

June 13, 2024

RECEIVED

JUN 21 2024

HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

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.

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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): Constance J. Miller

Name (Printed): Constance J. Miller

Address: 2700 Cherie Ln

City/State/Zip: Ottawa IL 61350

6-17-24

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HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

Mail to By July 19

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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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JUN 21 2024

Attn: Debra Savage, Chairwoman

THE CITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

RE: Opposition to the 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)

This OSF decision is very short sighted and not looking to the future. What happens in a few years when Peru out grows the facility? OSF Ottawa has an opportunity to grow with 31 acres into the future for many years to come. Why spend money on a facility that is land locked in a neighbor hood with poor access? Trying to take a less expensive route now with building smaller hospital could end up costing more in the future when OSF finds it self out growing in Peru. Building costs will be higher. Please remodel up grade for Peru to have back the Hospital they once had.

Some access to Rt 80 is one stop light. Peru access to Rt 80 or 39 has multiple lights congested areas.

Room to grow - SEMC has 31 acres in Ottawa for new construction to expand throughout the coming years to accommodate growing population needs and incorporate the newest in health care technology. A chance to become a Great Hub. Perse is land locked. In the middle of a neighbor hood very poor parking SEMC needs construction due to end of life of current facility. The new design has ability to look to the future and adopt newest health care standard of care trends. Perse has 5 additions to the building. Oldest 10 years old part - maybe torn down. What would cost of this be with possible asbestos removal. What is the condition of the building since being vacant for a year?

To improve parking at Perse - what would be the cost of tearing down nearby buildings to create a new parking lots? The Existing School is slated for housing the administration. It also has been sitting vacant.

Harder to attract to keep providers from Chicago Metropolitan

Area with increased travel time. Will there be enough hospitalists for inpatients and ED providers.

Ottawa Area is growing. Only community in LaSalle County to have grown during last census and is advertised several times on Chicago Radio Stations.

Streator area, without patients, now would have farther to travel to ICU needs.

Current skilled staff at SEMC may not want to travel to Peoria for work, as they already have significant commutes.

We will lose skilled workers.

How could there be less beds available in the proposed plan at Ottawa SEMC with a population almost 3 times the size of Mendota as available at SEMC?

Should not the Havana Plevins Valley area be located where the population density and growth is located? How will the growing geriatric population be served?

Where the EMT's asked for input as they have the hands

on experience population to be served?

What if there is another Pandemic, with only 12 beds and NO ICU?

Patients wait daily in the ED for a bed in the healthcare system. Some up to 36 hrs or more. What Damage done by decreasing bed availability to 12 and NO ICU?

For years SEMC was working to keep patients on the Eastern side of the I 80 market from choosing Morris Hospital. Always kept data on this market. Now the concern for that population has diminished it seems. Seneca Area not even on the map!

Hospital was given to OSF by the Board with dreams of future growth. Promise not kept.

~~It~~ is our hope the 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 the system and our local hospital.

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Thank you,

Name (Signature): Carole Ledbetter

Name (Printed): Carole Ledbetter

Address: 505 College Ave #112

City/State/Zip: Ottawa, IL 61350

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Thank you,

Name (Signature):

Randy Trufie

Name (Printed):

RANDY TRUFIE

Address:

3265 E. 26th Rd

City/State/Zip:

MAISELLES, IL 61341

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Thank you,
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Name (Signature):

Nancy L. Tuftie

Name (Printed):

Nancy L. Tuftie

Address:

3265 E. 26th Rd.

City/State/Zip:

Marseilles, IL 61341

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Thank you,

Name (Signature): Bonnie R. Sparks

Name (Printed): BONNIE R. SPARKS

Address: 505 College Ave Apt. 121 H

City/State/Zip: OTTAWA, IL 61350

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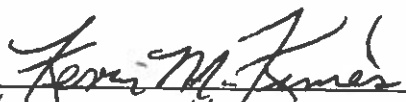
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Name (Signature):



Name (Printed):

Kevin M. Kimes

Address:

1901 Parkhill Ln

City/State/Zip:

Ottawa, IL 61350

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Name (Signature):

Lori D. Kimes

Name (Printed):

Lori D. Kimes

Address:

1901 Parkhill Ln.

City/State/Zip:

Ottawa, IL 61350