



12-066

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

DAVE HEILMANN
MAYOR

September 26, 2012

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HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

Ms. Courtney R. Avery
Administrator
Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board
525 West Jefferson Street, Second Floor
Springfield, Illinois 62761

Dear Ms. Avery:

I am writing to express my full support for Advocate Christ Medical Center's application to construct a patient bed tower and a new parking facility on its campus. Our Village Board and the entire administrative team of the Village are acutely aware that the medical center has reached critical capacity and requires room to grow. Patient care is at the heart of this request, and I believe that failure to expand will have a negative impact on this fine institution's ability to continue delivering the highest quality of care and services to not only residents of Oak Lawn, but to patients throughout the Midwest. The proposed facility will provide needed additional inpatient beds, reduce the number of hours the hospital has to spend on bypass and create more contemporary, efficient space to enhance patient privacy and accommodate continuing advancements in medicine and technology.

Approval of the proposed patient bed tower by the Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board will allow Christ Medical Center to take the next important step in an ongoing, very much needed expansion of facilities and services on its own campus here in Oak Lawn. This expansion will help maintain the strength and vitality of the institution, which is such an integral part of our community. A recent space and service assessment by national, independent consultant demonstrated that the medical center is significantly undersized for the number of patients it serves annually and the breadth of programs it provides to the community.

I urge the planning board to approve the construction of a patient bed tower at Advocate Christ Medical Center. The project is critical to the future of the medical center, the health care needs of patients in the region and the ongoing economic growth of Oak Lawn and surrounding south and southwest suburbs of Chicago.

Sincerely,

Dave Heilmann
Mayor

DMH:dfs