Project No. 17-019

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May 8, 2017

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MAY 17 2017
HEALTH FACILITIES &
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

Ms. Kathy Olson, Chair
Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board
525 W. Jefferson, 2nd Floor
Springfield, IL 62761

RE: Letter of Support
SwedishAmerican Hospital Modernization/Expansion Project

Dear Ms. Olson:

OrthoIllinois is a subspecialty practice comprised of 25 surgeons, seven non-operative physicians, and four clinic locations in Rockford, Crystal Lake, and Huntley, Illinois. The practice has served the musculoskeletal needs of northern Illinois residents since 1967.

During this tenure, OrthoIllinois, along with other community physicians and health care services, have enjoyed a strong and supportive partnership with SwedishAmerican Health System in serving the needs of our community. We believe SwedishAmerican's project will allow it to provide even greater value and a higher level care.

SwedishAmerican stands as a solid asset to our community by not only serving as a major employer in our area, but also in providing access to quality health care services to all community members, regardless of ability to pay or payor source. This project will not simply offer more modern and state-of-the-art services to residents, the proposed improvements benefit some of our community's most vulnerable members – women, children and those whose lives are improved by access to behavioral health services.

On behalf of the physicians of OrthoIllinois, I offer our full support of this modernization and expansion project including the COE exemption to add a 10 bed Level III NICU. SwedishAmerican Hospital has always been associated with quality patient care. This modernization project will allow it to now provide an even higher level of care with expanded access and improved amenities such as a women and children's tower and expanded services beyond what is currently available.

Sincerely,

Don Schreiner

Don Schreiner
Chief Executive Officer

... a higher standard of care.