



City of Bayonne

630 Avenue C

Bayonne, New Jersey 07002

Local Finance Board

Hon. Thomas DeGise
County of Hudson

I am writing to request the County of Hudson and the Local Finance Board end its pursuit of eminent domain of Bayonne Hospital.

At the August 18th Bayonne City Council meeting, I attempted to have a vote on the Ordinance requiring the city guarantee Hudson County Improvement Authority bonds for the eminent domain of Bayonne Hospital. Unfortunately, this motion did not receive a second since it does not and will not have the votes to pass. The Ordinance needs a supermajority of four of the five members. It appears to have, at most, three.

I am opposed to the use of eminent domain of the property for multiple reasons. First, the current property owner, HRH, has agreed to preserve Bayonne Hospital as a hospital. Second, HRH has provided a letter indicating a willingness to drop any litigation related to the rezoning of the property. This is important because it is through zoning that the city controls what uses are allowed on the property. Third, HRH has agreed to enter into negotiations with Bayonne to give us a right of first refusal which means if they decide to sell the property or change its use, we can buy it. Finally, this issue is a dispute between private parties and does not present a public benefit.

There are still a lot of details to be worked out, but at zero cost to the taxpayers, Bayonne Hospital will continue to operate for generations to come - it is a win-win for Bayonne and Hudson County. My only concern is protecting the hospital not picking who gets to run it. History has taught us that the government should not be in the hospital business.

Based upon the above facts, I ask that the County withdraw its application to the Local Finance Board or that the Local Finance Board reject the application. I remain committed to working with any and all parties to resolve the hospital situation.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Sharon Ashe Nadrowski
Council President
City of Bayonne

Cc: Norman Guerra, HCIA
Phil Murthy, Governor
Mayor James Davis
Commissioner Kenneth Konacz
Hudson County Board of Commissioners c/o Al Santos, Secretary

Council Member Juan Perez
Council Member Gary
Council Member Sal Gullace
Council Member Neil Carroll