

ROY COOPER • Governor

KODY H. KINSLEY • Secretary

MARK PAYNE • Director, Division of Health Service Regulation

#### VIA EMAIL ONLY

November 4, 2022

Howard Whitfield Howard.whitfield@unchealth.unc.edu

**Exempt from Review** 

**Record #:** 4054

Date of Request: October 6, 2022

Facility Name: Wayne UNC Health Care

FID #: 933535

Business Name: Wayne UNC Heath Care

Business #: 2734

Project Description: Renovate emergency room and 7th floor of hospital

County: Wayne

Dear Mr. Whitfield:

The Healthcare Planning and Certificate of Need Section, Division of Health Service Regulation (Agency), determined that the above referenced proposal is exempt from certificate of need review in accordance with G.S. 131E-184(g). Therefore, you may proceed to offer, develop or establish the above referenced project without a certificate of need.

It should be noted that this determination is binding only for the facts represented by you. Consequently, if changes are made in the project or in the facts provided in your correspondence referenced above, a new determination as to whether a certificate of need is required would need to be made by the Agency. Changes in a project include but are not limited to: (1) increases in the capital cost; (2) acquisition of medical equipment not included in the original cost estimate; (3) modifications in the design of the project; (4) change in location; and (5) any increase in the number of square feet to be constructed.

If you have any questions concerning this matter, please feel free to contact this office.

Sincerely,

Gregory F. Yakaboski, Project Analyst

Micheala Mitchell

Micheala Mitchell, Chief

cc: Construction Section, DHSR

Acute and Home Care Licensure and Certification Section, DHSR

NC DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES • DIVISION OF HEALTH SERVICE REGULATION
HEALTHCARE PLANNING AND CERTIFICATE OF NEED SECTION

LOCATION: 809 Ruggles Drive, Edgerton Building, Raleigh, NC 27603

MAILING ADDRESS: 809 Ruggles Drive, 2704 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-2704

https://info.ncdhhs.gov/dhsr/ • TEL: 919-855-3873



October 3, 2022

Mr. Greg Yakaboski Healthcare Planning and Certificate of Need Section Division of Health Service Regulation 809 Ruggles Drive Raleigh, NC 27603

RE: Request for Exemption from Review to Renovate Existing Hospital

Dear Mr. Yakaboski:

UNC Health Wayne is planning a project to renovate the emergency department and the 7<sup>th</sup> floor of the hospital. UNC Health Wayne is submitting this exemption notice pursuant to N.C.G.S. 131E-184(g) and requesting the Agency confirm that the project is exempt from certificate of need review.

Under the provisions found at N.C.G.S. 131E-184(g), the CON law provides:

- (g) The Department shall exempt from certificate of need review any capital expenditure that exceeds the two million dollar (\$2,000,000) threshold set forth in G.S. 131E-176(16)b. if all of the following conditions are met:
  - (1) The sole purpose of the capital expenditure is to renovate, replace on the same site, or expand the entirety or a portion of an existing health service facility that is located on the main campus.
  - (2) The capital expenditure does not result in (i) a change in bed capacity as defined in G.S. 131E-176(5) or (ii) the addition of a health service facility or any new institutional health service other than that allowed in G.S. 131E-176(16)b.
  - (3) The licensed health service facility proposing to incur the capital expenditure shall provide prior written notice to the Department, along with supporting documentation to demonstrate that it meets the exemption criteria of this subsection.

As set forth below, we believe that UNC Health Wayne's project meets these requirements and is exempt from certificate of need review.

### The Sole Purpose

The proposed project includes renovation of the existing emergency department to create additional space in a secured unit to accommodate behavioral health patients. Currently, UNC Health Wayne operates a secure unit with 3 emergency department rooms and plans to expand the unit to add 12 rooms to accommodate the needs of behavioral health patients who present to the emergency department, which also will improve throughput for other emergency patients.



