

4/30/12

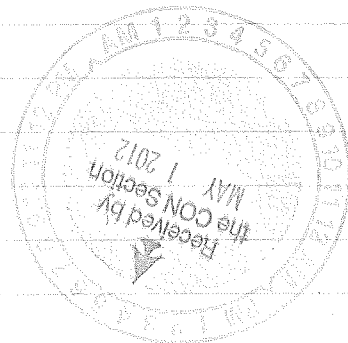
My name is Lee Stuckland and this letter is to express my strong concerns about Mission Hospital's proposed endoscopy center in Fletcher. As a resident of Fletcher I believe that this project would be a duplication of medical services that already exist in my community.

There is simply no need for this new facility. Residents in Fletcher are among the best served medically in all of North Carolina. First, we have a local hospital Park Ridge - that has been meeting the needs of the community for over 100 years. Second - we have an excellent county hospital - Pardee - that is only a short 10 minute drive from my home. Third, we have a great regional provider that is only 11 miles from Fletcher.

I appreciate your consideration and would sincerely ask that you deny Mission's CON application for the project.

Thank you.


Lee Stuckland



To Whom it May Concern:

Thank you for allowing the public an opportunity for input regarding the Certificate of Need request to put an endoscopy room in Fletcher. I **oppose** this project on the simple basis that there is no need for additional endoscopy services in this community.

What is the value of a Certificate of Need process if it doesn't look and supply and demand. I have the ability to go to three different locations for this service within about 5 miles of my home in Henderson County. That is plenty of choice where demand has been decreasing.

I have not seen the application for this expansion of services, but I am hard pressed to find any logic behind this request. The building that would house this surgical procedure room is not even built. What added cost will that be for the taxpayers and insured residences of Henderson County. Spending millions of dollars to save me two minutes of driving does not sound like a good investment.

I would ask that you **deny** this application.

Thank you for your consideration,

Sincerely,



Clarissa Randolph

A taxpayer of Henderson County





April 30, 2012

Dear Sir/Madam,

RE: Mission Hospital's proposal for endoscopy center in Fletcher, NC

I have been a resident of Henderson County for 21 years and currently work in Fletcher. I am strongly apposed to the endoscopy center that Mission Hospital is proposing in Fletcher. The cost of health care is already too high in WNC and there is absolutely no need to keep duplicating these types of service.

It is very clear to me and most people I have discussed this with, that this is just another act by Mission to move patients and business out of Henderson County to Buncombe.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,


Kent Williams

Mills River, NC 28769

4/28/2012



To Whom It May Concern:

I live near the proposed site of the expansion and proposal to move the endoscopy room to Fletcher. I live and work in Henderson County. I am opposed to this. I believe the duplication of services is not needed and an example of why healthcare cost are, at present uncontained. Please vote no to the duplication of services proposed by this project.

Thank You,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Deborah Gentry".

Deborah Gentry



Carlos Diaz
P.O. Box 651
Naples, N.C., 28760

To Whom It May Concern,

My name is Carlos Diaz and I have lived in the Fletcher area for 30 years. I simply don't think Mission Hospital's endoscopy project is needed in this community. I would ask that you consider the public's opinion and deny this CON application.

My children were born in Fletcher and we have been blessed to receive excellent medical care in this area. My family and I have multiple healthcare options for care in Fletcher. Park Ridge Health is nearby and both Pardee and Mission are only a short drive away. Endoscopy services are available at all these facilities and other outpatient centers in the region.

The people of this community are very satisfied with the healthcare choices in Fletcher. Please deny Mission's application for this project.

Thank you for considering my input,

Carlos Diaz

April, 26, 2012

Diane Beerbower
28 Byers Cove Rd
Hendersonville, NC 28792



To Whom It May Concern;

I understand there is another vote to take place regarding the CON for endoscopy for Mission Hospital. I see article after article in the Citizen-Times and I thought there had already been a vote denying the application, but it appears it's up for discussion again and likely my tax dollars are paying for attention given this matter.

The original denial was based upon lack of need for additional services and it appears to me that nothing has changed. It's a duplication of services and I'm opposed to the proposition.

