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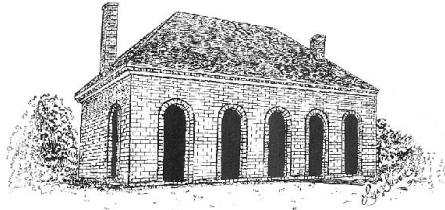
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December 29, 2022

Colin M. Greene, MD, MPH  
State Health Commissioner  
Virginia Department of Health  
109 Governor Street, 13<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Richmond, VA 23219

Re: COPN Request No. VA-8687  
Henrico Doctors' Hospital, Establish Ashland Hospital

Dear Dr. Greene:

Hanover County has been made aware of interest from Henrico Doctors' Hospital to establish an Ashland Hospital. Timely access to health care services for our residents is a priority for our Board of Supervisors. We respect the COPN process and the role of the Virginia Department of Health in that consideration. The COPN process is independent of the local land use determination decided by the Hanover Board of Supervisors. We do understand that Henrico Doctors' Hospital has submitted their application and time frames for both your consideration and the local land use/zoning processes will run concurrently. On behalf of the Hanover Board of Supervisors, we respectfully request you approve Henrico Doctors' Hospital COPN application to establish Ashland Hospital.

It would be the goal of Hanover County to work with Henrico Doctors' Hospital and our citizens on this project through a significant local public input process as part of a comprehensive rezoning. This will include, but not be limited to, evaluations on traffic impacts, access reviews and mitigation strategies as identified, any known environmental impacts, and other raised concerns. The location for Ashland Hospital is just off Exit 86 on Interstate 95, making it highly accessible for residents and for travelers passing through Hanover County as well.

In an emergency, when time is truly of the essence, the difference between transporting a patient to Ashland Hospital versus continuing on to other Henrico Doctors' Hospital campuses or facilities further from this location could determine whether a patient survives to see their family again. Ambulances from Hanover County must currently travel via Interstate 95 and State Routes 1 and 301 to reach Richmond-area hospitals. This transport often occurs during periods of high traffic congestion, further delaying critical medical treatment. In addition to improving the accessibility of critical emergency care, Ashland Hospital will afford existing patients of Henrico Doctors' Hospital comprehensive, high-quality medical care in a location that is much closer to where those patients live and work every day.

Colin M. Greene, MD, MPH  
State Health Commissioner  
Virginia Department of Health  
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Hanover County is a vibrant community, with over 110,000 residents and over 5,000 businesses, and it is imperative that the County's healthcare infrastructure grow to continue meeting community demand for high-quality healthcare services. Establishing an Ashland Hospital will enhance the existing options for our residents and will improve care and access for the many Hanover County residents who currently choose Henrico Doctors' Hospital.

On behalf of the residents of Hanover County, and our many guests traveling to or through the County, we thank you for your consideration of Henrico Doctors' Hospital's COPN application to establish an Ashland Hospital.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Angela Kelly-Wiecek". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'A' and a stylized 'W'.

Angela Kelly-Wiecek  
Chair, Hanover County Board of Supervisors