

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
STATE HOUSE, BOSTON 02133-1054

FRANK A. MORAN
STATE REPRESENTATIVE
17th ESSEX DISTRICT
ANDOVER - LAWRENCE

SECOND ASSISTANT MAJORITY LEADER

Committees:

House Committee on Ethics
House Committee on Operations,
Facilities and Security
House Committee on Rules
Joint Committee on Rules

STATE HOUSE, ROOM 481
TEL: (617) 722-2180
FAX: (617) 626-0288
Frank.Moran@MAhouse.gov

April 24, 2024

Determination of Need Program
Massachusetts Department of Public Health
67 Forest Street
Marlborough, MA 01752

RE: #DFCI-23040915-HE

Dear Determination of Need Program:

As a State Representative proudly serving the residents of Andover and Lawrence and a current patient of Dana-Farber, I write to you to express strong support for the proposed Dana-Farber Cancer Hospital. I was diagnosed with throat cancer in 2020, and I can tell you that the people at Dana-Farber saved my life.

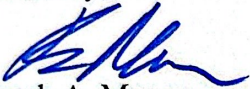
I've always respected Dana-Farber's work, even more so now as a patient. I express my support for Dana-Farber's proposed adult inpatient hospital, which will expand access and equity, reduce costs, and save lives—just like they did with me. Unfortunately, I'm not alone in my fight against this disease. Cancer rates are rising nationally and right here in Massachusetts as well. At the same time, there is a dire need for more inpatient cancer beds. A new Dana-Farber hospital will help meet these pressing needs and ensure the best health outcomes for cancer patients.

Analysis has shown that this proposed hospital has the potential to provide more cost-effective treatment at a time when healthcare costs are soaring. The new hospital will also advance access to cancer care and help close health equity gaps in the communities that need it most, including underserved neighborhoods and community health centers already aligned with Dana Farber and Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center. One is Holy Family Hospital in Methuen, near my district, where I receive some of my care. I know how critical this model can be. The patients receive some of their care at their local community hospital, which is more accessible, culturally competent, and personalized. The proposed Cancer Hospital will strengthen Dana-Farber's work to remove barriers to treatment and ensure that all patients have access to high-quality cancer care.

Now, I know from experience that at Dana-Farber, patients are the heart of everything they do. Trust me. I was one of them. And I'm still one of them. Their vision for the future enables Dana-Farber to provide better care and better patient outcomes at a lower cost. We know that dedicated cancer hospitals save more lives, just like mine. This proposed cancer hospital will ensure Dana-Farber is equipped to provide every patient with world-class care in an environment that supports the best health outcomes. Most importantly, it will offer more of what every single cancer patient and their family are looking for: hope.

I'm grateful for all Dana-Farber does every day, especially for what they did for me and my family, and I urge Commissioners to approve this application.

Sincerely,



Frank A. Moran
Second Assistant Majority Leader
17th Essex District



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
STATE HOUSE, BOSTON 02133-1054

April 18, 2024

Determination of Need Program
Massachusetts Department of Public Health
67 Forest Street
Marlborough, MA 01752

RE: #DFCI-23040915-HE

Dear Determination of Need Program:

We are writing to express our strong support for Dana-Farber Cancer Institute's new cancer hospital, in collaboration with Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center (BIDMC).

This new stand-alone cancer hospital is essential to ensuring our city and state keep pace with the alarming increase in cancer rates and would be the only one of its kind in New England. It will ensure that Boston residents continue to receive the exceptional and compassionate cancer care that they need and deserve.

There is an acute need for more inpatient beds for patients with cancer in Boston and across the state. Many of us have heard from residents battling cancer who have been forced to stay in emergency rooms because of the shortage of beds. The situation is becoming increasingly urgent due to the recent rise in cancer rates. While every state in the nation is expected to see double digit growth in cancer incidence this year, in Massachusetts, cancer incidence is projected to be nearly 28 percent higher this year than 2020.

At the same time, as new groundbreaking treatments are developed, investment is needed in the care model and infrastructure necessary to ensure patients with cancer have access to the most advanced care going forward. The proposed 300-bed hospital is designed to help the region keep pace with these developments.

The proposed cancer hospital will also provide equitable and accessible world class cancer care to Greater Boston — including to underserved neighborhoods and community health centers that are already aligned with Dana-Farber and BIDMC.