I've taken time from work to attend these meetings as I want to be sure opposition is heard, but I would hope that this issue is put to rest soon. I live in Henderson County and am happy to go easily to Park Ridge or even Mission which is just 15 miles away for these same services. Thank you for considering my position.

Sincerely,

Diane Beerbower

April 30, 2012



To Whom It May Concern,

As a citizen that lives and works in Henderson County, I don't support Mission's application to move an endoscopy center from Asheville to Fletcher and would request that you deny the Certificate of Need. This project would duplicate what services already exist in the area.

Fletcher has a hospital and doesn't need another one. Park Ridge Health is doing a good job of serving the needs in this region and recently completed a major expansion to better serve this same area. We also have Pardee Hospital in Hendersonville as an option. For those that want to choose something other than a hospital setting can go to Carolina Mountain Gastroenterology. The people who want to have these procedures done at Mission are not far from Asheville.

Thank you for denying this application.

Sincerely,

LaHoya Gordon

LaHoya Gordon



48 W. Ravencroft Lane
Asheville, NC 28803
April 30, 2012

To Whom It May Concern,

Here in the Western North Carolina mountains, there's a deep and abiding respect to use resources wisely. Whether it's land, water or other resources, people here generally believe that "less is more."

A glaring exception is the grasp of Mission Hospital, which appears to believe "more is more." As a South Asheville resident, I've watched as they've enveloped our region's smaller hospitals and physician practices. I've watched and listened as Mission eliminates competition with an arrogance that they can call the shots in our health care community.

Last year, the state of North Carolina dared to say "no" to Mission when they applied to move endoscopy services to the Henderson County line. Now I hear Mission wants a "second opinion" in order to get its way.

I hope the state commission will stand its ground and not give in to Mission. The reasons were clear last year and as far as I can see, nothing has changed. Please don't give Mission a stronger foothold in our community and grant this appeal. We need less of Mission, not more. And we certainly do not need a mini-hospital in South Asheville-Fletcher.

I live several miles from this location and have accesses to three hospitals within 20 minutes in either direction. It would be a colossal waste to build another facility when the demand is not there.

Thank you for the work you do on behalf of the citizens of Western North Carolina.

Sincerely yours,


Beth Davey

April 30, 2012



To Whom It May Concern,

This letter relates to Mission Hospital's County Line Project. I have worked in Henderson County for over 15 years. Because of this I am probably more familiar and comfortable with the medical community in Henderson County than in my residence in Buncombe County. My wife and her father, who lives with us, have also chosen to use mostly Henderson County Physicians as well.

I have Barrett's Esophagus which at times can create swallowing difficulty for me. Three times I have had to have an endoscopic dilation procedure to alleviate this problem. I have had this done at Carolina Mountain Gastroenterology. The Practitioners there were very competent and the service they provided was excellent. And most important for someone in distress - I did not have to put off the procedure. Once I was even able to schedule it for the next day.

Mission Hospital is an excellent facility. There are people who prefer it for medical service. I do not. My fear is that by allowing them to move into Henderson County, it will remove my choice. They will either swallow up the practice that I prefer or force them out of business. I was somewhat relieved when their Certificate was originally but am distressed that they are resubmitting it. Please do not allow my freedom of choice to be taken from me. I am asking that you deny their request for a Gastro Unit in Henderson County.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Dave Fuller".

Dave Fuller

39 Tipton Drive
Candler, NC 28792
828.670.1455

April 30, 2012

Received by
The CON Section
MAY 1 2012

To Whom It May Concern:

I live in Henderson County and am writing to share my opposition to Mission Hospital's CON application to move endoscopy services to my community. When services are duplicated, as would happen if Mission was allowed to have this CON, it increases the costs for everyone.

I'm surprised that Mission would resubmit this application after being denied in the Fall of 2011. It is frustrating that, even after thoroughly evaluating this project, the State of North Carolina will again have to devote time and resources to a project that is not needed in our community. Though I'm not an expert on the Certificate of Need process, it seems easy to see that Mission still hasn't proven need for this project. It makes no sense for this issue to come to the table a second time and waste tax dollars.

Thank you for reading my letter and considering my concerns. Please again deny Mission Hospital's application for this CON.

