



2401 W. Belvedere Avenue • Baltimore, MD • 21215

VIA EMAIL

March 24, 2020

Mr. Ben Steffen
Executive Director
Maryland Health Care Commission
4160 Patterson Avenue
Baltimore, MD 21215

Mr. Kevin McDonald
Chief, Certificate of Need Division
Center for Health Care Facilities Planning & Development
Maryland Health Care Commission
4160 Patterson Ave.
Baltimore, MD 21215

RE: Emergency Certificate of Need Application
LifeBridge Health, Inc. - Northwest Hospital Center, Inc.

Dear Mr. Steffen and Mr. McDonald:

Pursuant to COMAR 10.24.10.20, I write to seek an Emergency Certificate of Need (“CON”) for a renovation project at Northwest Hospital Center, Inc. (“Northwest Hospital”), that will expand LifeBridge Health, Inc.’s (“LifeBridge”) capacity to accommodate the expected surge in hospital admissions and urgent need for additional hospital inpatient beds related to the COVID-19 pandemic.

To address the national state of emergency declared by the President and the United States Department of Health and Human Services, as well as the state of emergency and catastrophic health emergency declared by Governor Hogan on March 5th, LifeBridge Health is seeking approval to renovate and equip an existing unit at Northwest Hospital.

The space, which formerly housed sub-acute beds that have been taken out of service, and in November was approved by the MHCC to accommodate the expansion of inpatient behavioral health services, will be remodeled into a negative pressure unit to effectively manage patients requiring treatment for COVID-19, ensuring the highest level of safety for patients and clinical staff.

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The project will provide twenty medical-surgical beds and cost an estimated \$500,000. Because the space currently features private patient rooms and was already slated for renovations for the previously stated use, we estimate we will be able to have the renovations completed by Friday, March 27th.

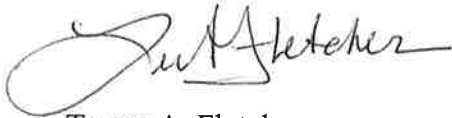
As outlined in Mr. Steffen's memo, dated March 17th, this project will undoubtedly help address both the state's urgent need for an estimated "additional 500 inpatient beds" and provide a swift, timely response to the extraordinary "hazards to employees and patients" COVID19 poses.

As the unprecedented, catastrophic impact of this pandemic continues to rapidly effect the health and safety of our patients, staff, providers and every person throughout the state and country, we respectfully ask you act upon this request as soon as possible.

If you require additional information, please contact me at 410-274-3122.

We thank you for your consideration and expeditious response.

Sincerely,



Teresa A. Fletcher
Assistant Vice President,
Business Development

Cc: via email

Neil Meltzer, President, LifeBridge Health, Inc.
David Krajewski, CFO, LifeBridge Health, Inc.
Robert Neall, Secretary of Health
Patricia Tomsko Nay, M.D., Executive Director, OHCQ
Katie Wunderlich, Executive Director, Maryland Health Services Cost Review Commission
Paul Parker, Director, MHCC, Center for Health Care Facilities Planning and Development
Ruby Potter, Health Facilities Coordination Officer, MHCC