



Chartered 1708

Office of the Mayor
Mike Pantelides, Mayor
160 Duke of Gloucester Street
Annapolis, MD 21401-2517

July 15, 2015

VIA EMAIL: paul.parker@maryland.gov
VIA FEDERAL EXPRESS

CHS-6910

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

Re: City of Annapolis - Participating Entity Status
Cardiac Surgery Certificate of Need Application
Docket Nos. 15-02-2360, 15-02-2361.

Dear Mr. Parker:

In regard to the above-referenced comparative review of proposed cardiac surgery programs at Anne Arundel Medical Center (AAMC) and Baltimore Washington Medical Center (BWMC), I am writing on behalf of the Annapolis City Council to ask the Maryland Health Care Commission to prefer AAMC and to grant participating entity status to the City of Annapolis.¹

The Commission should prefer AAMC's program because it would address a critical need for local access to high-quality cardiac surgical care for the citizens of Annapolis, and, based on my discussions with AAMC administrators, do so in the most cost effective manner.

The residents of Annapolis need an accessible cardiac surgery program in our community. Annapolis' residents over 65 years of age continues to be one of the fastest growing segments of the population and, according to the 2013 American Community Survey Data, comprises a larger percentage of the population than the statewide average. Additionally, the City of Annapolis is the largest city in Maryland without a cardiac surgery program, and one of the few state capitals in the entire country without such a program.

Annapolis is on the periphery of the service areas of multiple hospitals. As a result, most of our residents travel up to an hour or more to Washington or Baltimore (depending on traffic) to receive cardiac surgical care. Both Washington Hospital Center and the University of Maryland Medical Center are located approximately 30 miles from the City of Annapolis in

¹ The City of Annapolis seeks status as a participating entity to provide written comments under COMAR 10.24.01.01(B)(30) and COMAR 10.24.01.08(F)(2).

different directions and in urban centers with attendant traffic congestion and parking problems. This situation increases the stress on families and patients and makes it more difficult to access follow-up care.

This is especially a problem for our residents who cannot plan for cardiac surgery far in advance when the urgent need for surgery is only identified after they have arrived at our local emergency room, and who, therefore, must suffer the delay and risk associated with transferring to another hospital. When minutes count, our residents deserve and need the option of getting care from a local hospital with which they may have an existing relationship and which is an integral part of their community.

In this particular comparative review, AAMC is best positioned to meet this need. It is a cardiac intervention center designated by MIEMSS. It has an award-winning PCI program participating in CPORT. It also has an outstanding reputation not only in Annapolis, but in the entire region, including a superior reputation for surgical care and for cardiology.

Locating a cardiac surgery program at AAMC will enhance access to such care not only for our approximate 40,000 residents, the additional 5,000 service men and women stationed at the Naval Academy, and the approximate 5 to 6 million tourists and government-related individuals who visit Annapolis each year, but also serve the close in Eastern Shore and Southern Maryland residents better than a location (BWMC, the other applicant) only 6 miles to the south of the University of Maryland Medical Center.

Finally, AAMC administrators have informed me that AAMC will provide superior cost savings to patients and to the employer health plans that often finance their care. Washington hospitals and Baltimore's academic medical centers are estimated to have a charge per cardiac surgery case of around \$60,000 or more. BWMC plans to charge \$51,952 per case, even though BWMC plans to treat less complex cases than its affiliate, the University of Maryland Medical Center. In contrast, AAMC has stated that its average charge per case will be \$37,501. This would be a substantial savings for a costly procedure, and could make a real difference for many of our residents.

For the above reasons, and because of the impact of the Commission's decision on the City of Annapolis and its residents, the Mayor and City Council requests participating entity status to advocate that the Commission prefer AAMC over BWMC in this comparative review.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,



Mike Pantelides
Mayor

Cc: City Council
Victoria Bayless, AAMC



160 Duke of Gloucester Street
Annapolis, MD 21401

Signature Copy
R-19-15

..Title

Cardiac Surgery Program – For the purpose of supporting Anne Arundel Medical Center’s application for a Certificate of Need from the Maryland Health Care Commission to offer a cardiac surgery program within Annapolis and Anne Arundel County.

..Body

**CITY COUNCIL OF THE
City of Annapolis**

Resolution 19-15

**Sponsored by: Mayor Pantelides, Alderwoman Finlayson,
Alderwoman Pindell Charles, Alderman Budge, Alderman Kirby, Alderman Paone
Alderman Pfeiffer and Alderman Littmann**

Referred to

A RESOLUTION concerning

Cardiac Surgery Program

FOR the purpose of supporting Anne Arundel Medical Center’s application for a Certificate of Need (“CON”) from the Maryland Health Care Commission to offer a cardiac surgery program within Annapolis and Anne Arundel County.

WHEREAS, the City of Annapolis seeks to promote private programs and services that benefit the health and well-being of its citizens, and

WHEREAS, the Anne Arundel Medical Center has been a primary and excellent partner with the City in addressing the healthcare needs of its population for more than a century, and

WHEREAS, the absence of a cardiac surgical program is a critical gap and the only missing link in Anne Arundel Medical Center’s ability to provide comprehensive cardiac services, and

WHEREAS, Anne Arundel Medical Center has applied for a Certificate of Need from the Maryland Health Care Commission for the purpose of offering a cardiac surgery program, and

WHEREAS, there are no cardiac surgical programs within Annapolis or Anne Arundel County, and

WHEREAS, Annapolis is the capital of the State of Maryland, and one of few state capitals in the United States without a cardiac surgery program, and

WHEREAS, access to prompt, accessible and affordable cardiac services is a critical factor in the future welfare of not only Annapolis residents, but also the hundreds of thousands of visitors it receives each year, and

WHEREAS, the Maryland Health Care Commission will be conducting a comparative review of Anne Arundel Medical Center's application with another Anne Arundel County provider, and

WHEREAS, Anne Arundel Medical Center should be preferred in such comparative review,

WHEREAS, the City of Annapolis wishes to seek "Participating Entity" status from the Maryland Health Care Commission in the CON application of Anne Arundel Medical Center.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ANNAPOLIS CITY COUNCIL that the City of Annapolis seek "Participating Entity" status from the Maryland Health Care Commission in the CON application of Anne Arundel Medical Center.

EXPLANATION

CAPITAL LETTERS indicate matter added to existing law.

~~Strikethrough~~ indicates matter stricken from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments.

ADOPTED this 13th day of July, 2015.

Aye: Mayor Pantelides, Alderman Budge, Alderman Paone, Alderwoman Pindell Charles, Alderwoman Finlayson, Alderman Littmann, Alderman Kirby, Alderman Pfeiffer and Alderman Arnett.

THE ANNAPOLIS CITY
COUNCIL

Michael Pantelides Date: 7-14-2015
Michael J. Pantelides, Mayor

ATTEST

Regina Watkins-Eldridge Date: 7/14/15
Regina Watkins-Eldridge, MMC,
City Clerk