

January 17, 2025

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

Dear Chairperson Savage,

I am writing to express my enthusiastic support for Advocate Health Care's recent application to build the first South Side community hospital built anew in over 100 years. Advocate is helping to catalyze economic development and expand jobs through this transformational project. But it's more than bricks and mortar: It's an authentic, holistic approach to neighborhood investment that prioritizes the wellbeing of people and families.

As a Commissioner with the Chicago Department of Planning and Development (DPD), I have seen firsthand the critical role that health equity and community investment play in fostering sustainable, thriving neighborhoods. The construction of this new hospital represents a monumental step forward in addressing the long-standing health disparities that have plagued the South Side for generations. It will not only improve access to vital healthcare services but will also serve as a catalyst for broader economic growth.

This is an opportunity to not only heal our neighborhoods but to also invest in their future. I wholeheartedly support this project and ask for the approval of this project.

Sincerely,

Ciere Boatright

Commissioner

Chicago Department of Planning and Development