Health Systems Agency of Northern Virginia

**3040 William Drive, Suite 200**

# Fairfax, Virginia 22031

**Phone: 703-573-3100 Fax 703-573-3101**

**Email: hsanv@aol.com**

April 13, 2020

Erik Bodin, Director, DCOPN

Office of Licensure and Certification

Virginia Department of Health

9960 Mayland Drive, Suite 401

Richmond, VA 23233-1463

Dear Mr. Bodin:

Health Systems Agency of Northern Virginia (HSANV) staff has reviewed the April 10, 2020 request from Reston Hospital Center to increase temporarily the number of licensed medical-surgical beds at the hospital as permitted by, and in accordance with, Executive Order 52.[[1]](#footnote-1)

Reston Hospital Center (RHC) is located in Reston, Virginia. Its primary service area, northwestern Fairfax County and eastern Loudoun County, overlaps substantially with those of StoneSprings Hospital Center, Inova Fair Oaks Hospital, Inova Fairfax Hospital and Inova Loudoun Hospital. Under contractual arrangements with Kaiser Foundation Health Plan (Kaiser) RHC provides inpatient hospital care to about one-fourth of Kaiser’s patients hospitalized in PD 8 facilities. Kaiser’s subscriber base represents about 12% of the PD 8 population. Consequently, RHC serves a significant number of Northern Virginia residents enrolled in Kaiser, principally those living is the region’s northwest quadrant. The hospital’s share of the local acute care inpatient market is about 9%.

Reston Hospital Center is licensed to operate 231 beds, 132 of which are designated adult medical-surgical beds and 32 intensive care beds.[[2]](#footnote-2) It proposes to add 138 temporary beds, 81 intensive care beds and 57 adult medical-surgical beds, under the provisions of Executive Order 52. This would be accomplished largely by converting the hospital’s post anesthesia care unit (PACU) to intensive care use and by converting private intensive care adult medical-surgical and intensive care rooms to semiprivate rooms. Hospital officials also indicate inpatient rooms with telemetry can be used as intensive care beds if that becomes necessary.

The steps RHC plans to take, should demand and circumstances require, represent an effective increase in intensive care capacity of more than 250% and an increase in adult medical-surgical capacity of more than 40%.

Erik Bodin, Director

DCOPN, VDH

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Reston Hospital Center’s request is responsive to the purpose and specifications of Executive Order 52. Among other considerations, the capacity increases proposed:

* Comply with the objectives and provisions of Executive Order 52. The request to add large numbers of temporary adult medical-surgical and intensive care beds is supported by the information and assurances submitted in accordance with the guidance provided in the Commissioner of Health’s letter of March 24, 2020.
* Summarize practical ways to increase critical care capacity quickly and efficiently. This is consistent with complements the steps RHC reports taking outside the provisions of Executive Order 52 (e.g., converting step down beds and space to intensive care use) to respond to community concerns and medical needs.
* Take advantage of space and bed complements at the hospital that permit sizable temporary increases in operating capacity. The ability to more than double the number of intensive care beds at RHC represents significant standby capacity to respond to increased demand that may arise from an influx of COVID-19 patients.
* Represent actions that complement those being taken at other Northern Virginia hospitals in responding to local concerns and medical care needs likely to arise within the next month and beyond.

Based on these considerations, and on the recognition that the additional beds requested may be needed soon, HSANV recommends that the Reston Hospital Center request be granted.

If we can provide additional information, please let us know.

Sincerely,

Dean Montgomery

Executive Director

cc: John Deardorff, CEO, Reston Hospital Center

 Piero Mannino, Supervisor, DCOPN, VDH

 Robert Pugh, Chairperson, HSANV

 Tom Stallings, Counsel, Reston Hospital Center

1. Governor Northam issued Executive Order 52 on March 20, 2020. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. RHC also has forty obstetrics beds, eighteen acute cate medical rehabilitation beds, and nine pediatric beds.

 [↑](#footnote-ref-2)