It will help Dana-Farber expand its Cancer Care Equity Program that is at the forefront of many efforts to expand access to cancer care and improve outcomes for patients from historically marginalized communities. Since launching in 2010, this work has expanded its outreach programming to two Federally Qualified Health Clinics — Harvard Street Neighborhood Health Center in Dorchester and The Dimock Health Center in Roxbury. In this first-of-its kind co-location model, Dana-Farber oncologists are onsite at these Boston community health centers to evaluate any cancer or hematology related concerns, leading to a reduction in the time it takes to diagnose cancer from a median of 32 days to 12 days. It's been so successful that Dana-Farber expanded the program to include lung cancer screenings and an oral health program.

Dana-Farber's mammography van is the only mobile digital mammography program in Massachusetts. Traveling from Charlestown to Chinatown and Hyde Park, West Roxbury, East Boston, and all the city's neighborhoods, the van provides screening mammograms and breast health education to women, prioritizing care to low-income, elderly, immigrant, and non-English-speaking residents.

Dana-Farber also partners with several community hospitals in the region including St. Elizabeth's in Brighton. Through this unique model, patients are able to receive some of their care at their local community hospital — making care more accessible, culturally-competent and personalized. This new cancer center will allow them to continue these important programs for patients in our communities.

Furthermore, the new hospital will advance access to cancer care and help close health equity gaps in the communities that need it most. It will strengthen Dana-Farber's ability to design programs that remove barriers to treatment and assure that all patients have access to clinical trials and high-quality cancer care. That includes initiatives like Dana-Farber's Patient Navigator program, which ensures patients have the support they need by meeting them upon their arrival and accompanying them from screening to registration to appointments. This initiative has made it possible for some of the most vulnerable members of our community to access world-class oncology care, with a special focus on Boston communities such as Dorchester, Roxbury, Mattapan, and Jamaica Plain.

With a new cancer-only hospital, Dana-Farber will be better positioned to provide more access to care in the most cost-effective way possible. The clinical collaboration between Dana-Farber and BIDMC means that patients receive care from world-class, integrated, cross-disciplinary teams without the costly duplication of care and services. Today, BIDMC provides high quality care at 23% lower cost than other large hospitals in Boston and Dana-Farber's acuity-adjusted average commercial prices for inpatient care are substantially below other providers.

A new cancer hospital will also help reduce utilization of emergency rooms, which are already at capacity and are a costly and ineffective way to approach cancer care. In a two-year pilot program, Dana-Farber's acute care outpatient clinic resulted in a 20 percent reduction in hospital admissions through the emergency room.

Boston is home to many world-renowned health care institutions. Dana-Farber Cancer Institute has always been at the forefront of cancer care and research. This new standalone, inpatient hospital will help them — and the City of Boston — remain at the cutting edge of cancer care and research and ensure the people of Boston have access to world-leading care when they need it most.

Thank you,



Chynah Tyler
State Representative
7th Suffolk District



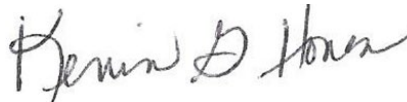
David Biele State Representative
4th Suffolk District



Rob Consalvo
State Representative
4th Suffolk District



Brandy Fluker Oakley
State Representative
12th Suffolk District



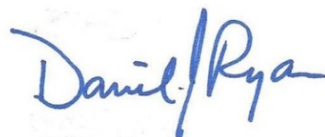
Kevin Honan
State Representative
17th Suffolk District



Jay D. Livingstone
State Representative
8th Suffolk District



William MacGregor
State Representative
10th Suffolk District



Daniel Ryan
State Representative
2nd Suffolk District



Christopher J. Worrell
State Representative
5th Suffolk District

From: [REDACTED]
To: [DPH-DL - DoN Program](#)
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Letter of support for Dana Farber's proposed new cancer hospital
Date: Wednesday, April 24, 2024 2:43:01 PM

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Dennis Renaud
Director, Determination of Need Program
Massachusetts Department of Public Health
67 Forest Street,
Marlborough, MA 01752

Dear Director Renaud:

My name is Beth Hanlon and I am a resident of Milton, Massachusetts. I am writing to express my support of Dana-Farber Cancer Institute's proposed cancer hospital and their new clinical collaboration with Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center.

A new stand-alone cancer inpatient hospital would improve the patient experience, expand access, and could provide more cost-effective care—ensuring better care for our community, now and for generations to come.

