11:24 <b>first</b> 7:2,5 12:8 <b>Floor</b> 3:5 <b>focus</b> 7:23 <b>foregoing</b> 15:5 <b>form</b> 5:24 6:1
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<b>forms</b> 5:24 <b>fortunate</b> 8:2 <b>Francis</b> 4:23 <b>further</b> 15:8 <hr/> <b>G</b> <hr/> <b>G-o-l-d-s-c-h-m-i-d-t</b> 12:13 <b>General</b> 3:4 <b>George</b> 3:3 4:2 7:7 <b>george.roate@illin...</b> 3:7 <b>Germany</b> 7:12 <b>give</b> 6:23 <b>given</b> 4:15 <b>giving</b> 6:19,19 <b>go</b> 10:17 <b>goal</b> 9:3 <b>going</b> 13:4 <b>Goldschmidt</b> 12:11,12,13 <b>Golf</b> 13:16 <b>good</b> 4:1 10:23 12:24 <b>great</b> 10:3 12:18,18 <b>greater</b> 8:13 <b>Group</b> 4:21 <b>groups</b> 8:23	<b>grow</b> 10:22 <b>growing</b> 10:12,12,21 12:4 <b>growth</b> 8:11 12:2 <hr/> <b>H</b> <hr/> <b>H-e-r-b</b> 9:24 <b>Hall</b> 2:8 <b>hand</b> 15:12 <b>health</b> 1:1 2:1,13 3:2 4:5,6 4:10,14,19 5:10,11 5:21 6:4,7,8,10,12 6:15 13:13,21,22 <b>healthcare</b> 6:10 7:13 10:10,11 11:12,16 <b>hearing</b> 1:5 2:6 4:7 5:5,6,9,12 6:16 14:4,6 15:5 <b>hearings</b> 6:5 <b>held</b> 1:5 2:6 5:9 13:15 <b>Hello</b> 11:6 12:12 <b>help</b> 12:7,17 <b>Herb</b> 9:22,23 <b>hereunto</b> 15:12 <b>highly</b> 8:7 12:15 <b>hold</b> 7:4 <b>hospital</b> 4:9,17,19,20,22,22 5:2,3 6:9 7:10,17,18 7:19,25 8:17,21 9:5 9:15 10:3 11:23	13:1 <b>HSHS</b> 4:8,17,21 5:2 7:9 <hr/> <b>I</b> <hr/> <b>identified</b> 6:25 7:18 <b>IL</b> 3:5 <b>ILCS</b> 5:6 <b>Illinois</b> 1:1 2:1,9,11,13 4:4,6 4:10,14 5:10,11,21 6:4 7:12,21 10:13 11:12 12:14 13:13 13:17,20,22,23 15:4 15:17 <b>improve</b> 9:5 <b>improved</b> 10:15 11:16 <b>inches</b> 5:19,19 <b>Incorporated</b> 4:21 <b>individual</b> 6:14 7:1 <b>individual's</b> 6:7,15 <b>individuals</b> 5:25 6:2,12 <b>information</b> 6:7,12,16 13:12 <b>infrastructure</b> 8:8 9:16,18,19 <b>initial</b> 12:16 <b>Insurance</b> 6:8 <b>intent</b> 9:7 <b>intention</b> 7:13 <b>interest</b> 5:13 9:1	<b>interested</b> 15:10 <b>interstate</b> 11:14 <b>involved</b> 9:25 11:9 <hr/> <b>J</b> <hr/> <b>Jefferson</b> 3:5 13:23 <b>jobs</b> 12:18 <b>John</b> 3:3 4:2 <hr/> <b>K</b> <hr/> <b>K-l-a-y</b> 7:8 <b>key</b> 8:18 <b>Klay</b> 7:6,7,8 10:18 <b>Kniery</b> 3:3 4:2 <b>know</b> 12:3 <b>known</b> 4:8 <hr/> <b>L</b> <hr/> <b>L</b> 2:10 15:2,16 <b>L-a-w-l-e-r</b> 12:25 <b>Lastly</b> 12:21 <b>Lawler</b> 12:23,24,25 13:5 <b>legal</b> 1:13 4:12 6:21 <b>Lincoln</b> 2:9 5:8 <b>LLC</b> 4:21 <b>located</b> 5:3
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