

March 11, 2011

William Rudin
Chief Executive Officer
Rudin Management
345 Park Avenue, Suite 33
New York, NY 10154

Michael Dowling
President
Northshore Long Island Jewish Health System
145 Community Drive
Great Neck, New York 11021

Mark Toney
Chief Restructuring Officer
St. Vincent's Catholic Medical Center
666 3rd Ave
New York, NY 10017

Dear Mr. Rudin, Mr. Dowling, and, Mr. Toney:

As you are aware, yesterday's news of the plan by North Shore/ Long Island Jewish (LIJ) to open a stand-alone 24-hour emergency room raises a number of important questions. While we are pleased that efforts are being made to restore healthcare on the West Side, we must ensure that this is not just another proposal for an Urgent Care Center, which would not be acceptable.

As the disposition of the St. Vincent's Catholic Medical Center properties moves forward, it is crucially important to reiterate that our first priority for the neighborhood is to obtain a full service acute care hospital and 24-hour emergency room to replace St. Vincent's.

We write in an effort to gain clarity on the specifics of your proposal, and to share with you our concerns regarding what may or may not be available to our community as a result of the addition of an Emergency Department on the O'Toole site. Specifically, we request that you write to our offices with responses to the following questions:

1. Please explain the similarities and differences between this Emergency Department and others in Manhattan. Please provide as comprehensive a list as is possible of specific services that will be provided at the Emergency Department and of conditions that will or will not be able to be treated.

2. What is the plan to ensure that the underserved and uninsured receive services at the Emergency Department? Will everyone be served with a single standard of care regardless of ability to pay and will all insurances be accepted?
3. What will the relationship of the Emergency Department be to the NYC Emergency System, including emergency transport of patients to the facility? Is it your expectation that 911 will dispatch ambulances to this facility?
4. Will North Shore/LIJ have ambulance services at the proposed facility?
5. What category of certification under Public Health Law Article 28 will be sought for this facility?
6. Can you provide us with a list of locations where stand-alone Emergency Departments exist? Has this type of facility been successful in other locations?
7. How many Emergency Department patients can be served at this new facility and how does that compare to the numbers that were served by St. Vincent's Emergency Department before it closed?
8. Is there any plan to incorporate the Emergency Department staff that served at St. Vincent's into the new Emergency Care unit?
9. The Mental Health department and HIV/AIDS clinic were historically important aspects of care provided by St. Vincent's. Does North Shore/LIJ planned emergency department incorporate these services?
10. What will it mean for the community to go from a Level 1 trauma center to a stand-alone Emergency Department?
11. How will the needs assessment, which is not complete as of yet, inform and guide this proposal?
12. We have stated that our first priority for the neighborhood is to obtain a full service hospital and emergency room to replace St. Vincent's. What led you to pursue this proposal instead of a state-of-the-art full service hospital?

We appreciate the commitment of both North Shore/LIJ and the Rudin family to work with local stakeholders to ensure that the needs of West Side residents are met.

St. Vincent's and its life saving services were vital to our community, and we will continue to fight for a true replacement.

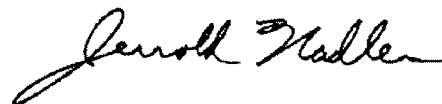
Sincerely,



Christine C. Quinn
NYC Council Speaker



Scott M. Stringer
Manhattan Borough President



Jerrold L. Nadler
U.S. Representative



Thomas K. Duane
New York State Senate



Richard N. Gottfried
NYS Assembly



Deborah J. Glick
New York State Assembly