

# Rick Ortiz

506 S. CHARLES STREET BELLEVILLE, IL 62220  
TEL 618-623-2599

rocommunication@gmail.com

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DEC 01 2014

HEALTH FACILITIES &  
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

November 23, 2014  
Mr. Mike Constantino  
Illinois Health Facilities and Services Board  
525 W. Jefferson St., 2nd Floor  
Springfield, IL 62761

14-043

Dear Mr. Constantino,

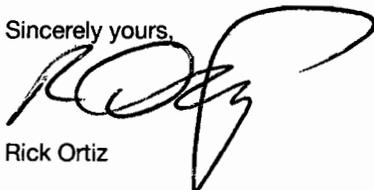
I am writing to oppose the move proposed by St Elizabeth's Hospital in Belleville, Illinois. A recent News-Democrat article (November 9, 2014 *St. E's Plan is About Wants, Not Needs*) a map drawing its information from the 2010 Census and the Illinois Department of Public Health clearly illustrates that the proposed move, while possibly improving St Elizabeth's "payor base," would in fact leave Southern Illinois underserved.

St Elizabeth's plan is to move their facility within 2 miles of a brand new facility being built by Memorial Hospital, whose plan did not depend upon abandoning the population they have served, but rather expanding, while at the same time re-investing in their west Belleville campus which is actually not much older than the St Elizabeth's campus which they intend to write off as irreparable.

The proposed move would not only duplicate services, it would also create a disproportionate burden on Memorial Hospital who would be the only service provider for uninsured in the area.

I urge you and the Illinois Health and Services Board to closely examine this application and decide for yourself if granting permission for this move wouldn't in fact duplicate services while creating a health care void in Southern Illinois.

Sincerely yours,



Rick Ortiz

Nov. 25, 2014 RECEIVED

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HEALTH FACILITIES &  
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

To Whom It May Concern:

We are writing to state our opposition to St. Elizabeth's Hospital's move to build a new facility in O'Fallon, Illinois.

First of all Memorial Hospital is building in that area, so why do we need 2 hospitals so close together while the communities in the south part of the county (Smithton, Freeburg, Millstadt etc.) are left without service.

Secondly, not all of St. Elizabeth's buildings are old. They have been adding new buildings in years gone by. Why can't they demolish the old & add new modern facilities? They own much property and the mayor of Belleville has offered to work with them.

The main roads from Belleville to the new planned hospital are very heavily traveled which could hinder emergencies & ambulances.

We hope you will consider these factors in making your decision.

Sincerely,

Robert & Catherine Secker  
318 N. Washington St.  
Belleville, IL 62220

## Mr. Mike Constantino

Supervisor, Project Review Section  
Illinois Health Facilities and Services Board  
525 W. Jefferson St., 2nd Floor  
Springfield, IL 62761

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HEALTH FACILITIES &  
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

Dear Review Board:

November 19, 2014

Please don't accept St. Elizabeth's Certificate of Need to move their hospital to O'fallon. So many people will be affected negatively with this proposed move especially the most needy of people; the poor. The poor people are who this hospital made a solemn vow to always assist. I just can't believe that the Catholic Diocese could be in favor of abandoning the poor to find richer pockets! Please tell me this isn't true!?

What about the Cottages of Cathedral that are being built as we speak? These elderly people sold their homes and belongings to move to this new development so that they would be close to their church AND hospital. Plain and simple, there is no NEED for another hospital at that proposed location in O'fallon, there is however a great NEED to keep them here in Belleville. Please take a moment and look at the real need of that area and look at what will become of the area they're abandoning. It's shameful!

Also, there is plenty of room for improvement in the current location. The city of Belleville has been very clear in stating that they will assist in any way possible to help St. E's demolish and rebuild if needed.

Lastly, on a personal note; St. E's has always been our family's hospital. All of my six siblings including their children and even my own were born there. It truly holds a very special place in our hearts and we are so saddened by their proposed flee.

Sincerely,  
Kari L. Tutza

Project # 14-043  
Kari L. Tutza  
530 S. 20<sup>th</sup> St.  
Belleville, IL 62226  
(618) 334-3821  
karitutza@gmail.com

Cc: Courtney Avery

146 Crest Haven Drive  
Belleville, IL 62221-4317

November 24, 2014

Mr. Courtney Avery,  
Administrator  
Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board  
525 West Jefferson St., 2nd Floor  
Springfield, IL 62761

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HEALTH FACILITIES &  
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

RE: Project Application # 14-043

Dear Mr. Avery:

With respect to the above referenced project for St. Elizabeths Hospital in Belleville, IL. to construct a new hospital in O'Fallon, IL. and concurrent closure of its Belleville, IL. hospital I am strongly object to this proposal. This objection is based upon the following:

1. Belleville, IL. is the largest population center by far in the area to be serviced by Memorial Hospital (Belleville), Memorial Hospital East (Shipoh) and St. Elizabeths. The entire service area has approximately 150,000 residents. About 65% are in the immediate Belleville area, including adjacent unincorporated areas, the towns of Greentown, Smithton, Rescatorch and Millsblott and the rural areas of Belleville which are to the south and southeast. The remaining 35% (+) of the

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residents <sup>in</sup> the area to be serviced by Memorial East) and the proposed St. Elizabeth's (Fallon). This alone would seem to require more beds in the Belleville area as compared to Fallon (Shloh) which area is also partially serviced by Oliver Anderson Hospital in Troy, Ill.

