

9615 Mallard Dr.  
Mascoutah, IL 62258

December 23, 2014

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

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HEALTH FACILITIES &  
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

Dear Ms. Avery:

I am writing in support of Project #14-043, St. Elizabeth's replacement hospital in O'Fallon.

My wife and children have lived in St Clare County, IL for more than five years. During that time we have received inpatient and outpatient care on multiple occasions from St. Elizabeth's Hospital in Belleville.

While the health care delivered was excellent the location was not particularly convenient. It is only about ten miles from our house but is normally at least a 30 minute drive through an often congested downtown Belleville, and parking is inconvenient.

In my opinion, the Belleville hospital is simply too old for renovation into a facility suitable to deliver modern healthcare. Further, I see no reasonable options to build a new facility on the current campus.

That leaves hospital leaders with the best option of building a new facility elsewhere, and O'Fallon is an excellent choice. It is an extremely convenient location for my family and a large portion of the population served, and with its proximity to I-64 offers fast access to even more people in the region.

In addition, St. Elizabeth's Hospital is an important partner with the Air Force's Family Practice Residency program located at Scott AFB. Relocating St. E's to O'Fallon will greatly improve the logistics of this important teaching mission.

Thank you for the opportunity to lend my support for this important project in the Metro East. I look forward to using St. Elizabeth's new hospital specifically designed for state of the art patient care delivery and patient safety.

Sincerely,



Thomas G. McCauley