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August 26, 2018

Massachusetts Department of Public Health
Determination of Needs Program
250 Washington Street
Boston, Massachusetts 02108

Dear Ms. Nora J. Mann, Esq.

I have been a resident of Medford for 58 years and been a resident of the Lawrence Estates for 20 plus years. I am opposed to the construction of an ambulatory center; consequently, I will begin with what I call The Department of Public Health mission statement:

“DPH promotes the health and well-being of **all residents** by ensuring access to high-quality public health and healthcare services, and by focusing on prevention, wellness and health equity in **all people.**”

I highlighted **all residents** because the construction of another building is not the answer to serving the needs of this community. This fix is for the sole purpose to make money on a bleeding business, which as it stands, is an escalating commitment in business. And the LMH employee’s testimony before your government body is for the sole purpose of jobs. But to be on the backs of a community who have lost faith is just wrong because the community is **all people** as stated in your mission statement.

Even our Mayor Burke stated that a “clearer business plan is needed” and to be communicated to a community who doesn’t trust answers from leadership to so many questions with: **“Not at this time.”** This is because so many rumors about the future of LMH have been talked about for so many years and the leadership of the LMH refuse to answer any specific questions, especially after so many cuts in needed services requiring residents to travel to Melrose.

The needs of the community are not even close to being met with an Ambulatory Center to be mostly used by people outside the community of Medford. Why isn’t 3 million dollars raised to repair the existing operating room in LMH and not wasted on unused space in the existing building? I guess the need for a “partnership” is very evident... not needed healthcare?

For the leadership of the LMH to say that they don’t need a parking garage or a long term plan, which is transparent to the community is ridiculous. Especially since the LMH haven’t solved the existing parking problems, or noise problems from the propane tanks and boiler/chiller plant to the residents of 171-181 Lawrence Road. And I challenge the LMH statistics for a need because most people in this area and of Medford travel to surrounding areas for a 5-15 minute ride for procedures, and probably will continue to do so because of the lack of faith in the LMH. As for the lower cost, that isn’t spelled out in any specifics by the LMH as well and is a very ambiguous statement.

Sincerely yours...

Frederick J. Roche

