I am writing to submit a statement regarding the application for the Medford Surgery Center at the site of the present Lawrence Memorial Hospital. I am a resident of Medford and a realtor who operates in the city. I live on Governor's Avenue, directly across from Lawrence Memorial, and just learned of the proposed new Ambulatory Surgical Center in mid August, and was unable to attend city meetings due to short notice provided.

I am extremely concerned by the proposed expansion to existing facilities, including the concept of a medical village for the property. There has been no information shared with residents in the neighboring areas and members of the community on the plans for a new ambulatory center, renovations or maintenance of the existing facilities, and what exactly the extended medical village will consist of (will a parking garage be needed? will the current building have a change of use? etc.). A project of this magnitude will have massive ramifications to the community including increases in traffic, noise and air pollution, lack of available parking, and in sum total, allowing the residential area to transform into a heavily trafficked commercial zone that will negatively impact property values and quality of life in the surrounding areas.

Medford community members deserve a comprehensive needs' justification report, full accounting of short and long term plans, analyses completed to determine probable community impacts, and adequate opportunity for informed engagement and input.

This proposal impacts one of Medford's most cherished and valuable neighborhoods and its' homeowners have been largely left in in the dark, apparently in the hopes of rapidly pushing through a partially formed plan.

I am requesting that the Department of Health reject or delay approval of this project until these concerns are properly addressed.

Regards,

**Iennifer McDonald** 

Jennifer McDonald, REALTOR®

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