



## SOUTHERN ILLINOIS BUILDERS ASSOCIATION

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AGC OF AMERICA CHAPTER

December 14, 2014

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HEALTH FACILITIES &  
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

Ms. Courtney Avery  
Administrator  
Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board  
525 W. Jefferson Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Springfield, IL 62761

RE: In Support of Project #14-043 St. Elizabeth's Hospital's replacement hospital O'Fallon, IL  
In Support of Project #14-044 St. Elizabeth's Ambulatory Care Center, O'Fallon, IL

Dear Ms. Avery,

As the Chief Executive Officer of the Southern Illinois Builders Association (SIBA), I would like to express our Organization's "full support" of the development of the St. Elizabeth's replacement Hospital in O'Fallon, IL. The SIBA represents commercial Builders in 39 Counties in Southern Illinois with a membership of 473 Commercial Builders and related businesses. Our Members have come to understand the importance of this project for all of Southern Illinois.

SIBA understands that Memorial Hospital (MH) is building an expansion Hospital in Shiloh and that organization (MH) has stated strong opposition to this Hospital. SIBA also understands, the City of Belleville has also stated strong opposition to St. Elizabeth's moving from Downtown Belleville. However, SIBA which has been located in Belleville for 40 years, instead understands the **critical importance and benefits** of this move by St. Elizabeth's, for our entire Region of Southwestern and Southern Illinois. The SIBA is very aware of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century movement of Hospitals to the Interstates across the Country, and how these moves have benefited the surrounding Regions (for both access to and quality of healthcare). The SIBA is also very aware of the \$2.6 Billion in Healthcare development that has been planned for the Interstate 64 corridor in the St. Louis Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA). Hopefully the IHFSRB will be wise enough, to allow the Illinois side of I-64, to develop its Healthcare facilities to its full potential, not only for the benefit of short term construction jobs, but more importantly for the long term jobs in Healthcare and the quality of Healthcare, it will bring to all of Southern Illinois.

Parochialism must be stopped in Southern Illinois, for it is poisonous to the growth of a healthy economy. If Memorial Hospital would stop opposing this development from a strictly (fearful) short sided competitive vantage point and Belleville from a short side parochial view, the Members of the SIBA believe Southern Illinois will have a better chance to grow and Southern Illinois will be in a far better position to attract 21<sup>st</sup> Century Corporations (of all kinds) that demand 21<sup>st</sup> Century access to quality Healthcare, both secular (Memorial) and Christian (St. Elizabeth's).

The 21<sup>st</sup> Century marches on and as a Region; we must place ourselves in the position, using all resources to foster development, instead of finding regulatory and parochial reasons to block development. St. Elizabeth's is now proposing a \$300,000,000.00 private investment that will help and support our economy, not in any way hurt our economy.

In closing, we at SIBA believe Illinois needs to seize this substantial investment in our economy for all the right reasons, **because as we have been told, if that \$300,000,000.00 is not invested in O'Fallon, "it is not" going to be invested in any location in Southern Illinois.**

Thank you for your time and consideration in regards to this matter.

Respectfully,

SOUTHERN ILLINOIS BUILDERS ASSOCIATION

*Timothy K. Garvey*  
Timothy K. Garvey, Chief Executive Officer

**Building For The Future ... With One Voice ... Since 1945**

