

STATE OF CONNECTICUT
OFFICE OF HEALTH CARE ACCESS

M. JODI RELL
GOVERNOR

CRISTINE A. VOGEL
COMMISSIONER

October 24, 2006

Karen W. Poole, Esq.
Hospital's Legal Counsel
Bristol Hospital
P.O. Box 977
Bristol, CT 06011-0977

RE: CON Determination Request; Report Number: 06-30843-DTR
Bristol Hospital
Request to Expand and Renovate the Hospital's Emergency Department

Dear Ms. Poole:

On October 5, 2006, the Office of Health Care Access ("OHCA") received the Certificate of Need ("CON") Determination request from Bristol Hospital seeking to expand and renovate the Hospital's Emergency Department at an associated capital expenditure of \$750,000.

OHCA has reviewed the information contained in your request and makes the following findings:

1. Bristol Hospital ("Hospital") is an acute care, community hospital located on Brewster Road, in Bristol, Connecticut.
2. The Hospital is a health care facility or institution as defined by Section 19a-630 of the Connecticut General Statutes ("C.G.S.")
3. The Hospital proposes to renovate and expand its Emergency Department ("ED") services by increasing the number of its treatment stations by four (4), from eighteen (18) to twenty-two (22) treatment stations.
4. The Hospital intends to use existing ED space to create the additional four (4) "fast-track" service stations.

5. The Hospital's initiation of the "fast-track" program will allow the Hospital to more effectively triage ED patients through its system with the expected result of reducing ED patient waiting times.
6. The proposal will not result in any change to the following elements:
 - The type of service provided;
 - The current population served; and
 - The location of the existing service site.
7. The associated capital expenditure for the proposal is \$750,000.
8. The start date for the renovation and expansion project is October 30, 2006.
9. Pursuant to Section 19a-638 of the Connecticut General Statutes ("C.G.S."), each health care facility or institution which intends to introduce any additional function or service into its program of health care shall submit to OHCA, prior to the proposed date of the institution of such function or service, a request for permission to undertake such function or service.
10. Pursuant to Section 19a-639, as amended by Public Act 06-64, each health care facility or institution, proposing a capital expenditure exceeding three million dollars, or the acquisition of major medical equipment requiring a capital expenditure, as defined in regulations adopted pursuant to section 19a-643, in excess of four hundred thousand dollars, including the leasing or donation of equipment or a facility, shall submit a request for approval of such expenditure to OHCA, with such data, information and plans as OHCA requires in advance of the proposed initiation date of such project.

Based on the above findings, OHCA has determined that the Hospital's proposal does not represent a new function or service and the proposed capital expenditure is less than three million dollars. Pursuant to Sections 19a-638 and 19a-639, as amended by Public Act 06-64, C.G.S., Certificate of Need approval from OHCA is not required for the Bristol Hospital to renovate and expand its ED service. Therefore it will not be necessary for you to obtain further permission from OHCA in order to proceed with your proposed project.

Thank you for keeping OHCA informed of your plans regarding this proposal. If you have any questions concerning the above, please feel free to contact Jack A. Huber, Health Care Analyst, at (860) 418-7034.

Sincerely,

Signed by Cristine A. Vogel
Commissioner

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