



NC DEPARTMENT OF  
**HEALTH AND  
HUMAN SERVICES**

ROY COOPER • Governor

MANDY COHEN, MD, MPH • Secretary

MARK PAYNE • Director, Division of Health Service Regulation

June 7, 2019

Catharine W. Cumber  
3100 Tower Blvd. Suite 1300  
Durham, NC 27707

**Exempt from Review**

**Record #:** 2963  
**Facility Name:** Duke University Hospital  
**FID #:** 943138  
**Business Name:** Duke University Health System, Inc.  
**Business #:** 640  
**Project Description:** Elevator Upgrade  
**County:** Durham

Dear Ms. Cumber:

The Healthcare Planning and Certificate of Need Section, Division of Health Service Regulation (Agency), determined that based on your letter of June 3, 2019, the above referenced proposal is exempt from certificate of need review in accordance with N.C. Gen. Stat. §131E-184(a)(4). Therefore, you may proceed to offer, develop or establish the above referenced project without a certificate of need.

However, you need to contact the Agency's Construction and Acute and Home Care Licensure and Certification Sections to determine if they have any requirements for development of the proposed project.

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,

Bernetta Thorne-Williams  
Project Analyst

Martha J. Frisone  
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  
www.ncdhs.gov/dhsr • TEL: 919-855-3873

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY / AFFIRMATIVE ACTION EMPLOYER



**Catharine W. Cummer**  
Regulatory Counsel, Strategic Planning



June 3, 2019

Via Electronic Mail

Ms. Martha Frisone  
Ms. Bernetta Thorne-Williams  
Healthcare Planning and Certificate of Need Section  
Division of Health Service Regulation  
2704 Mail Service Center  
Raleigh, NC 27699-2704

Re: Elevator Upgrade Project at Duke University Hospital

Dear Ms. Frisone and Ms. Thorne-Williams:

On behalf of the Duke University Health System, I am writing to notify you of a project to be undertaken at Duke University Hospital in Durham ("DUH") and to request the Section's written confirmation that this project is exempt from certificate of need review.

Duke is planning to spend more than \$2 million to upgrade the mechanical, electrical, and fire protection systems on all 11 floors of the Ancillary Building "Elevator Core" that connects the 100, 200, and 300 towers of the main hospital facility. This area is the major vertical access route for patients and visitors into the Anlyan Tower and upper levels of the Ancillary Building. The work will also include new ceilings, lighting, and upgraded wall finishes. Because the Elevator Core was built in 1979, other systems are also at end of life. This project will:

- Replace the existing HVAC distribution systems needed to maintain pressurization and smoke control requirements;
- Upgrade the existing HVAC pneumatic controls to electronic controls;
- Replace plaster ceilings with an acoustical tile ceiling to improve access for maintaining equipment located in interstitial space;
- Upgrade the lighting and sprinkler systems while the ceilings are removed; and
- Repaint walls and refinish wood paneling.

Completing the above-the-ceiling and below-the-ceiling work as a single project will be less disruptive to patients, staff, and visitors than undertaking them as separate projects requiring multiple shutdowns.

Ms. Martha Frisone  
Ms. Bernetta Thorne-Williams  
June 3, 2019

It is our understanding that this project is exempt from certificate of need review pursuant to Section 131E-184(4), as it is needed “[t]o provide parking, heating or cooling systems, elevators, or other basic plant or mechanical improvements, unless these activities are integral portions of a project that involves the construction of a new health service facility or portion therefor and that is subject to certificate of need review.”

We would appreciate your review of this notice and confirmation of our understanding. Please let me know if you have any questions or if we can provide you any further information.

Very truly yours,

*Catharine W. Cummer*

Catharine W. Cummer

*Effective January 10, 2019, this license is issued to*  
***Duke University Health System, Inc.***

*to operate a hospital known as*  
***Duke University Hospital***  
*located in Durham, North Carolina, Durham County.*

*This license is issued subject to the statutes of the*  
*State of North Carolina, is not transferable and shall remain*  
*in effect until amended by the issuing agency.*

*Facility ID: 943138*

***License Number: H0015***

***Bed Capacity: 979***

*General Acute 960, Psych 19,*

**Dedicated Inpatient Surgical Operating Rooms: 6**

**Dedicated Ambulatory Surgical Operating Rooms: 9**

**Shared Surgical Operating Rooms: 50**

**Dedicated Endoscopy Rooms: 11**