



# City of Havre de Grace

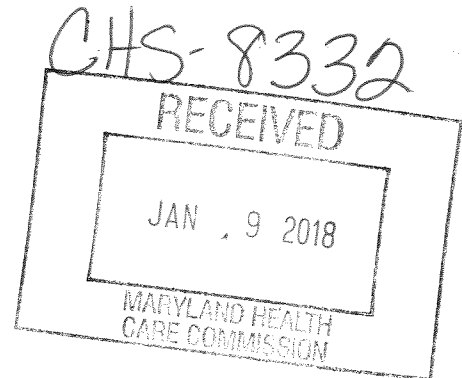
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January 8, 2018

Mr. Paul E. Parker, Director  
Center for Health Care Facilities Planning and Development  
Maryland Health Care Commission  
4160 Patterson Avenue  
Baltimore, Maryland 21215



RE: Matter No. 17-12-2403, UM-Upper Chesapeake Health System  
Construction of a New 40-Bed Special Psychiatric Hospital in Havre de Grace, Maryland

Dear Mr. Parker:

Please consider this request to be registered as Interested Parties to the matter of the Certificate of Need (CON) application by UM-Upper Chesapeake Health System. This is to allow representatives of The City of Havre de Grace to receive copies of relevant notices concerning the CON application. Please include the following members for separate mailings of all notices related to the above-mentioned CON application so the representatives for the City may follow the notification and approval process for the application:

Mr. Stephen Gamatoria, Chief of Staff  
Department of Administration  
711 Pennington Avenue  
Havre de Grace, Maryland 21078

Ms. April Ishak, Esquire  
Stark and Keenan, P.A.  
30 Office Street  
Bel Air, Maryland 21014

Mr. Ben Martorana, Director  
Department of Planning  
711 Pennington Avenue  
Havre de Grace, Maryland 21078

The City of Havre de Grace is greatly affected by the changing use of the originally proposed, full-service acute care hospital to a Freestanding Medical Facility (FMF) and 40-Bed Special Psychiatric Hospital, of which only the Special Psychiatric Hospital offers CON Review. These are just two elements of a three-part Application/Notice of Intent process that greatly alters health care delivery in Harford County and the region and we ask for careful MHCC oversight for all of these proposed changes through UM-Upper Chesapeake Health.

Related to Matter No. 17-12-2403 are also the following:

*Notice of Intent to Convert UM Harford Memorial Hospital to a Freestanding Medical Facility and Request for Exemption from Certificate of Need Review*

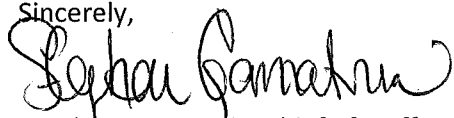
*Request for Certificate of Exemption from CON Review – Merger and Consolidation of UM Harford Memorial Hospital, Inc. and UM Upper Chesapeake Medical Center, Inc.*

All three applications were submitted on August 4, 2017.

As noted in the Maryland Register Notice dated December 8, 2017 for Maryland Health Care Commission review, **(t)hese comments must state with particularity the State Health Plan standards or review criteria that you believe have not been met by the applicant as stated in COMAR 10.24.01.08F.** At this point in time, we are not opposing the CON application for the new 40-bed Special Psychiatric Hospital but would like to hold Interested Party Status so that we may have access to information that is provided in the ongoing review process. This is so that we may best react to the changing uses of the proposed facility (behavior health and FMF) for the benefit of our citizens as new information becomes available.

In the long-term, we would like to hold out hope for a full-service acute care hospital. Our location relative to I-95 between the major medical centers of Baltimore and Christiana in Delaware makes Havre de Grace ideal for expansion as a more fully-developed medical center. With anticipated growth in the region along I-95 corridor and ease of transportation access for regional support – whether for trauma, epidemic, or catastrophic – our location could not be better for long-term regional health care delivery planning. We would like MHCC evaluation of dedicated ambulance transport relative to UM-Upper Chesapeake Medical Center (UM UCMC) located in Bel Air for the current proposal to be functionally viable. Though it may be centrally located to the population center, UM UCMC is difficult to get to due to traffic congestion and may be limited in its ability to grow for surgical services in a region with growing population and demand out-matching capacity to serve. We would like for MHCC to review all three applications with long-term need in mind and would like for you to keep this site as an acute center, if not now then in the future. We will provide the MHCC with other comments for the two above-mentioned Exemption Requests under a separate cover.

Sincerely,



Stephen Gamatoria, Chief of Staff  
Office of the Mayor

Cc: William T. Martin, Mayor  
David Glenn, Council President  
April Ishak, City Attorney  
Patrick Sypolt, Director, Department of Administration  
Ben Martorana, Director, Department of Planning  
Tim Whittie, Director, Department of Public Works  
Dianne Klair, Planner, Department of Planning