Sincerely,



Gary Carlson

914 Toxaway Circle

Hendersonville, NC 28791

To Whom It May Concern,

Received by
The CON Section
MAY 1 2012

My name is Stuart Scott and I have been a resident of Fletcher, NC since 2004. I am writing to voice significant concern regarding the Certificate of Need requested by Mission Hospitals to relocate an Endoscopy suite from their main campus to the proposed area in Fletcher which straddles the Buncombe/Henderson County line.

As a resident, I find little need for an Endoscopy suite in this area. I realize that Endoscopy is a major diagnostic tool used in the detection and treatment of colon cancer. The population is currently well served in this discipline by a short 15 minute drive to Margaret Pardee in Hendersonville to the south and Mission Health to the north in Asheville. Park Ridge Health is located approximately 4 miles from the proposed site. The discipline is also served by a physician's office which specializes in gastro-intestinal disorders and performs endoscopy procedures in their offices. I have reviewed public information detailing a declining need for the procedure in our area and I do not understand the significant allocation of resources to duplicate existing services.

It is also my understanding that a previous application for a Certificate of Need of this Endoscopy suite requested by Mission Health has already been declined by the State Review Board.

Respectfully,



Stuart L. Scott

324 Walnut Crest Road

Fletcher, NC 28732

Hendersonville, NC 28792

Received by
the COM Section
10/10/2008

To Whom It May Concern:

Regarding the moving of the Endoscopy suite to Fletcher, I am writing to tell you that I am a native of Henderson County and I am opposed to this expansion. The services are a duplication of those provided by our county hospitals (we have two fine hospitals that provide this service already). Please help us by saying no to Mission's moving their equipment to duplicate efforts already provided.

Thank You,



Matt Graham

Received by
the CON Section
MAY 1 2012

Todd K. Guffey
59 W. Hiwassee Rd.
Fletcher, NC 28732
(828) 329-2539

April 30, 2012

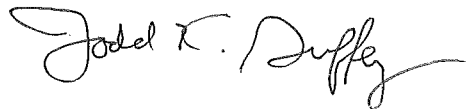
To Whom It May Concern:

My name is Todd Guffey and I live in the Fletcher area where Mission Hospital wants to move an endoscopy building. I oppose this particular project and would request that you deny this CON application.

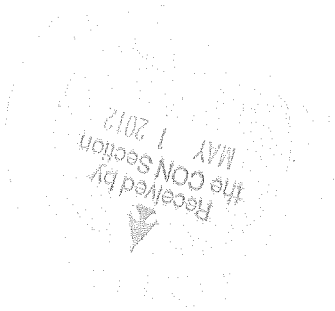
I have been a patient at Mission and always received excellent care. Mission is a good hospital, but there is simply no need for a new endoscopy facility in Fletcher. Fifteen minutes is not an unreasonable drive to access these services in Asheville. This project also seems poorly designed in an awkward location. The proposed facility's proximity to Park Ridge Hospital is also a great concern.

I don't want my community hospital to waste precious resources on duplicating endoscopy services where they already exist. I would ask that the State deny Mission's CON application for this project.

Sincerely,



Todd K. Guffey



Stephanie C. Guffey
59 W. Hiawasse Rd.
Fletcher, NC 28732
(828) 329-7959

April 30, 2012

To Whom It May Concern:

My name is Stephanie Guffey and I live in the Fletcher, NC where Mission Hospital wants to move an endoscopy building. I oppose this particular project and would request that you deny this Certificate of Need (CON) application.

My husband has been a patient at Mission and always received excellent care. Mission is a good hospital, but there is simply no need for a new endoscopy facility in the Fletcher area. We are in such close proximity to Pardee Hospital, Mission Hospital, Transylvania Hospital, and Park Ridge Hospital and they currently offer these same services (let alone the independent GI clinics that already offer outpatient endoscopy services, too). This project also seems poorly designed in an awkward location (Mission should try to serve locations that are in need of such services). The proposed facility's proximity to Park Ridge Hospital is also a great concern since Park Ridge is only minutes away from the proposed location and only minutes away from my home.

I don't want my community hospital to waste precious resources on duplicating endoscopy services where they already exist. I would ask that the State deny Mission's CON application for this project. I would assume that this would be the case since this request was already denied once by the State.

