No. E-019-17

*Dr. Timothy J. Durkee*
*1st Ward Alderman*
*Chairman – Planning & Development Committee*

May 12, 2017

**RECEIVED**
MAY 24 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

Dear Chairwoman Olson,

As Chairman of Planning and Development for the City of Rockford,a college of medicine professor, and a physician at SwedishAmerican, I respectfully request the approval of the SwedishAmerican Hospital's COE to add a neo-natal intensive care unit, and I request approval for SwedishAmerican's CON Application to modernize its existing facility and construct a four story women and children's tower.

The proposed $130 million project will include private in-patient rooms, as well as a modern Emergency Department, operating rooms, additions to behavioral and mental health, and other needed services.

With the establishment of a Women's and Children's Center with a Neo-natal Intensive Care Unit, SwedishAmerican will apply for designation as a Level III Nursery and treat more complex neo-natal patients. As a city leader focused upon the continued growth, development and expansion of services across the City of Rockford and the region, a college of medicine faculty member and a practicing obstetrician/gynecologist, I endorse the addition of this essential, core service at SwedishAmerican which will provide access to the highest quality of care for Rockford area families, especially for those in south, southwest, west, and central Rockford.

This project is of vital importance to our region, our constituents, our medical students and residents, my patients and to me.

Sincerely,

Timothy J. Durkee MD, PhD, FACOG
Chairman, Planning and Development
Alderman, First Ward
City of Rockford
Attending Physician
SwedishAmerican Health System



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