

Regular Meeting

Agenda Item #	3
Meeting Date	January 26, 2015
Prepared By	Suzanne Ludlow Deputy City Manager
Approved By	Brian T. Kenner City Manager

Discussion Item	Resolution Regarding Relocation of Washington Adventist Hospital
Background	<p>A public hearing was held on January 20 regarding the proposed move of Washington Adventist Hospital (WAH) to the White Oak area of Montgomery County and the comments the Takoma Park City Council should make to the Maryland Health Care Commission (MHCC) on the proposal.</p> <p>The Hospital's Certificate of Need application for the approval to move was submitted on September 29, 2014 and was docketed on January 9, 2015. The City has 30 days from the date of docketing in which to make comments.</p>
Policy	The Council is interested in matters affecting the health and wellbeing of the Takoma Park community and of the economic health of Takoma Park.
Fiscal Impact	N/A
Attachments	<p>Draft resolution. Information on the Certificate of Need application is available online at:</p> <p>http://www.takomaparkmd.gov/hcd/wah-relocation-application.</p>
Recommendation	Approve resolution.
Special Consideration	

DRAFT

**CITY OF TAKOMA PARK,
MARYLAND RESOLUTION _____**

**RESOLUTION COMMENTING ON THE CERTIFICATE OF NEED
APPLICATION FILED BY ADVENTIST HEALTHCARE TO RELOCATE
THE WASHINGTON ADVENTIST HOSPITAL ACUTE CARE LICENSE
AND CERTAIN SERVICES TO WHITE OAK IN PROCEEDINGS BEFORE THE
MARYLAND HEALTH CARE COMMISSION, DOCKET NO. _____**

WHEREAS, Washington Adventist Hospital has been an important and valued part of the Takoma Park community for 107 years; and

WHEREAS, Adventist HealthCare is seeking to relocate the acute care hospital license and all related acute care hospital services of Washington Adventist Hospital ("WAH") from Takoma Park to a new campus in the White Oak area of Montgomery County, Maryland; and,

WHEREAS, WAH is the only acute care hospital located in the City of Takoma Park and provides acute, emergency and primary health care to many Takoma Park residents; and,

WHEREAS, the City wishes to ensure that Takoma Park residents continue to have convenient access to quality health care, particularly urgent or emergency medical care and routine health care services; and,

WHEREAS, the City is concerned about health care access for its residents and loss of the hospital will mean loss of access; and,

WHEREAS, the City wishes to ensure that it retains an economically viable health care delivery system for the benefit of residents of Takoma Park; and,

WHEREAS, Adventist HealthCare must obtain a Certificate of Need (CON) from the Maryland Health Care Commission ("Commission") before it can relocate the hospital; and,

WHEREAS, Section 19-103 of the Health-General Article of the *Maryland Code* requires the Commission to promote financial and geographic access to quality health care services at a reasonable cost for all Marylanders; and,

WHEREAS, Section (04)(B)(4)(b) of the State Health Plan for Facilities and Services: Acute Care Hospital Services ("Maryland State Health Plan") requires that if a proposed capital project reduces the potential availability or accessibility of a facility or service by eliminating, downsizing or otherwise modifying a facility or service, the applicant shall document that each proposed change will not inappropriately diminish, for the population in the primary service area, the availability or accessibility to care including access for the indigent and/or uninsured; and,

WHEREAS, WAH facilities occupy a significant amount of land in a critical location in Takoma Park, and maintenance of that land in accordance with City regulations is important to the economic viability of the City; and

WHEREAS, the Maryland State Health Plan, requires that health care facilities be developed with consideration of green building standards; and,

WHEREAS, the City wishes to be assured that the health care facilities that WAH proposes to remain on the Takoma Park campus will be of high quality in both medical care and physical appearance and will be able to be sustained fiscally for decades to come; and,

WHEREAS, the Commission has the authority to impose conditions upon Adventist HealthCare, including conditions relating to health care services on the Takoma Park campus, in connection with the granting of a CON; and,

WHEREAS, the economic viability and health care services of the proposed White Oak facility and the Takoma Park campus will be inextricably intertwined; and,

WHEREAS, the City of Takoma Park accepts the financial and site specific limitations proposed by Adventist HealthCare as the basis for why WAH must move its acute care hospital to ensure the hospital's long term viability; and

WHEREAS, the City of Takoma Park is willing to conditionally support the proposed relocation; and

WHEREAS, the City of Takoma Park has questions and technical comments that may be submitted to the Maryland Health Care Commission and/or Washington Adventist Hospital, as appropriate, to help gather information to assure the City Council and the Takoma Park community that the WAH proposal, as included in the CON application, will protect the medical and fiscal health of the Takoma Park community.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TAKOMA PARK, MARYLAND that, when considering the award of a Certificate of Need to Washington Adventist Hospital, Inc., the Maryland Health Care Commission is urged to affirm that the Certificate of Need application demonstrates that adequate resources are available and designated for use to:

- a. ensure that the availability of and accessibility to 24 hour/7 days per week urgent and/or emergency health care is not impaired for the residents of Takoma Park; and
- b. ensure that the availability of and accessibility to the primary health care services currently offered by Washington Adventist Hospital in Takoma Park is not impaired for the residents of Takoma Park; and
- c. maintain the Takoma Park campus as an attractive property meeting local and State codes, including those for property maintenance, stormwater control

and tree protection.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City of Takoma Park requests to be recognized as a Participating Entity by the Maryland Health Care Commission in this Certificate of Need application process.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City of Takoma Park requests that Adventist HealthCare undertake, in consultation with the City, a study, regarding the feasibility and establishment of a Freestanding Medical Facility on the Takoma Park campus, and furthermore if this study concludes a Freestanding Medical Facility is feasible then to diligently pursue a Freestanding Medical Facility when regulations are formalized.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City of Takoma Park requests that Adventist HealthCare work cooperatively during the CON process with the City to memorialize milestones and a framework to ensure the Takoma Park campus remains well maintained and is well functioning to serve the needs of the Takoma Park community.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City of Takoma Park requests that Adventist HealthCare support the City in its efforts to mitigate the economic impact of the relocation of the WAH hospital on the Takoma Park community.

THIS RESOLUTION IS ADOPTED THIS ____ DAY OF
_____.

ATTEST: