

## DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH CITY OF CHICAGO

February 5, 2025

Ms. Debra Savage, Chairwoman Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board 525 West Jefferson Street, Second Floor Springfield, IL 62761

Dear Ms. Savage:

As Commissioner of the Chicago Department of Public Health (CDPH), I am pleased to express my strong support for Advocate Health's proposed replacement hospital for Advocate Trinity on Chicago's South Side. This initiative is a transformational step forward in our collective mission to advance health equity, improve health outcomes, and address the systemic disparities that have too long shaped life expectancy and wellness in our city.

Public health is not just about treating illness—it is about preventing disease, addressing root causes, and ensuring that every Chicagoan has access to the resources they need to live long, healthy lives. Advocate Health's historic \$1 billion investment is not simply a new hospital; it is a commitment to a reimagined healthcare ecosystem that prioritizes prevention, community-based care, and the social determinants of health that profoundly impact well-being.

By expanding access to high-quality medical services, increasing behavioral health and maternal care, and fostering partnerships that strengthen the fabric of our communities, this investment aligns with our public health priorities at CDPH. We know that where people live, work, and play determines their health outcomes just as much as—if not more than—traditional medical care. Advocate's vision acknowledges this reality and sets a new standard for what it means to invest in health.

This new \$300 million state-of-the-art hospital is part of the prescription the Southeast side needs to solve for the 30-year life expectancy gap. I commend Advocate Health for their leadership in ensuring that healthcare is not just reactive but proactive, equitable, and deeply rooted in community well-being. I urge full support for this critical project, which will help us build a healthier, stronger, and more just Chicago.

Sincerely

Olusimbo Ige, MD, MS, MPH

Commissioner