

MercyRockford Health System Demonstrates Commitment to Rockton Avenue Campus

November 4th, 2015



MercyRockford Health System Board of Directors, at the October 21 board meeting, unanimously approved a resolution detailing in writing its commitment to the N. Rockton Avenue campus. At a news conference today, MercyRockford President and CEO Javon Bea presented the resolution to Rockford Mayor Larry Morrissey, Winnebago County Board Chairman Scott Christiansen and other community leaders. The resolution reinforces the depth of MercyRockford's commitment to its legacy hospital on the west side of Rockford.

Additionally, the health system recently announced plans to develop a new state-of-the-art specialty care facility at E. Riverside and I-90 and maintain hospital services on the existing N. Rockton Avenue campus, creating One Hospital on Two Campuses to best serve communities in northern Illinois and southern Wisconsin.

After receiving valuable input from citizens and leaders of the Rockford community, the MercyRockford Board of Directors responded by formally committing to continuing a robust and thriving health care campus on N. Rockton Avenue.

As a result the MercyRockford Health System Board of Directors, contingent on receiving all necessary approvals for its One Hospital on Two Campuses plan, commits:

To maintain a N. Rockton Avenue campus, providing hospital-based and outpatient services to its patients and investing \$50 million in capital improvements over the next ten years, and

To create a special advisory group consisting of MercyRockford and select community leaders to advise the board on repurposing the original Rockford Clinic Building, a 200,000 square foot building at 2300 N. Rockton Avenue, for community and economic development purposes.

"The project will create a regional integrated health system that provides area patients with outstanding coordinated care, encompasses nearly every medical specialty, is conveniently delivered close to home, and provides the Rockford community with economic growth," said Javon Bea, President and CEO of MercyRockford Health System. "We want to thank the community for its input and support. We have received more than 100 letters of support over the last few months, as well as more than 5,000 project petition signatures, and this shows the community support and enthusiasm behind our projects. We believe in working together to improve the lives of all who live here."