

Hi, my name is Dr. Sankha Basu, I go by Bobby, and my wife and I moved to one of the abutting properties on Joyce Road this past September. I'd like to first echo the overall sentiments of the local residents, particularly the lack of transparency.

As a health care provider myself, I'm well aware of the changing medical landscape and understand the financial pressures in health care. However, hospitals are anchor institutions and, consequently, have an obligation to the communities in which they reside.

So, let's think about the positives and negatives for our community:

The negatives: it will increase traffic, increase noise, decrease available parking, which will shift cars onto our streets or necessitate additional parking structures, lower property values, impact safety, create an eyesore, and change the overall complexion of an otherwise suburban residential neighborhood. Furthermore, this appears to be part of a larger process of shuttering inpatient care and eventually emergency services.

And the positives? We will get a surgi-center, which most of us will never use.

Yes, **your** surgeons will get a brand new operating suite right off 93. **Wellforce** will gain a substantial revenue center. **Surrounding communities** will benefit as well. But what about us, what about Medford? Where will we go for care in the middle of the night? If the ER shuts down, can you at least promise a 24-hour urgent care center? How much tax revenue will this bring to Medford? Will we get compensated in any way for the negative impact on property value? Are you going to hire Medford residents to staff the center? Will you help our schools? Our police? We hope you have something more for us than an ambulatory surgical center.

On a personal note, we battled through the Boston real estate market and were ecstatic to land in Medford, a proud and historic community. A proud community that reminds me of my home town; and a proud community, which as we saw last week, will not be pushed around or be taken advantage of. Therefore, while we're happy and willing to work with the hospital, the mayor and the city council to find a solution which takes into consideration the local residents, if we continue to be ignored, we will use any avenues necessary to fight. This includes legal strategies, such as proposing building restrictions or zoning changes, political action, holding our mayor and council members accountable, media involvement by the Globe and Herald, and if needed, a publicized boycott of Wellforce and Tufts. Ultimately, I hope it doesn't get to that and that we can work together amicably.

Thank you for your time.