



Matt Gilman, MPPA
Oregon Health Authority
Health Care Regulation &
Quality Improvement
800 NE Oregon Street, Suite
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Portland, OR 97232
Via email:
Matt.S.GILMAN@oha.oregon.gov
RE: CN#699, PeaceHealth
Riverbend, new acute rehabilitation
hospital

July 23, 2023

Dear Mr. Gilman:

As a Pulmonologist/Internal Medicine/Critical Care Medicine physician, I spend much of my clinical time in the ICU providing care to a high percentage of patients that will need post-acute care, including acute rehabilitation. I have been in the Eugene Springfield area for two decades. For those that meet eligibility criteria, acute rehabilitation provides the greatest opportunity to optimize functional recovery and achieve the greatest degree of independence possible. The current PeaceHealth Oregon Rehabilitation Center is dated and undersized. Its spaces provide little privacy, and most importantly, because of space limitations, it is unable to accommodate the newest equipment and therapies.

The proposed new freestanding inpatient rehabilitation facility proposed for Springfield will greatly benefit the residents of Lane and adjoining Counties. It would allow patients to receive high quality rehabilitation close to their families and allow local clinicians to provide continuity of care. The evidence is clear regarding the benefit of high intensity rehabilitation for select patients and select conditions. The OHA should approve the replacement of the current ORC with a new, larger state of art IRF hospital, that also has the capability to provide a designated area in which to care for brain and spinal cord injury patients.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit this letter and share my strongest support for the new hospital proposal.

Sincerely,

Karthik Mahadevan, MD

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