Having had many close friends, relatives and co-workers receive their cancer care at Dana Farber I have come to understand that Dana-Farber really changes the course of treatment, extends and saves their lives and truly makes the burden of cancer lighter for every patient that walks through their doors. My aunt came to Dana Farber after being given a diagnosis with a 6-12 month survival. Working with her Dana Farber care team and participating in clinical trials at Dana Farber, she survived and thrived for 7 more years and was able to see 2 of her children get married. I believe that having a dedicated cancer hospital will bring that world-class, personal care that my aunt and many others whom I love received to more people in Massachusetts. With this new hospital, Dana-Farber will work to ensure that cancer patients are seen quickly and provided with the specialized patient centered cancer care that all patients deserve.

Almost everyone in Massachusetts has a story about a loved one who received outstanding care at Dana-Farber. It is the only institution in the region focused exclusively on cancer, and the only one balancing research and patient care equally. Now, as cancer incidence rises at an alarming rate, it's imperative that the State meets the need for more inpatient beds for cancer patients.

We know that we need more inpatient beds because of the many stories from people who have had to wait in the ER because no inpatient beds were available—a situation that can be alleviated by this proposed new hospital. Further, both Dana-Farber and BIDMC share a deep commitment to fostering a culture of diversity, equity and inclusion and dismantling barriers to care.

All cancer patients deserve to be treated by doctors and nurses whose singular focus is cancer. Please support Dana-Farber's proposed new inpatient cancer hospital and ensure that the best care in the world will be available in our region.

Beth Hanlon

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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From: [REDACTED]
To: [DPH-DL - DoN Program](#)
Subject: Support of Dana-Farber Cancer Institute new inpatient hospital
Date: Wednesday, April 24, 2024 6:39:39 PM

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April 24, 2024

Dennis Renaud
Director, Determination of Need Program
Massachusetts Department of Public Health
67 Forest Street,
Marlborough, MA 01752

Dear Director Renaud:

My name is Naomi Lenane, and I am a resident of Raynham, Massachusetts. I am writing to express my support of Dana-Farber Cancer Institute's proposed cancer hospital and their new clinical collaboration with Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center.

A new stand-alone cancer inpatient hospital would improve the patient experience, expand access, and could provide more cost-effective care—ensuring better care for our community, now and for generations to come. My father passed away from cancer in 1984 at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute. I am a sponsored employee of Dana-Farber. I came here almost 22 years ago because I had witnessed compassionate care and advanced research firsthand.

Dana-Farber has a reputation for providing excellent care to people with cancer in Massachusetts. Many people have a personal connection to someone who was treated there. It is the only place in the area that focuses solely on cancer, and that balances research and patient care equally. Now, with the alarming increase in cancer cases, we need more hospital beds for cancer patients in the State.

We can see the need for more hospital beds from the stories of people who had to wait in the ER because there were no available beds—a problem that this new hospital can solve. Also, both Dana-Farber and BIDMC are committed to creating a culture of diversity, equity and inclusion and removing obstacles to care.

All cancer patients deserve to be treated by doctors and nurses whose singular focus is cancer. Please support Dana-Farber's proposed new inpatient cancer hospital and ensure that the best care in the world will be available in our region.

Naomi Lenane
Chief Information Officer, Dana-Farber Cancer Institute
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

25 April 2024

Dennis Renaud
Director, Determination of Need Program
Massachusetts Department of Public Health
67 Forest Street, Marlborough, MA 01752

Dear Director Renaud:

My name is Russ Russell and I am a resident of Brookline, Massachusetts. I am writing to express my support of Dana-Farber Cancer Institute's proposed cancer hospital and their new clinical collaboration with Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center.

A new stand-alone cancer inpatient hospital would improve the patient experience, expand access, and could provide more cost-effective care—ensuring better care for our community, now and for generations to come.

I have been an employee of Dana-Farber since 1990, and while I've been fortunate not to have had the need for cancer care for myself or my family, I would not hesitate to recommend Dana-Farber to anyone who needs evaluation or treatment for cancer.

Almost everyone in Massachusetts has a story about a loved one who received outstanding care at Dana-Farber. It is the only institution in the region focused exclusively on cancer, and the only one balancing research and patient care equally. Now, as cancer incidence rises at an alarming rate, it's imperative that the State meets the need for more inpatient beds for cancer patients.

We know that we need more inpatient beds because of the many stories from people who have had to wait in the ER because no inpatient beds were available—a situation that can be alleviated by this proposed new hospital. Further, both Dana-Farber and BIDMC share a deep commitment to fostering a culture of diversity, equity and inclusion and dismantling barriers to care.