Sincerely,

Stephanie C. Guffey

Hendersonville, NC 28792

Received by
the CON Section
MAY 1 2012

To Whom It May Concern:

I live and work in Henderson County. I live in the area that will be affected by the expansion of services and would like to voice my opposition to the duplication of services. The services are not needed and Mission has been told they were not needed once. Has the demand become more than our hospitals can handle-NO. The service is not needed...please say no to them again.

Thank You,



Ronnie Graham

April 30, 2012

Received by
the CON Section
MAY 1 2012

To whomever it may concern,

I am writing to ask that you oppose Mission Hospital's endoscopy CON application because there is no need for this facility in Fletcher. This is the second time for this application and I feel it is a waste of taxpayer dollars to go through this process again. I am also concerned about Pardee Hospital's involvement in this project.

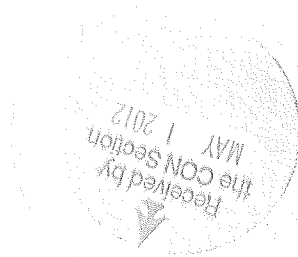
While Pardee is not specifically mentioned in the application, it is clear that it may ultimately be part of this facility. Pardee is a county hospital and there may be financial implications for the taxpayers of Henderson County. Combine this risk with concerns about the future of healthcare reform, the last thing we need in this region is to duplicate medical services that are already available. North Carolina has CON laws for a reason and I believe it is to help communities avoid projects like this one. Healthcare resources are too scarce to build something that is not needed.

I fear this project will raise the cost of medical care in Western North Carolina. I would ask that you consider the needs of the people who live in the Fletcher area and deny this application.

Thank you,

Rena Johnson

April 27, 2012



Dear Ma'am or Sir:

I think it important that you know I am opposed to the county line project that Mission Hospital is proposing in Fletcher, N.C. I work in Hendersonville, N.C. and know that there are at least 4 places to receive endoscopy in a 30 mile radius - Asheville - Mission Hospital, Cowhira Gastro - Hendersonville, Pardie Hospital - Hendersonville, and Park Ridge Hospital - Hendersonville.

If Mission Hospital desires to serve the community, that goal would be better accomplished by building an endoscopy/ outpatient surgery center in an under served area. The Hendersonville / Fletcher communities and S. Asheville are already served with these services.

Respectfully,

Sancho K. Page

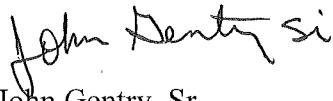
Mills River, NC 28759

Received by
the CON Section
MAY 1 2012

To Whom It May Concern:

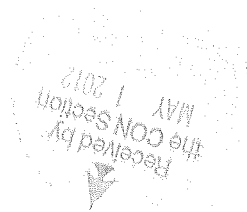
I am very disappointed to hear that my tax dollars will be addressing the endoscopy services for which Mission has already been turned down once. As a resident of Henderson County I know we are blessed to have such available services nearby. Living in Mills River near the county line myself, I am 10 to 15 minutes away from THREE hospitals. Why in this ever increasing cost of living and healthcare would my tax dollars be used to address an issue that has been shown as a duplicate of services with declining need?

Sincerely,



John Gentry, Sr.

To whom it may concern,



My name is Ann Howard and I have recently moved to Henderson County. I was quite surprised to find that in a 10 mile area there are 3 acute care hospitals – in fact I joked with my family that I would have my choice of health care facilities. Imagine my surprise when I learned that Mission was planning to expand / add additional services near Fletcher.

While I'm no expert on State CON laws, I think I can give a valid opinion that this particular project is problematic at best.

My understanding is that this is planned to be an endoscopy center – which begs the question, is there really a need for additional endoscopy services when all 3 hospitals currently offer this as an outpatient service, in addition to other free-standing endo centers?

Frankly, I am surprised that Mission would even suggest such a project for Fletcher – it seems to be a very heavy-handed attempt to corner the market in healthcare in western North Carolina.

I would certainly hope that this type of initiative would only be considered after finding definitive evidence that Henderson County residents have recurring problems with scheduling timely colonoscopies, or that the quality of current services provided are substandard. (I doubt that either is true).

