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March 31, 2020

Erik Bodin, Director

Division of Certificate of Public Need

Virginia Department of Health

9960 Mayland Drive, Suite 401

Richmond, Virginia 23233

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Re: Request for authorization to add 42 beds at Novant Health UVA Prince William Medical Center PD8 under the authority of EO52

Dear Mr. Bodin:

In response to Executive Order 52, and the need to increase bed capacity within the Commonwealth of Virginia to address expected shortage of acute care capacity due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Novant Health UVA Health System Prince William Medical Center seeks authorization from the State Health Commissioner under EO52 to increase our licensed bed capacity from 130 to 172 at Novant Health UVA Health System Prince William Medical Center (NHUVA PWMC). Please see the following information which outlines our ongoing and planned activities to expand our capacity to deal with the expected surge in patients' demand for our services.

- **The name and address of the specific facility requesting the additional beds:**

Novant Health UVA Health System Prince William Medical Center
8700 Sudley Road, Manassas, Virginia, 20110

- **How many additional licensed beds are requested:**

We are requesting a total of 42 additional beds. These beds are the first steps in expanding capacity to support the expected surge in COVID-19 patients. The spaces identified are the result of a careful assessment by our clinical team to identify areas that can be readily staffed to support a surge in patients. This involved the evaluation of clinical care areas and patient rooms that could safely accommodate additional beds, thereby increasing our capacity and while providing access to a functional area that is set-up to handle the acuity of patients that will be placed there. The bed expansion is part of a larger NHUVA system plan to create capacity by temporarily reorganizing use of functional spaces to gain staffing and space efficiencies while maintaining patient safety. For example, we are temporarily diverting obstetric patient volume from our sister hospital, NHUVA Haymarket Medical Center (NHUVA HAMC) to a

larger obstetric unit at NHUVA PWMC, effectively freeing up a unit at NHUVA HAMC for use and streamlining staffing to be more efficient. We plan to temporarily reclassify the eight ortho/onc medical/surgical beds that are adjacent to the obstetric unit to obstetrical beds as part of this effort. This also allows us to limit comingling of obstetric patients with sick patients when the projected surge in COVID-19 patient volume intensifies. This temporary reclassification of beds will not add to the licensed inventory and is not part of the “surge capacity” request, but is intended to demonstrate our efforts to accommodate COVID-19 patient volume as much as possible with existing resources.

- **Beds Requested by Bed Type**

Bed Type	Current Number of Licensed Beds	Increase in Beds	Total Beds After Capacity Expansion
1. Hospitals			
Medical/Surgical	53	+20	73
Psychiatric	32		32
Intensive/Coronary Care	19	+22	41
TOTAL	104	+42	146

- **Where the additional licensed beds will be located and if the proposed space currently meets Life Safety Code requirements for the type of patients or residents expected to occupy the space; and if not, what will be done to meet life safety codes requirements for the space:**

Number for Additional Beds	Beds Location. E.g. PACU, Pre-op, etc.
1. Hospitals	
Medical/Surgical	+8 Outpatient Infusion
	+12 Case Management & Bio-Engineering
Intensive/Coronary Care	+9 ICCU (double occ)
	+5 CCU (double occ)
	+8 SCU (double occ)

We will prioritize activation/utilization of current clinical care space that can readily accommodate double occupancy, paying attention to staffing supply and appropriate staffing ratios/coverage. When planning for utilization of these spaces, we will tailor their use based on the acuity of patients that will be located in those areas, patient safety, egress and other life safety considerations, such as sleeping suite requirements. These proposed areas are within the existing hospital and already outfitted with medical gas headwalls that will meet the needs of the patients. The hospital has 100% sprinkler coverage and smoke detection coverage as required by the Life Safety Code. The fire alarm and sprinkler systems are monitored 24/7. These areas are part of the hospital's existing Life Safety compartments and suites. The Life Safety Code size limitations will

not be exceeded. Egress and additional life safety measures will be taken as needed to ensure safe utilization of these spaces.

- **The planned use of the additional licensed beds (e.g. used to supplement normal operations due to existing bed occupancy by COVID-19 patients, or specifically for COVID-19 patients):**

The additional beds requested will be used to supplement normal operations due to the existing and projected increase in bed occupancy by COVID-19 patients.

- **The plan for staffing the beds**

Our first line of action to address the increase in demand for staff is to redeploy teammates whose regular jobs have been impacted by reduction/cessation of elective procedures and other services at the hospital. They will be redeployed to the areas and departments that will be in high demand during the expected surge of COVID-19 patients. We have also developed a centralized staffing pool that calls in additional services from within and without our health system while optimizing their skills and capabilities. For example, we are working with local physician offices and their clinical staff so that staff who have had hours reduced given the decreased scope of services at physician offices are available to assist with the coming patient surge. We are also collaborating with other partners, including the outpatient surgical hospital on the campus of Prince William Medical Center, to redeploy their staff to hospital functions. In addition, we are examining/adjusting our paid time/days off policy to give us staffing flexibility during the expected surge. We are coordinating with local partners to ensure that staff childcare coverage needs are addressed. As noted above, part of our system response is to temporarily divert Women and Children's volume from NHUVA Haymarket Medical Center (NHUVA HAMC) to enhance patient safety by cohorting an at-risk population in one location and taking advantage of staffing efficiencies. This also allows us to create capacity at NHUVA HAMC for an additional 16 bed spaces and potentially use this space to mitigate co-mingling with COVID-19 patients.

- **Supplies and Equipment Plan for Additional Beds**

We have modified various hospital policies such as visitor and personal protective equipment (PPE) to facilitate appropriate conservation of PPE. We have modified our PPE utilization policies to conserve these supplies while ensuring the safety of our patients, their families, staff and clinicians. We are also working with our Joint Operating Company (JOC) parent organizations – Novant Health and the University of Virginia – as well as local, state and federal bodies to access existing stock of PPE and to increase various supplies needs to support demand. We are also accepting donations from the community to supplement our supply needs.

- **Describe Efforts Implemented and Ongoing to Increase availability of existing Beds**

Other efforts that we have employed to expand our capacity to address the expected surge in COVID-19 patients include – postponing or suspending elective procedures/surgeries and patient visits, temporarily diverting obstetric services from Novant Health UVA Health System Haymarket Medical Center (NHUVA HAMC) to NHUVA PWMC and transitioning as much care as is appropriate to virtual/tele visits.

Thank you for your consideration of this request. Please let me know if you need further information.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Stephen Smith', written over a horizontal line.

Dr. Stephen Smith

President,

Novant Health UVA Health System Prince William Medical Center