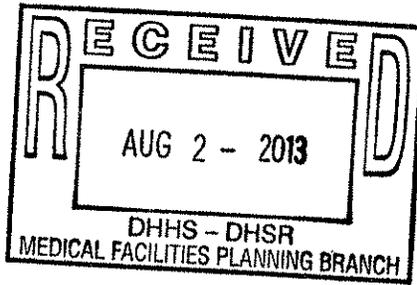




Office of the Mayor



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July 31, 2013

Mr. Jerry Parks
Chairman, NC State Health Coordinating Council
c/o Medical Facilities Planning Branch
Division of Health Service Regulation
2714 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699-2714

Re: Cape Fear Valley Health System Petition for an Adjustment to the Acute Care Bed Need

Dear Mr. Parks:

Cumberland County has experienced significant population growth during the last several years. Much of that growth was directly associated with the military and the Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC). As a result of that growth, Cape Fear Valley Health System (CFVHS) added 96 acute care beds over the last several years and has CON approval to add 65 more acute care beds in Cumberland County. In addition, CFVHS will be opening a 41-bed acute care hospital in Hoke County in 2014, which are all new acute care beds. Since then, the population growth essentially has flattened and population increases were, in fact, not as large as originally projected.

CFVHS submitted a petition for an adjustment to the acute care bed need determination for the Cumberland Service Area for 34 acute care beds in the 2014 SMFP. That adjustment takes into consideration the future opening of CFVHS Community Medical Center which will open in 2014.

CFVHS requests the adjusted bed need determination based upon the following factors:

- Acute care bed methodology growth rate for Cumberland County is too high
- Acute care beds under development by CFVHS

For these reasons, CFVHS believes that decreasing the 126 bed need for Cumberland County in the *Proposed 2014 SMFP* to 34 acute care beds is the most reasonable health planning option at this time. Further, CFVHS believes that a better understanding of the impact of the beds under development is needed.

Please convey to the members of the Acute Care Services Committee and the State Health Coordinating Council, my support for CFVHS's petition.

Sincerely,

Anthony G. Chavonne
Mayor