In addition, UNC Health Wayne plans to renovate the 7<sup>th</sup> floor of the hospital to create a 24-bed nursing unit with monitoring capabilities and respiratory accommodations via anterooms. During the COVID-19 pandemic, UNC Health Wayne consolidated its other nursing units to other floors of the hospital and utilized the 7<sup>th</sup> floor exclusively for COVID patients. Now, UNC Health Wayne intends to create a unit that will provide future flexibility in addressing patient needs for serious respiratory or other illnesses that may require monitoring or negative pressure/ante-room conditions.

The capital expenditure for the renovations is expected to total approximately \$18.4 million. Both the emergency department and 7<sup>th</sup> floor renovation will occur in UNC Health Wayne's main hospital building located at 2700 Wayne Memorial Drive, Goldsboro, NC 27534. (*See* attached line drawings.) The renovation will take place on the main campus as defined by N.C.G.S. 131E-176(14n). Specifically, the renovation will occur at the site of the main building from which the licensed health service facility UNC Health Wayne provides clinical patient services and exercises financial and administrative control over the entire facility.

As evident, the sole purpose of the project is to renovate and expand a portion of an existing health service facility on the main campus.

### The Capital Expenditure Results

The proposed project will not result in a change in bed capacity as defined in N.C.G.S. 131E-176(5) nor the addition of a new institutional health service other than exceeding the capital expenditure threshold cited in N.C.G.S. 131E-176(16)b. UNC Health Wayne does not intend to change the number of licensed acute care beds as a result of this project. Aside from the capital expenditure, UNC Health Wayne does not propose to develop a new institutional health service, as the project involves the renovation and expansion of existing services. UNC Health Wayne does not propose a change in bed capacity, the addition of a new health service facility, or the acquisition of any major medical equipment.

This letter serves as prior written notice of the project, as required by N.C.G.S. 131E-184(g)(3).

itale, oT/L, MHA

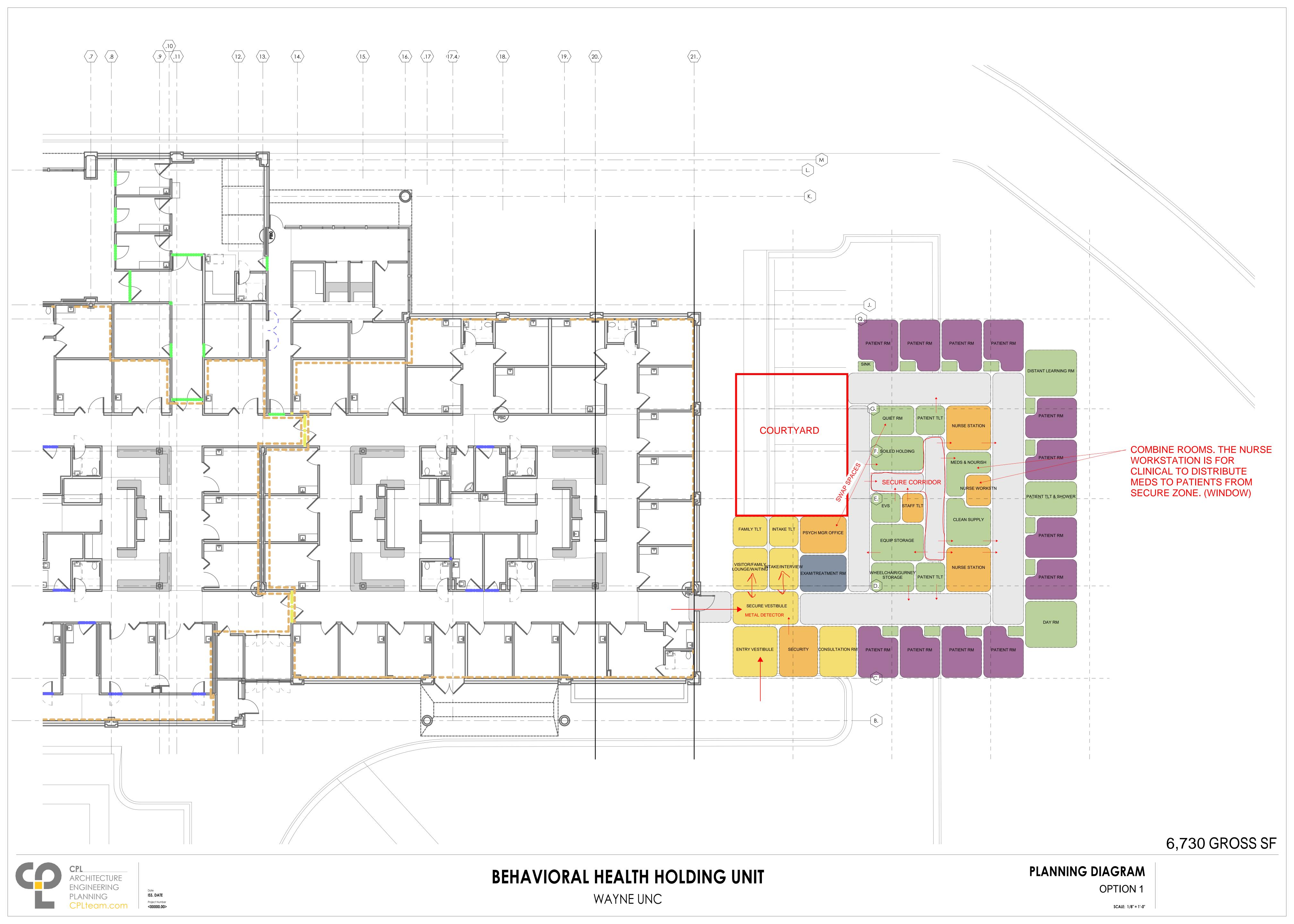
The hospital's Board of Directors has approved the proposed project for development, and UNC Health Wayne intends to initiate site preparation and construction by December 2022. Based on the above facts, we believe the proposed project is exempt from Certificate of Need review. We would appreciate timely confirmation accordingly from the Agency. Please let me know if you have any questions.

