



# Harford County Health Department

Main Office: 120 S. Hays Street • P.O. Box 797 • Bel Air, Maryland 21014 • 410-838-1500



**Public Health**  
Prevent. Promote. Protect.  
**Harford County**  
**Health Department**

Russell W. Moy, MD, MPH • Health Officer  
Marcy Austin • Deputy Health Officer

April 15, 2020

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

Dear Mr. Steffen:

This letter is written in support of UM Upper Chesapeake Health's (UM UCH) three projects scheduled to come before the Maryland Health Care Commissioners (MHCC) meeting on April 16<sup>th</sup>. While I recognize that it is an extremely turbulent time during this unprecedented COVID-19 pandemic, meeting the current and future health planning needs in Harford County is also important.

As I have submitted letters of support to you in the past, as well as spoken with you on many occasions regarding these projects, UM UCH's plans have been well thought out and represent a thorough, comprehensive approach to appropriately regionalizing health care in Harford County. This effort represents planning for which they have collaborated with me on an ongoing and consistent basis, as you are aware of.

While you, and perhaps the MHCC Commissioners themselves, may have received concerned letters and/or calls from select elected officials and a small number of the public, I think it is important for you to be aware, that I do not think those opinions and concerns are shared consistently among most elected officials here in the County, nor myself as the Health Officer for Harford County. Suffice it to say, that I support UM UCH's projects moving forward recognizing that UM Harford Memorial Hospital will not close until the projects are complete on the Aberdeen campus as well as a recognition that the facilities on the Aberdeen campus will not be operational for at least two and a half years, well beyond our current pandemic situation.

I urge you as the Executive Director and the MHCC Commissioners to approve UM UCH's projects as supported by the MHCC Staff's Recommendation Report at the upcoming April 16<sup>th</sup> meeting. Thank you for consideration of proceeding with the Maryland Health Care Commission's deliberation of these projects at your April 16<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Sincerely,

Russell W. Moy, MD, MPH  
Harford County Health Officer

cc: Andrew N. Pollak, MD, Chairman  
Randolph S. Sergent, Vice Chairman  
Lyle Sheldon, President/CEO, UM UCH

*BEL AIR OFFICE*  
1 N. Main Street  
Bel Air, MD 21014  
410-638-3060

*EDGEWOOD OFFICE*  
1321 Woodbridge Station Way  
Edgewood, MD 21040  
410-612-1779

*EDGEWOOD OFFICE*  
2204 Hanson Road  
Edgewood, MD 21040  
443-922-7670

*HAVRE DE GRACE OFFICE*  
2027 Pulaski Highway  
Havre de Grace, MD 21078  
410-939-6680

*HAVRE DE GRACE OFFICE*  
2015 Pulaski Highway  
Havre de Grace, MD 21078  
410-942-7999