Also, I would be curious to know if the market for these services is so different than other areas of the country – because it is my experience that elective procedures of this type are trending downward.

I am confident that those in the position of reviewing the application will make the right decision in rejecting this application (again, as I believe Mission has applied before and was turned down?). This community may have issues that need to be addressed – but access to healthcare is obviously not among them.

Thank you,

Ann M Howard

Michael Screws
1 Ascot Point Cir #207
Asheville, NC 28803
(407) 304-0147

Received by
the CON Section
MAY 1 2012

April 30, 2012

Dear Sir or Madam:

I am writing to you to show and explain my firm opposition to Mission Hospital's CON application for endoscopy services in Fletcher.

The main reasons behind my concerns can be found on a simple road map of the area. People who live in Fletcher have lots of good endoscopy options very close to home. There is simply no need for a project like this in Fletcher. Endoscopy is available at nearby Park Ridge Hospital or Pardee Hospital. Mission is only a short drive away and parking has never been a challenge. With multiple choices within 10 miles, why would you completely duplicate these services with another facility? There are many medically underserved areas in Western North Carolina, but Fletcher is not one of them.

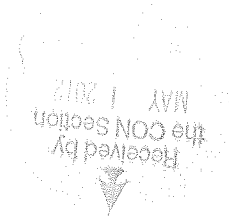
Also, it is my understanding that Mission recently went through this application process and was denied for the same services that they are applying for this time. I have been a resident during the entire time and since my job resides in Henderson county, I have not seen an influx of population that would warrant more of the same services along the county line.

Please think about the people who live in this area when you make you evaluate this project. Mission's proposal would not benefit the people of Fletcher and I would ask that you deny its CON application.

Sincerely,



Michael Screws



April 30, 2012

Dear Sir or Madam:

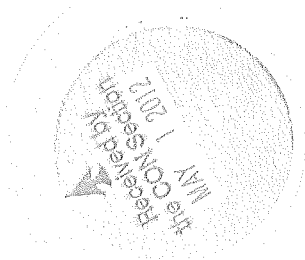
As a concerned citizen who lives in Fletcher and who works in Henderson County, I am writing regarding Mission Hospital's application to the Certificate of Need Office for the relocation of one of their GI rooms to the area of the Buncombe - Henderson County line project. I believe relocation of one of Mission's GI Procedure rooms is an unnecessary duplication of services in a market which is currently well served by the three existing providers of endoscopy services - Pardee Hospital, Park Ridge Health and Carolina Mountain Gastroenterology.

Allowing Mission to relocate their GI Procedure Room to this area will decrease the volume of procedures the current providers are handling and would create an unnecessary duplication of services which, in the end, drives up the cost of health care to the consumer. I am all for competition - but not when it has a negative impact on those healthcare providers who have served in Henderson County through the years.

I urge you to vote against Mission Hospital's request to move one of their GI Procedure Rooms to the county line project.

Sincerely yours,

Colleen C. Ramsey
44 Fox Trot Path
Fletcher, NC 28732



Melissa Clark
370 Glensprings Drive
Fletcher, NC 28732

April 30, 2012

To Whom It May Concern:

As a resident of Fletcher, I am against Mission Hospital's Certificate of Need application to move an endoscopy building to Fletcher. There are already at least 3 locations to receive this procedure including Mission Hospital, Pardee Hospital, and Park Ridge Hospital. All of these facilities are within 20 minutes of Fletcher.

I speak for many of my neighbors when I say that the Fletcher community already has great medical care with 3 hospitals close by. Many people like me already have a strong relationship with a primary care physician and can quickly get an appointment for a colonoscopy or other cancer screenings with one of the many providers already in the area. Of all the services that could be added to our community, endoscopy seems to be the one that we need the least.

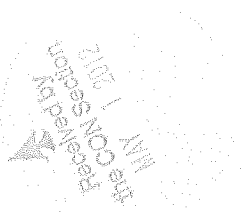
Thanks for allowing me input into this important process.