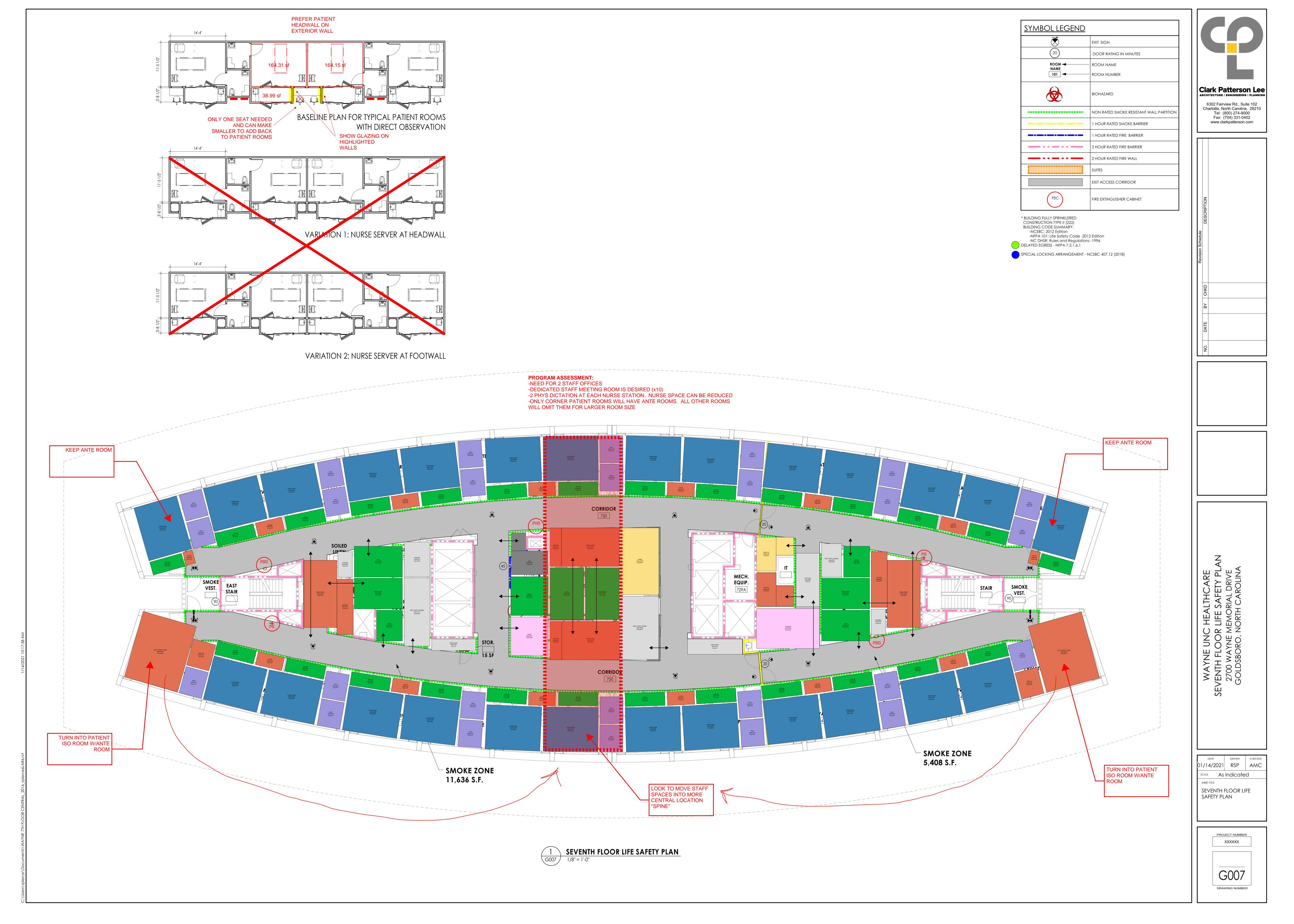
Sincerely,

Howard Whitfield, OT/L, MHA

Vice President, Clinical Operations

**UNC Health Wayne** 





From: Waller, Martha K
To: Stancil, Tiffany C

**Subject:** FW: [External] Exemption Notification for Wayne

**Date:** Thursday, October 6, 2022 4:13:17 PM

**Attachments:** ED and 7th Floor Exemption Letters w Attachments 10.03.22.pdf

image001.png

#2 for you !!!!!

# Martha Waller

Administrative Specialist 1

Division of Health Service Regulation, Certificate of Need Section North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services

Main: 919-855-3873 Office: 919-855-3885

martha.waller@dhhs.nc.gov

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From: Yakaboski, Greg <greg.yakaboski@dhhs.nc.gov>

Sent: Thursday, October 6, 2022 4:12 PM

**To:** Waller, Martha K <martha.waller@dhhs.nc.gov>

Subject: FW: [External] Exemption Notification for Wayne

Hey Martha,

Just received this Exemption Request.

Thanks,

Greg

## Sincerely,

# Gregory F. Yakaboski

### Gregory F. Yakaboski

**Project Analyst** 

<u>Division of Health Service Regulation, Certificate of Need NC Department of Health and Human Services</u>

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Office: 919-855-3873

Greg.Yakaboski@dhhs.nc.gov

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**From:** Dawn Carter < <u>DawnCarter@ascendient.com</u>>

Sent: Thursday, October 6, 2022 3:19 PM

**To:** Yakaboski, Greg <<u>greg.yakaboski@dhhs.nc.gov</u>>

**Cc:** Whitfield, Howard < Howard. Whitfield@unchealth.unc.edu>

Subject: [External] Exemption Notification for Wayne

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Greg,

On behalf of Wayne UNC Health Care, I am submitting this exemption notice regarding a planned renovation of the hospital's ED and 7<sup>th</sup> floor inpatient unit. Please let me know if you have any questions about this documentation. We look forward to your response.

Thanks much!

Dawn Carter | SENIOR PARTNER

dawncarter@ascendient.com | 919.226.1701 | LinkedIn | www.ascendient.com



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