



**Northwestern Illinois
Building and Construction
Trades Council**

Project No. 17-019
AFFILIATED WITH THE
BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION TRADES DEPT.
AFL-CIO

212 South First Street, Suite 106
Rockford, Illinois 61104

Telephone (815) 965-2282 (BCTC)

April 17, 2017

RECEIVED

APR 25 2017

**HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD**

Ms. Kathryn J. Olson, Chair
Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board
525 West Jefferson, Second Floor
Springfield, Illinois 62761

Re: Support for SwedishAmerican Hospital's CON Application to Modernize its Existing Facility and Construct a New Women and Children's Tower, and its Exemption Application to Add a Neo-Natal Intensive Care Unit

Dear Chairwoman Olson:

On behalf of the Building Trades that serve the greater Rockford area, I strongly urge your prompt approval of the CON and COE applications filed by SwedishAmerican Hospital. Your approval will not only assure equitable access to the highest quality of healthcare throughout our region, but also bring needed jobs and economic activity to downtown Rockford.

The proposed \$130 million modernization and expansion will include private inpatient rooms, as well as a modernized Emergency Department, operating rooms, and other needed services.

Importantly, SwedishAmerican plans to establish a state-of-the-art Women's and Children's Center that will include a Neo-natal Intensive Care Unit (NICU). Once approved, the NICU would allow SwedishAmerican to apply for designation as a Level III Nursery and treat more complex neo-natal patients – making such care immediately accessible to the west and south sides of Rockford. SwedishAmerican is already the largest birthing center in Rockford, and is the only area hospital to have received the Healthgrades' Labor and Delivery Excellence Award. The addition of a Level III Nursery at SwedishAmerican, together with the new Women's and Children's Center, will assure access to the highest quality of care for all Rockford area families.

The City of Rockford needs the jobs and economic activity that this project represents, and its residents are fully deserving of the enhanced healthcare services that will result. Please approve these applications without delay.

Respectfully yours,

Brad Long
President, Northwestern Illinois Building & Construction Trades Council

Project No. 17-019



April 13, 2017

Ms. Kathryn J. Olson, Chair
Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board
525 West Jefferson, Second Floor
Springfield, Illinois 62761

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APR 25 2017

HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

Re: *Requested Approval for SwedishAmerican Hospital's CON Application to Modernize its Existing Facility and Construct a New Women and Children's Tower, and its Exemption Application to Add a Neo-Natal Intensive Care Unit*

Dear Chairwoman Olson:

The Rockford Chamber of Commerce stands in strong support of the above-referenced project, and respectfully urges your approval of the involved CON and COE applications. SwedishAmerican Hospital has been an important part of the greater Rockford community for more than a century. This project will bring needed healthcare and economic benefits to the city and region, and has our unqualified support.

The proposed \$130 million modernization and expansion will include private inpatient rooms, as well as a modernized Emergency Department, operating rooms, and other needed services.

Importantly, SwedishAmerican plans to establish a state-of-the-art Women's and Children's Center that will include a Neo-natal Intensive Care Unit (NICU). Once approved, the NICU would allow SwedishAmerican to apply for designation as a Level III Nursery and treat more complex neo-natal patients – making such care immediately accessible to the west and south sides of Rockford. SwedishAmerican is already the largest birthing center in Rockford, and is the only area hospital to have received the Healthgrades' Labor and Delivery Excellence Award. The addition of a Level III Nursery at SwedishAmerican, together with the new Women's and Children's Center, will assure access to the highest quality of care for all Rockford area families.

On behalf of the Rockford Chamber of Commerce, I respectfully urge your approval of the SwedishAmerican Hospital's CON and COE applications now pending before your agency.

Sincerely,

Einar K. Forsman
President & CEO
Rockford Chamber of Commerce