2. Under the proposal being advanced by St. Elizabeth's the Fallon/Shloh area would have two hospitals within two miles of each other. These two facilities, St. Elizabeth's and Memorial East would be full service hospitals with a combined 238 inpatient beds plus each having full outpatient, emergency room, maternity and ancillary services (duplication). The same services are also available at nearby Oliver Anderson Hospital in Troy, Ill. The larger populated Belleville area would have only one full service hospital with 218 inpatient beds along with the other full service offerings. This disparity would result in reduced service availability where it seems it would be most needed. This also would negatively impact the medically underserved residents since they would have only one hospital to provide for their needs in the metro-Belleville area. With that reality Memorial Belleville will be strained severely to provide the necessary services for this significant population group. Withdrawal from Belleville by St. Elizabeth's would indicate an unwillingness by a non-for-profit

healthcare provider to abdicate its responsibility to the Belleville community and its residents.

3. While the proposal by St. Elizabeths would provide for ambulatory patient services in Belleville how realistically does this meet the community's healthcare needs? How long would this service last? Remember the circumstances and ultimate closure of St. Mary's Hospital in East St. Louis, Ill. some years ago.

4. Belleville is the County seat of St. Clair County, Ill. and therefore, has the primary resources of the County's Health Care Department located in downtown Belleville. This department works with many, if not most, of the medically underserved patients in the County. Consequently, having more medical (Hospital) services readily available near to those people who receive their medical assistance through the County facilitates the patient care.

5. It is recognized that the present St. Elizabeths Hospital has operated with financial losses for a number of years. How much of this is attributable to the numerous changes in Chief Executive Officers/Administrators in the last ten (10) years or ~~more~~ so? Lack of stability in leadership in any business makes success difficult. As a corollary, Memorial Belleville has had three (3) Chief Executive Officers in its 56 years of operation. Perhaps the real solution to their (St. Elizabeths) problems is in finding sound health care managers and not in relocating.

4.  
I appreciate the opportunity to present my comments regarding  
Project Application # 14-043. I reiterate my objection  
to this proposal and recommend to the Illinois Health  
Facilities and Services Review Board that they reject it.

Sincerely,  
  
Arthur H. Peters

c.c. Mr. Mike Constantino, Supervisor  
Project Review Section

Shekinah Boyd  
516 N. 85th St.  
East Saint Louis, IL 62203  
November 16, 2014

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DEC 01 2014

Illinois Dept. of Public Health  
Division of Food, Drug & Dairies

Second Floor  
525 W. Jefferson St.  
Springfield, IL 62761

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HEALTH FACILITIES &  
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

Dear Sir or Madam:

My name is Shekinah Boyd, and I live at 516 N. 85th St., East Saint Louis, IL 62203. I am writing to you about St. Elizabeth's Hospital's plans to relocate to O'Fallon, IL. My problem with the move is that it pushes the hospital farther away from residents in East Saint Louis. People, like my father, James T. Boyd who has Essence healthcare insurance, can only go to St. Elizabeth's for care that is covered by his insurance. They closed the hospital in East Saint Louis and forced the residents in East Saint Louis, using Essence healthcare, to go to St. Elizabeth's in Belleville. Memorial Hospital is closer, but it doesn't accept Essence insurance. My father is 80 yrs. old, and his income is limited, so he has no choice but to go where his insurance is cost effective. My father's primary physician is Dr. Garner, and his office is across the street from St. Elizabeth's. I can't tell you how convenient that is. If he has to go to the emergency room, then it wouldn't take long to get in touch with

his doctor. I'm talking from the standpoint of the doctor being physically accessible for the hospital to get in touch with him. It was huge weight off my dad's shoulders as well as mine to have that peace of mind. If something was to happen, then my father would have to travel either by ambulance or private car at a much greater distance. That extra distance could make the difference between getting there on time to receive the medical treatment that is needed, or getting there late and missing the opportunity to receive the medical treatment and causing further health issues, or death. I feel like my father and other people that are in the same situation is not being considered in this move by the hospital.

Sincerely,

Shekinah Boyd

Shekinah Boyd