STATE OF VERMONT GREEN MOUNTAIN CARE BOARD

In re:	Application of Southwestern Vermont)	
	Medical Center, Modernization of)	
	Emergency Department and)	GMCB-019-19con
	Hospital Main Entrance)	
)	
)	

CERTIFICATE OF NEED

In accordance with Title 18, Chapter 221, Subchapter 5, other applicable laws, and the Statement of Decision and Order in this matter, the Green Mountain Care Board issues this certificate of need to Southwestern Vermont Medical Center (SVMC or "the applicant"), subject to the conditions set forth below and in the Certificate of Need issued..

Project Description and Scope

The project seeks to modernize the existing Emergency Department (ED) and involves renovation of 7,700 square feet of existing ED space and the addition of 6,700 square feet of new construction to the current ED footprint. The new construction will extend into the current traffic route to the ED and hospital main entrance, requiring campus traffic flow to be re-routed and necessary changes made to the parking layout. The project includes demolition of the Lodge Building built in 1925, creation of a new main entrance and lobby, relocation of outpatient registration, phlebotomy, the imaging department's waiting room and minor upgrades to the café and laboratory. The project also includes the creation of a mental health crisis area within the ED which will be located in a portion of the newly constructed space. Equipment to support telemedicine communication will also be purchased and installed in many of the ED treatment rooms. The total cost of the project is \$25,801,975.

The project is outlined in greater detail in the Statement of Decision and Order in this docket, incorporated herein and issued today by the Board.

Project Conditions

The project as proposed, subject to the following conditions, meets the statutory criteria set forth in 18 V.S.A. § 9437:

1. The applicant shall develop and operate the project in strict compliance with its scope as described in the application, in other materials in the record submitted by the applicant, and in strict conformance with the Statement of Decision and Order issued today in this docket. This certificate of need is limited to the project and activities described therein.

- 2. Throughout the project's implementation period, the applicant shall comply with all current and future financial caps, targets and other conditions imposed by the Board in its hospital budget instructions, guidance, and orders.
- 3. The applicant shall not increase its commercial effective rates or overall change in charges to fund any expenses related to the project. *See* Statement of Decision, Conclusions, at page 11.
- 4. The applicant shall not make any incentive payments or pay bonuses to any SVMC employee in connection with the Board's approval of project.
- 5. Noncompliance with any provision of this certificate of need or with applicable ordinances, rules, laws and regulations constitutes a violation of this certificate of need and may be cause for enforcement action pursuant to 18 V.S.A. §§ 9445, 9374(i), (j), and any other applicable law.
- 6. The project shall be fully implemented within five (5) years of the date of issuance of this certificate of need.
- 7. Given the anticipated transfer of funds to and from SVMC's Parent organization, SVMC shall follow the GMCB Uniform Reporting Manual in regard to transfers of funds to and from related organizations such as their parent organization or foundation. Such transfers shall also be reported in all CON implementation reports filed with the Board.
- 8. The applicant shall file implementation reports with the Board beginning six months from the date of this certificate of need and at six-month intervals thereafter until all components and phases of the project are complete and fully operational and all invoices have been paid. The implementation reports shall include the following:
 - a. an overview of the project, including any changes in financing, and information and analysis demonstrating that the project fully complies with its scope as approved in this certificate of need;
 - b. a spreadsheet separately listing each individual line item expenditure and, for each expenditure: 1) the total dollar amount approved by the Board; 2) the dollar amount spent through previous reporting periods; 3) the dollar amount spent during this reporting period; 4) the cumulative dollar amount spent to date; 5) the amount remaining in dollars, and 6) the amount remaining as a percentage.
 - c. Given the current COVID-19 pandemic and possible impact on fundraising and possible projected cost of the project, each implementation report shall provide updates regarding the status of the \$14,562,000 fundraising campaign, updates of the amount of pledges projected, and updates of the pledges actually received as of the date of each implementation report.

- 9. This certificate of need is not transferable or assignable and is issued only for the premises and entity named in the application.
- 10. If the applicant contemplates or becomes aware of a nonmaterial change, as defined in 18 V.S.A. § 9432(12), or a material change as defined in 18 V.S.A. § 9432(11), to the scope or cost of the project described in its application and as designated in this certificate of need, the applicant shall file a notice of such change immediately with the Board. The Board shall thereafter advise the applicant whether the proposed change is subject to additional review.
- 11. The Board may, after the applicant is provided notice and an opportunity to be heard, make such further orders as are necessary or desirable to accomplish the purposes of this certificate of need and to ensure compliance with its terms and conditions.
- 12. All reports, notices, forms, information or submissions of any kind required to be submitted to the Board as a condition of this certificate of need shall be signed and verified by the applicant's chief executive officer, or by his or her designated representative.
- 13. The conditions contained in this certificate of need shall remain in effect for the duration of the reporting period set forth in Condition 6, above.

SO ORDERED.

Dated: December 14, 2020 at Montpelier, Vermont.

s/	Kevin Mullin, Chair)	
)	GREEN MOUNTAIN
s/	Jessica Holmes		CARE BOARD
			OF VERMONT
s/	Robin Lunge		
)	
s/	Tom Pelham)	
•)	
s/	Maureen Usifer)	

Filed: December 14, 2020

Attest: /s/ Jean Stetter, Administrative Services Director