

*Pulmonary Medicine*

**THEODORE S. INGRASSIA, III, M.D.S.C.**

*By Appointment*

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5668 EAST STATE STREET  
ROCKFORD, ILLINOIS 61108-2469

PHONE 815/397-7212  
FAX 815/397-2539

October 26, 2015

**RECEIVED**

OCT 28 2015

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

HEALTH FACILITIES &  
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

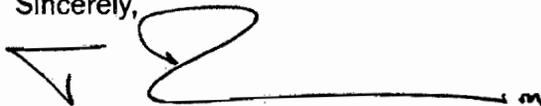
To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to oppose the planned relocation of Rockford Memorial Hospital facilities to the east side of Rockford, IL . I am currently a Pulmonary Critical Care physician in private practice in Rockford. I was born and raised here, went to medical school at the University of Illinois College of Medicine at Rockford and have been in private practice since I left the Mayo Clinic in 1992.

My family owned the Rockton Avenue shopping center just a block away from the current Rockford Memorial Hospital so I am very familiar with the area. I believe it would be a significant misallocation of resources to move the current facilities to the east side when I do not see a need for additional services there. It would devastate the west side of Rockford and thwart any attempt at redevelopment in addition to restricting access to medical care for thousands of residents in that area. The community would be better served by upgrading existing facilities and, if necessary, governmental support of redevelopment in that area of the city.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Theodore S. Ingrassia, III, M.D., F.C.C.P.

TI/caa

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

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HEALTH FACILITIES &  
SERVICES REVIEW BOARD

Re: Opposition to Project #15-038; #15-039; #15-040

Dear Ms. Avery,

I write this in opposition to MercyRockford's plans for a new hospital on the East Side. For all the talk about how the new facility would provide state-of-the-art healthcare, it won't provide new services for Rockford residents.

MercyRockford wants to move some of the services it currently provides at Rockford Memorial Hospital to its proposed new hospital. I cannot see how that would be beneficial for residents currently served by Rockford Memorial Hospital or how simply moving some services does anything more than duplicate the services MercyRockford currently provides.

Duplicated healthcare services raise costs that would fall on the shoulders of taxpayers and removing potentially life-saving care from Rockford residents who already have difficulty accessing health care is just wrong.

I strongly believe that hospitals should be built based only on need, not want.

I respectfully request that the Board vote no on MercyRockford's Certificate of Need application.

Regards,

Name: Sandra DeGrand  
Address: 6231 Vallee Knoll Dr  
City: Rockford IL 61109

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

Re: Opposition to application #15-038; #15-039; #15-040

Dear Ms. Avery,

As an employee of OSF Saint Anthony, I feel as though I have a special appreciation for the need for a healthcare provider to support its community. I believe that MercyRockford's proposal does not respect that need, so I am opposed to it.

OSF Saint Anthony has made a commitment to Rockford's East Side for many years. We are renovating our campus to better serve our neighbors with state-of-the-art medical procedures. I understand that such a renovation can be expensive, but when you consider what's on the line—the health of the community—the expense is clearly worth it.

That's why MercyRockford's argument that it must move services to the East Side and expand its presence there fails to hold up. By investing the money it plans to spend on an East Side expansion into its existing campus on the West Side, MercyRockford can help the area in so many ways.

MercyRockford has the same obligation that OSF and SwedishAmerican have for the communities they serve: to improve the health of the individuals in the community, and to invest in the community as a whole.

I respectfully ask the Board to hold MercyRockford to that obligation and reject the proposal.

Regards,

Name: Jenna A. Rathke  
Address: 2790 Sandhutton Ave #1  
City: Rockford, Illinois 61109

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Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board  
525 W. Jefferson, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor  
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Name: Janet L. Collins  
Address: 4609 Terrang Trail  
City: Machesney Park, IL

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Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board  
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Springfield, IL 62761

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Regards,



Name: Kimberly A. White

Address: 123 Sherman Lane

City: Poplar Grove

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Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board  
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Springfield, IL 62761

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Name: Terri Bergman  
Address: 1026 Caswell  
City: Belvidere IL