



August 21, 2009

Ms. Victoria McClanahan,
Division of Health Service Regulation
701 Barbour Drive
Raleigh, NC 27603

DFS Health PLANNING
RECEIVED

AUG 25 2009

MEDICAL FACILITIES
PLANNING SECTION

Dear Ms. McClanahan,

I am writing to you to express my enthusiastic support for the petition submitted by the Town of Holly Springs to amend the 2010 State Medical Facilities Plan to recognize a need for 42 new acute beds in Wake County. In particular, the southern part of Wake County, including Holly Springs and Fuquay-Varina, which has little local access to real healthcare services beyond a few physician offices, pharmacies, and an urgent care center. Today, the substantial and growing populations of residents in these communities must leave southern Wake County to access health services such as an emergency department, surgical services, and hospital beds for inpatients. In my opinion, there is a mal-distribution of hospital beds in Wake County, with a conspicuous absence of hospital beds in the southern end of Wake County.

As described in the Town of Holly Springs' petition, the time is ripe for such services to be offered locally in the Holly Springs area because:

- o the population base continues to grow as does the commercial development
- o Novartis, the large pharmaceutical company based in Holly Springs has already announced plans for a second round of expansion of its manufacturing facility,
- o the freeway extension connecting RTP/northern Wake County to Holly Springs has been funded and is expected to be complete in late 2012, which makes Holly Springs an even more attractive place to live and work
- o Holly Springs has been consistently identified by several magazines as a desirable place to live and work, and yet it remains a city without access to local hospital services

I would submit to you to do whatever is within your power to create the opportunity for Holly Springs to work with a partner healthcare organization to have the opportunity to create a local community hospital in Holly Springs. Without Novant Health's commitment to build a hospital in Holly Springs, our region is potentially missing out on 200 plus jobs, millions of dollars in revenue and a full service acute care hospital that would provide 24 hour emergency medical care to our community and region that otherwise is without health care service.

I would encourage you to review the Town of Holly Springs petition that proposes a realistic growth rate for the fast growing South West area of Wake County. Thank you for your consideration

Sincerely,

Chris Scoop Green
Executive Director, Holly Springs Chamber of Commerce
344 Raleigh Street
Holly Springs, NC 27540

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Wake County Hospital Locations Licensed/Approved Acute Care Bed Capacity

