



RV2024-042
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Sep 30 2024

STATE HEALTH PLANNING AND
DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

September 30, 2024

VIA Electronic Filing: shpda.online@shpda.alabama.gov

Ms. Emily Marsal, Esq.

Executive Director

State Health Planning and Development Agency

100 North Union Street, Suite 870

Montgomery, Alabama 36104

RE: Request for Reviewability Determination
The Board of Trustees of the University of Alabama for the University of Alabama Hospital
UAB Highlands Hospital, 3rd Floor
Triage Bay Expansion

Ms. Marsal:

Pursuant to Alabama Certificate of Need Rules and Regulations ("CON Rules") 410-1-7-.02, The Board of Trustees of the University of Alabama for the University of Alabama Hospital ("Board") respectfully requests your review and determination that the Board does not require a Certificate of Need ("CON") from the State Health Planning and Development Agency to complete an expansion of the triage area located on the third floor of UAB Hospital – Highlands facility ("Triage Bay Expansion").¹ To complete your review, the Board respectfully submits the following information:

The Board proposes to expand the triage bays in the Emergency Department ("ED") at UAB Hospital – Highlands. Currently, one treatment bay at the hospital is used for triage. The proposed project involves the renovation of an office, which is adjacent to the ED along with renovation of certain workroom space to construct two (2) new triage bays. After completion, the UAB Hospital – Highlands ED will have three (3) triage bays. The construction budget for the project is \$567,000. There will be \$61,000 of new equipment planned for the new space, and First Year Annual Operating Costs are projected to be \$339,000.

The proposed construction project will not exceed any of the CON expenditure thresholds as set forth in CON Rule 410-1-2-.07, which, effective October 1, 2024, are \$3,322,582 for major medical equipment; \$1,327,734 for new annual operating costs; and \$6,638,679 for other capital expenditures.

The Board submits this request due to a recent change in policy at the Alabama Department of Public Health ("ADPH"), which now requires either a Certificate of Need or a Letter of Non-Reviewability for all construction projects if those projects result in a facility renovation or modification, which triggers a Life Safety Inspection. The Triage Bay Expansion will trigger an ADPH Life Safety Inspection. However, the proposed project will neither

¹ The University of Alabama Hospital, an academic medical center and the largest hospital in the State of Alabama, is a division of the Board. The hospital is comprised of two acute care hospitals: University Hospital (the main hospital) and Highlands Hospital, and located within a few blocks of each other in Birmingham, Alabama. Together, the hospitals comprise the University of Alabama at Birmingham ("UAB") Hospital Campus. The hospitals operate under the same SHPDA ID number, under one Tax ID number, under one Medicare and Medicaid provider number, and under one hospital license (H3717) issued by the Alabama Department of Public Health.

increase in the number of licensed hospital beds nor will the proposed project result in a reclassification of hospital beds. No new institutional health services will be offered because of the construction project, and the hospital's existing medical service area, which is comprised of Jefferson, Blount, St. Clair, Walker, Shelby, Bibb, and Chilton counties, will remain the same. Additionally, the Triage Bay Expansion project meets the criteria specified in CON r. 410-1-4-.01(1)(j).

We respectfully request your determination that the Triage Bay Expansion project is not subject to CON Review and is not required to obtain a CON. The \$1,000.00 filing fee required by CON r. 410-1-3-.09 has been submitted electronically. A copy of the confirmation of payment is attached for your review.

Should you have any questions regarding the proposed project, please do not hesitate to contact me directly at cransburgbrown@uasystem.edu.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cynthia

C. Cransburg-Brown, JD
University Counsel
UAB Medicine Enterprise

Affirmation of Requesting Party

The undersigned, being first duly sworn, hereby makes an oath or affirms that she is legal counsel for The University of Alabama Hospital, has knowledge of the facts in the attached Reviewability Determination Request, and to the best of her information, knowledge, and belief, such facts are true and correct.

AFFIANT

Cynthia Cransburg-Brown

(SEAL)

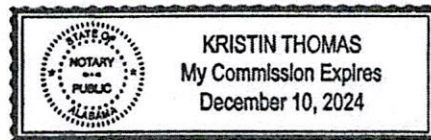
SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN to before me on this the 30th day of September, 2024.

Kristin Thomas

Notary Public

Alabama, Jefferson County

My commission expires 12/10/24





October 14, 2024

VIA Electronic Filing: shpda.online@shpda.alabama.gov

Ms. Emily Marsal, Esq.
Executive Director
State Health Planning and Development Agency
100 North Union Street, Suite 870
Montgomery, Alabama 36104

RV2024-042
RECEIVED
Oct 15 2024
STATE HEALTH PLANNING AND
DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

RE: Request for Additional Information – RV2024-042
The Board of Trustees of the University of Alabama for the University of Alabama Hospital
(UAB Hospital – Highlands, Triage Bay Expansion)
SHPDA ID: 073-6530304

Ms. Marsal:

This letter is in follow up to your request for additional information regarding Reviewability Determination Request RV2024-042, filed by the Board of Trustees of the University of Alabama for the University of Alabama Hospital, which seeks a reviewability determination regarding the plan to expand the triage area located on the third floor of UAB Hospital – Highlands facility in Birmingham, Alabama (“UAB Hospital – Highlands Triage Bay Expansion”).

Please note the following additional information:

- 1. Please provide the Agency with the physical address for the proposed triage bay expansion at UAB Hospital – Highlands in Birmingham, Alabama.**

The physical address for UAB Hospital – Highlands is 1201 11th Avenue, South, Birmingham, Alabama 35205.

- 2. Please provide clarification as to the service area for the proposed project. Ala. Admin. Code r. § 410-1-2-.03 defines the service as the county in which the service will be provided in the absence of a designated geographical area.**

In accordance with Ala. Admin. Code r. § 410-1-2-.03, the health service area for UAB Hospital - Highlands Triage Bay Expansion project is Jefferson County.

- 3. Provide a disclosure of financial interests in the entity request the reviewability determination held by any other health care facilities or groups.**

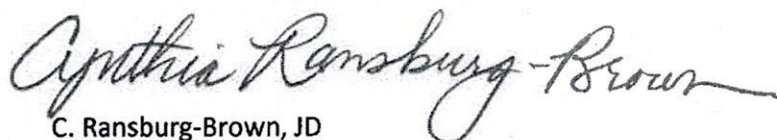
No other entity holds any financial interest in the applicant, the Board of Trustees of the University of Alabama. The University of Alabama Hospital is an operating division of, and wholly owned by, the Board of Trustees of the University of Alabama, an agency of the State of Alabama.

We submit this information in response to your request for additional information and respectfully request your

determination that the UAB Hospital – Highlands Triage Bay Expansion project is not subject to Certificate of Need (“CON”) Review and is not required to obtain a CON.

Should you have any questions regarding the proposed project, please do not hesitate to contact me directly at cransburgbrown@uasystem.edu.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Cynthia Ransburg-Brown". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned to the left of the printed name.

C. Ransburg-Brown, JD
University Counsel
UAB Medicine Enterprise