All cancer patients deserve to be treated by doctors and nurses whose singular focus is cancer. Please support Dana-Farber's proposed new inpatient cancer hospital and assure that the best care in the world will be available in our region.

Russ Russell



April 25, 2024

Dennis Renaud
Director, Determination of Need Program
Massachusetts Department of Public Health
67 Forest Street, Marlborough, MA 01752

Dear Director Renaud:

My name is Karen Byers and I am a resident of Newton, Massachusetts. I am writing to express my support of Dana-Farber Cancer Institute's proposed cancer hospital and their new clinical collaboration with Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center.

A new stand-alone cancer inpatient hospital would improve the patient experience, expand access, and could provide more cost-effective care—ensuring better care for our community, now and for generations to come.

I have served as the Biosafety Officer for Dana Farber since 1989; recently, my title transitioned to Director of Biosafety. There is an intense commitment to patient care and cutting-edge research that I observe daily. I wish Dana Farber Care had been available for my father, who died of lung cancer, and take great comfort in the fact that the Farber's focused care will be available for my children and grandchildren. I was at a conference yesterday, and a friend came up and said they had experienced Dana-Farber's clinical care. His adult daughter unexpectedly had a seizure on the subway, and, once a brain tumor was diagnosed, he insisted she be transferred here. He is enormously grateful for the care she and his family received during a very trying time, and for the news that the large tumor was not cancer. He is a scientist- he would not have believed the answer if it did not come from a neurooncology team here.

Almost everyone in Massachusetts has a story about a loved one who received outstanding care at Dana-Farber. It is the only institution in the region focused exclusively on cancer, and the only one balancing research and patient care equally. Now, as cancer incidence rises at an alarming rate, it's imperative that the State meets the need for more inpatient beds for cancer patients.

We know that we need more inpatient beds because of the many stories from people who have had to wait in the ER because no inpatient beds were available—a situation that can be alleviated by this proposed new hospital. Further, both Dana-Farber and BIDMC share a deep commitment to fostering a culture of diversity, equity and inclusion and dismantling barriers to care.

All cancer patients deserve to be treated by doctors and nurses whose singular focus is cancer. Please support Dana-Farber's proposed new inpatient cancer hospital and assure that the best care in the world will be available in our region.

Karen B Byers, MS, RBP, CBSP
Director of Biosafety

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
To: [DPH-DL - DoN Program](#)
Subject: Support for DFCI hospital
Date: Thursday, April 25, 2024 12:57:52 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)

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April 25, 2024

Dennis Renaud
Director, Determination of Need Program
Massachusetts Department of Public Health
67 Forest Street, Marlborough, MA 01752

Dear Director Renaud:

My name is Margaret Powers and I am a resident of Needham, Massachusetts. I am writing to express my support of Dana-Farber Cancer Institute's proposed cancer hospital and their new clinical collaboration with Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center.

A new stand-alone cancer inpatient hospital would improve the patient experience, expand access, and could provide more cost-effective care—ensuring better care for our community, now and for generations to come.

I have worked at Dana Farber for almost 16 years and while we offer outstanding care, I have seen first hand the limitations we have regarding inpatient availability at BWH. Beds are tight and treatment can sometimes be delayed due to the restrictions around getting patients admitted in a timely manner. A new hospital would open up opportunities for patients to receive the care they need at the time they need it!

Almost everyone in Massachusetts has a story about a loved one who received outstanding care at Dana-Farber. It is the only institution in the region focused exclusively on cancer, and the only one balancing research and patient care equally. Now, as cancer incidence rises at an alarming rate, it's imperative that the State meets the need for more inpatient beds for cancer patients.

We know that we need more inpatient beds because of the many stories from people who have had to wait in the ER because no inpatient beds were available—a situation that can be alleviated by this proposed new hospital. Further, both Dana-Farber and BIDMC share a deep commitment to fostering a culture of diversity, equity and inclusion and dismantling barriers to care.

All cancer patients deserve to be treated by doctors and nurses whose singular focus is cancer. Please support Dana-Farber's proposed new inpatient cancer hospital and assure that the best care in the world will be available in our region.

Margaret T. Powers, Manager of Stem Cell Donor Services



Peggy Powers

Manager, Donor Collection Program

Division of Stem Cell and Transplantation Therapies

Dana-Farber Cancer Institute

National Marrow Donor Program/Be The Match

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General Donor Information: [866.875.3324](tel:866.875.3324) | nmdpdonor@dfci.harvard.edu | www.dana-farber.org/nmdp



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