Sincerely,

Melissa Clark

208 Glover Street,

Hendersonville, NC 28792



Dear Sirs and Madams:

Please reconsider the moving of the GI room from Mission to Fletcher. The duplication of GI procedures is not needed in Fletcher. We have two good hospitals in Henderson County and would like to see healthy competition in our county. We are minutes away from one hospital with another 10 minutes down the highway. Please let common sense prevail and keep our costs from skyrocketing. Tell Mission No means NO.

Sincerely,

Geraldine Graham

Geraldine Graham

I am opposed to Mission Hospital building a new endoscopy center in Fletcher.

I'm amazed that such a project would ever be proposed, let alone considered. Why does this potential duplication of services concern me? The truth is that we all end up paying the cost of unnecessary healthcare facilities.

I am very satisfied with the medical options currently available to me and have no desire to help finance Mission's expansion into Henderson County. People already have the option of driving to Asheville for endoscopy services and there is no need for another facility.

This project seems more about enhancing Mission's competitive advantage than improving my choice in healthcare options. A new endoscopy center does nothing to improve my access to care or lower the cost. I would ask that you deny Mission's application to move its endoscopy suite from Asheville to Fletcher again. It seems rather careless with the tax payer's money to have to spend the time and energy to readdress the concern that was settled properly just shortly before this second attempt.

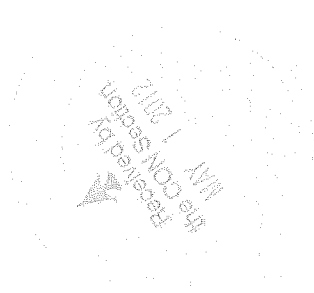
Please know I have lived in Henderson County for 18 years and moved here to support the needs of the area as the area helped me raise my family. I feel very passionate about being wise with the responsibilities we have to make prudent choices for the future.

Why doesn't Mission go to an underserved area and stop when they are told "no"? It appears to not be about caring for people but more about hopes of increased cash for Mission.

Thank you for considering my opinion,

Gwendolyn Sikes Williamson

Melissa F. Church
70 Green Knob Rd.
Old Fort, NC 28762



April 30, 2012

To Whom It May Concern,

This letter is to convey my strong opposition to Mission Hospital's application to move an endoscopy facility from Asheville to the Fletcher community. I have serious objections to this project and would ask that you deny the application.

My first concern is that there is absolutely no need for this project. The people of Fletcher already have multiple choices for endoscopy services. With a population of about 7,000 people, the Fletcher community already has a hospital that has been here for over a century.

Please consider my comments as you evaluate Mission Hospital's application.

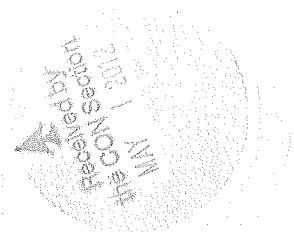
Sincerely,

Melissa F. Church

Melissa F. Church

April 24, 2012

Bart A. Boeckler
21 Planters Creek Road
Fletcher, NC 28732



To Whom It Concerns:

I am a long time resident of the Fletcher and am writing to oppose Mission Hospital's CON application for this endoscopy project. Thanks for gathering public input from the people who live here and would potentially be the end users of such a facility.

Local people understand that this endoscopy project is only a small portion of a much bigger facility. I do not believe that there is any need for either of these projects. Most of us know the background on this project and the greater implications for our community. We realize that Mission Hospital is planning an entire hospital campus on almost 20 acre of land. My sincere opinion is that Mission is simply using this endoscopy application to "test the waters" and gain momentum for the entire project. The community is not fooled by this tactic and I hope the State of North Carolina is not fooled either. In my sincere opinion Mission Hospital is systematically working to take over all healthcare in Western North Carolina, which in my opinion is very dangerous to the well being of all.

Please see this project for what it truly is and what it is not. It is not designed to serve me and my family. It seems designed to serve Mission's desire to claim more market share in Fletcher and Henderson County. I personally have spent many hours driving and participating in the public forums against this project. I can only hope that those who are involved see this second course changes nothing. Please make the right decision to stop Mission Hospitals reckless growth. Thanks for listening to the people of this area before making a decision on this controversial project.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Bart A. Boeckler'.

Bart A. Boeckler