Health Systems Agency of Northern Virginia

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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 StoneSprings Hospital Center to increase temporarily the number of intensive care beds at the hospital as permitted by, and in accordance with, Executive Order 52.[[1]](#footnote-1)

StoneSprings Hospital Center (SSHC), Northern Virginia’s newest community hospital,[[2]](#footnote-2) is located in southeastern Loudoun County. Its primary service area, southern Loudoun County (the Route 50 corridor) and southwestern Fairfax County, overlaps substantially with those of Reston Hospital Center, Inova Fair Oaks Hospital and Inova Loudoun Hospital.

SSHC is licensed to operate 124 beds, 100 of which are designated as adult medical-surgical beds and 10 as intensive care beds.[[3]](#footnote-3) The hospital proposes to add eight intensive care under the provisions of Executive Order 52. This would be accomplished by converting SSHC’s post anesthesia care unit (PACU) to intensive care use. This change represents an 80% increase in the hospial’s intensive care bed complement.

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

* Complies with the objectives and provisions of Executive Order 52. The request to add eight temporary 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.

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* Outlines a practical way to add critical care beds and capability quickly and efficiently. This is consistent with the steps SSHC has taken to date 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.
* Takes advantage of space and related service capabilities at SSHC that are inherent in its newness and modest inpatient service volumes. With the additional intensive care beds, and a substantial number of unused adult medical-surgical beds, SSHC will have significant standby capacity to respond to increased demand that may arise from an influx of COVID-19 patients.
* Represents a complementary step in responding to local concerns and medical care needs likely to arise within the next month and beyond.

Beyond these considerations, the temporary capacity increase proposed for SSHC would supplement similar capacity increases requested by other Northern Virginia acute care hospitals.

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

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

Sincerely,

Dean Montgomery

Executive Director

cc: Matt Mathias, CEO, StoneSprings Hospital Center

 Piero Mannino, Supervisor, DCOPN, VDH

 Robert Pugh, Chairperson, HSANV

 Tom Stallings, Counsel, StoneSprings Hospital Center

1. Governor Northam issued Executive Order 52 on March 20, 2020. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. StoneSprings Hospital Center opened in December of 2015. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. SSHC also has ten obstetrics bed and four pediatric beds. It is noted that the SSHC obtained COPN approval in 2018 to establish an inpatient acute care psychiatric service by converting 17 of the hospital’s medical-surgical beds to psychiatric licensure and use. This project is scheduled to be complete later this year.

 [↑](#footnote-ref-3)