



200 South Illinois Avenue
P.O. Box 2047
Carbondale, Illinois 62902-2047
Telephone: 618-457-3226
Fax: 618-457-3224
www.explorecarbndale.com

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

Re: Project 13-069, Memorial Hospital of Carbondale, Carbondale

Dear Ms. Avery,

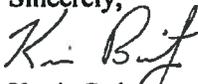
I am writing this letter of support to enthusiastically endorse Memorial Hospital of Carbondale's planned expansion. The project proposes to increase the number of Intensive Care beds and Operating Rooms to address the current and future shortage of beds and surgical space needed to care for patients.

As the City Manager, I can attest to Memorial Hospital of Carbondale's critical role as a major southern Illinois employer, but also as a leading provider of quality healthcare as has been demonstrated in national accolades in cardiac and stroke care in recent years. Additionally, Memorial Hospital of Carbondale and parent organization Southern Illinois Healthcare has done an exceptional job at staffing their hospital with exceptional doctors which insures they can service the needs of southern Illinois residents which prevents residents from seeking healthcare outside of our region. Finally, we appreciate Memorial Hospital's efforts in serving uninsured and underinsured patients in one of the poorest regions of the state, including Carbondale.

Memorial Hospital of Carbondale is vital to the economic strength of southern Illinois and to the thousands of patients that depend on the hospital every day. We sincerely hope that their proposed project is approved.

If you have additional questions, please contact me at 618-457-3226.

Sincerely,


Kevin Baity
City Manager

Home of Southern Illinois University

**CITY OF HERRIN**

MARLENE SIMPSON, CITY CLERK
300 NORTH PARK AVENUE
HERRIN, ILLINOIS 62948
(618) 942-3175 • Fax (618) 942-2296

January 30, 2014

Ms. Courtney Avery, Administrator
Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board
525 W. Jefferson (2nd Floor)
Springfield, IL 62761

Re: Project #13-069 Memorial Hospital of Carbondale, Carbondale

Dear Ms. Avery:

I am taking this opportunity to share my support for Memorial Hospital of Carbondale's planned expansion. This project proposes to increase the number of Intensive Care beds and Operating Rooms to address the current and future shortage of beds and surgical space needed to care for patients.

Over the years, I have watched Memorial Hospital of Carbondale evolve and transform in to the quality, regional healthcare provider that it is today. Gone are the days when friends and family would make the tedious, fretful trek to St. Louis, Springfield or Chicago for the cardiac care that is now available in our own backyard. When the region's only neurosurgeons left nearly a decade ago, Memorial Hospital of Carbondale and parent Southern Illinois Healthcare were the first to aggressively recruit and restore a robust neurosciences program. Time and again, our regional community has depended on Memorial Hospital of Carbondale to provide the advanced kinds of care that were otherwise unheard of in one of the most impoverished areas of Illinois. It is the kind of care that keeps us here, when our loved ones need us the most.

This stewardship is also demonstrated in the hospital's policy to provide care to patients, regardless of their ability to pay, through its charity care program. The hospital's commitment to the health and well-being of the communities it serves is well documented.

In conclusion, I wholeheartedly endorse Memorial Hospital of Carbondale's modernization and expansion endeavor.

Thank you for your time and attention to this project. Please feel free to reach out to me at 300 N> Park Avenue, Herrin, IL 62948.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Marlene", is written in black ink.

Marlene Simpson
City Clerk & SIH Board Member



Carbondale Business Development

C O R P O R A T I O N

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

Re: Project 13-069, Memorial Hospital of Carbondale, Carbondale

Dear Ms. Avery,

I am writing this letter of support on behalf of the Carbondale Business Development Corporation Board of Directors to enthusiastically endorse Memorial Hospital of Carbondale's planned expansion. The project proposes to increase the number of Intensive Care beds and Operating Rooms to address the current and future shortage of beds and surgical space needed to care for patients.

As the President of the Carbondale Business Development Corporation, I can attest to Memorial Hospital of Carbondale's critical role as a major southern Illinois employer, but also as a leading provider of quality healthcare as has been demonstrated in national accolades in cardiac and stroke care in recent years. Memorial Hospital of Carbondale and parent organization Southern Illinois Healthcare has done an exceptional job at staffing their hospital with exceptional doctors which insures they can service the needs of southern Illinois residents which prevents residents from seeking healthcare outside of our region. Finally, we appreciate Memorial Hospital's efforts in serving uninsured and underinsured patients in one of the poorest regions of the state, including Carbondale.

Memorial Hospital of Carbondale is vital to the economic strength of Carbondale and southern Illinois, as well as to the thousands of patients that depend on the hospital every day. We believe their proposed project serves a regional need and fully support their request to expand.

If you have additional questions, please contact me at 618-457-3226.

Sincerely,

Bill Oliver
President

Feb. 5, 2013

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

Re: Project 13-069, Memorial Hospital of Carbondale, Carbondale

Dear Ms. Avery,

On behalf of the membership of the Carbondale Chamber of Commerce and the Carbondale business community, please accept this letter of support for Southern Illinois Healthcare's proposed expansion of Memorial Hospital of Carbondale.

Carbondale has a long history as a center for quality health care, but all too often, patients who desire advanced treatment or critical care from our region are forced to seek this care elsewhere simply because our hospital does not have the facilities available to care for these needs. The proposed enhancements would ensure that more quality care would be available to more Southern Illinoisans.

I am certain that you realize these improvements to Memorial Hospital of Carbondale will be beneficial as SIH recruits physicians and medical providers to serve our area. Equally important, is the multiplier effect to our community and region as a whole. With added facilities, services and providers, our community becomes even more of a destination for health care for the entire region. This benefits not only patients, but also our businesses both in and out of the health care sector.

Memorial Hospital of Carbondale is an economic anchor and a catalyst for growth for Carbondale. For that reason, the Carbondale Chamber of Commerce wholeheartedly supports and endorses efforts to expand facilities at the hospital.

Sincerely,



Les O'Dell
Executive Director