



Office of Health Care Access

Modification of Previously Authorized Certificate of Need

Applicant: Bridgeport Hospital

Modification Docket Number: 08-31050-MDF

Modification Project Title: A request to modify a previous Certificate of Need authorization to increase the authorized capital expenditure by \$344,040 to \$3,174,141

Original Project Docket Number and Title: Docket Number 07-31050-CON;
The acquisition of a third catheterization laboratory

Statutory Reference: Sections 4-181a(b), Connecticut General Statutes

Filing Date: November 25, 2008

Decision Date: December 1, 2008

Staff: Karen Roberts

Project Description: Bridgeport Hospital proposes a modification of the Certificate of Need (“CON”) authorization issued under Docket Number 07-31050-CON, in order to increase the authorized capital expenditure by \$344,040, from \$2,830,101 to \$3,174,141. The CON authorization was for the acquisition of a third cardiac catheterization laboratory and the dedication of one of the three laboratories as an electrophysiology laboratory, at an associated capital expenditure of \$2,830,101.

Findings of Fact

1. On May 30, 2008, under Docket Number 07-31050-CON, the Office of Health Care Access (“OHCA”) granted a Certificate of Need (“CON”) pursuant to Section 19a-639 of the Connecticut General Statutes, to Bridgeport Hospital (“Hospital”) to acquire a third cardiac catheterization laboratory and to dedicate one of the three laboratories as an electrophysiology laboratory, at an associated capital expenditure of \$2,830,101. Condition #3 of the CON order states the following:

“3. The Hospital shall not exceed the approved capital cost of \$2,830,101. In the event that the Hospital learns of potential cost increases or expects that the final project costs will exceed those approved, the Hospital shall notify OHCA immediately.”

3. On November 25, 2008, OHCA received a request to modify the CON Final Decision under Docket Number 07-31050-CON, in order to increase the authorized capital expenditure by \$344,040, from \$2,830,101 to \$3,174,141. The Hospital identifies the following reasons for requesting the increase to authorized project costs:
 - An additional \$217,000 is needed to upgrade the power supply to the equipment. After a review of the power source to a similar laboratory, the Hospital determined that the supply was inadequate to support the equipment on a long term basis.
 - An additional \$127,040 is needed for architectural and design fees not included in the original authorization, for an increase in the construction contract due to additional management oversight and for an overall increase in the cost of construction materials.
4. The Hospital indicates that the project was scheduled for completion from a construction standpoint on November 17, 2008, which is the date the laboratory was delivered from Phillips Medical Systems. Additional time is required from a clinical perspective to test the equipment before it can be utilized for patient care¹. Accomplishments to date include room preparation, such as installation of a painted wall, ceiling protection and millwork. The flooring was installed in October.

Discussion

OHCA has reviewed this request for a modification to a previously authorized CON and finds that the relationship of the CON authorized under Docket Number 07-31050-CON, to Section 19a-637, C.G.S., is not significantly altered by this request for a modification under Docket Number 08-31050-MDF. The modification proposal does not alter the intended scope or timeframe for the project originally reviewed and acted upon by OHCA and the increased costs appear to be for circumstances that were unanticipated by the Hospital at the time of the original CON filing. The request for an additional \$344,040 appears to be reasonable.

¹ Condition #3 of the original CON authorization sets forth a CON expiration date of December 31, 2008 by which the project must be completed in its entirety.

Order

Based on the above discussion and the reasons provided in the Hospital's modification request, OHCA hereby grants the request and modifies the CON authorized under Docket Number 07-31050-CON. Condition #3 of the CON authorization under Docket Number 07-31050-CON is modified as follows:

3. The Hospital shall not exceed the approved capital cost of \$3,174,141. In the event that the Hospital learns of potential cost increases or expects that the final project costs will exceed those approved, the Hospital shall notify OHCA immediately.

All other conditions set forth in the CON authorization issued under Docket Number 07-31050-CON not modified herein, will remain in full effect.

By Order of the
Office of Health Care Access

Signed by Commissioner Vogel on December 1, 2008

Date

Cristine A. Vogel
Commissioner

CAV/kr