

RECEIVED

JUN 17 2024

HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

June 13, 2024

IL Health Facilities & Services Review Board ("IHFSRB")
Attn: Debra Savage, Chairwoman
525 West Jefferson, 2nd Floor
Springfield, IL 62761

RE: Opposition Letter for OSF St. Elizabeth Medical Center – Replacement hospital (CON Project #24-011); &
Opposition Letter for OSF St. Elizabeth Medical Center – Discontinuation of facility (CON Project #24-013)

Dear Chairwoman:

I am writing to you in opposition of OSF's plans to discontinue services at St. Elizabeth Medical Center ("SEMC") in Ottawa, and in opposition of OSF's plans to demolish the hospital and build a newer, smaller facility that greatly reduces access to inpatient hospital services.

In March 2024, OSF announced plans to build a new hospital in Ottawa and demolish the one built in the 70s. The new hospital would keep 26 mental health beds; but the 5-bed ICU and 14-bed OB units would be eliminated; and only 12 med/surg beds would remain (a 78% reduction from the 54 it has today). In stark contrast, OSF shared plans to re-open Peru's once shuttered hospital as the system's new inpatient hub on I-80, and increase the number of beds. **Even with OSF re-opening the Peru hospital with an increase in beds, the severe reduction planned for SEMC-Ottawa still leaves the C-02 region short 24 med/surg beds and 2 OB beds, and will place all ICU beds West of I-39 - leaving a gaping hole in access in LaSalle County.**

Please vote against OSF's projects to demolish our hospital in Ottawa and replace it with a smaller facility that eliminates our ICU and OB units, and severely reduces our medical surgical unit to one of the smallest in the state. OSF's plans do not align with the growth in our area – both traditional residential and also through tourism as Heritage Harbor looks to build 300 vacation homes. OSF's plans also do not align with the promises they made to our community 12 short years ago – and the promises stated in their exemption application to the IHFSRB in 2012.

It is our hope that OSF takes the time to make a better plan for our hospital, one that is right-sized for our community's needs and honors the spirit of the partnership we entered into with their system and our local hospital.

Thank you,

Name (Signature): Joy Huebner
Name (Printed): Joy Huebner
Address: 1569 N 2650th Rd
City/State/Zip: Ottawa, IL, 61350

June 12, 2024

IL Health Facilities & Services Review Board ("IHFSRB")
Attn: Debra Savage, Chairwoman
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This affects us personally as Gregory has a mechanical heart valve which requires him to be on blood thinners. If he suffers even a minor injury, he may lose enough blood to require a transfusion. This happened in 2022 after a minor dental procedure. He was hospitalized for 2 days at OSF St. Elizabeth. There have also been occasions when Gregory is experiencing A-FIB which his doctor wants to monitor closely in the hospital.

Please vote against OSF's projects to demolish our hospital in Ottawa and replace it with a smaller facility that eliminates our ICU and OB units, and severely reduces our medical surgical unit to one of the smallest in the state. OSF's plans do not align with the growth in our area – both traditional residential and also through tourism as Heritage Harbor looks to build 300 vacation homes. OSF's plans also do not align with the promises they made to our community 12 short years ago – and the promises stated in their exemption application to the IHFSRB in 2012.

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Thank you,

Marilyn Straka-Holl & Gregory Holl

Marilyn Straka-Holl and Gregory Holl

507 S Monroe St.

Streator, IL 61364

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Thank you,

Name (Signature): Charles D. Allison

Name (Printed): Charles D. Allison

Address: 905 Marcy St

City/State/Zip: Ottawa, IL 61350

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Thank you,

Name (Signature): Helen Rockford Wells

Name (Printed): Helen Rockford Wells

Address: 2045 Northlake DR.

City/State/Zip: OTTAWA, IL 61350

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Thank you,

Name (Signature): Dorene R. Allison

Name (Printed): Dorene R. Allison

Address: 905 Marcy St.

City/State/Zip: Ottawa IL 61350

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Thank you,

Deanna Crowley
LaSalle County

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Thank you,

Name (Signature): Heidy Eiser

Name (Printed): Heidy Eiser

Address: 1306 Chippewa Drive

City/State/Zip: Ottawa, IL 61350

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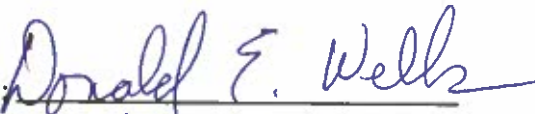
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Thank you,

Name (Signature):



Name (Printed):

DONALD E. WELLS

Address:

2045 NORTHLAKE DR.

City/State/Zip:

OTTAWA, FL 61350

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Thank you,



Jan Cappellini

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Jean Less
Ottawa IL