

# McCULLOUGH HILL LEARY, PS

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February 11, 2021

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

Colin Vasquez  
Seattle Department of Construction and Inspections  
700 Fifth Avenue, Suite 2000  
Seattle, Washington 98104

Re: Project No. 3036201-LU  
4800 Sand Point Way NE

Dear Colin:

We are writing on behalf of Seattle Children's ("Children's"), which submitted the above-referenced Master Use Permit (MUP) application pursuant to its Major Institution Master Plan (MIMP) for development of a new surgery building at its campus on Sand Point Way (the "Project"). The Project MUP application has been subject to two separate public comments periods and the Project has been reviewed on three separate occasions by the MIMP Standing Advisory Committee (SAC). Under SMC 23.69.034, the Project MUP will continue to be reviewed by the SAC. This extensive public review process has elicited multiple comments from the public and has led to modifications in the Project design. Obviously, the Project has been subject to a robust public review process.

Some public comments have suggested that the requirement for SAC review under Condition 15 of the City Council conditions on the MIMP have not been satisfied. Condition 15 reads:

15. Children's shall create and maintain a Standing Advisory Committee (SAC) to review and comment on all proposed and potential projects prior to submission of their respective Master Use Permit applications. The SAC shall use the Design Guidelines for their evaluation.

The City Council's emergency ordinance suspended meetings of City advisory boards during the early days of COVID-19. Therefore, Children's worked with the Seattle Department of Construction and Inspections (SDCI) and the Seattle Department of Neighborhoods (DON) to develop an outreach process to address Condition 15 under these unexpected limitations. Based on this collaboration, a video presentation of the new project was distributed to SAC members on July 1, 2020, so that they could review it and provide any comments at that time. Comments were

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directed to DON, and the MUP application was submitted thereafter. As noted, Children's confirmed the scheduling and planning for this process with both SDCI and DON.

Since the submittal of the Project MUP application, Children's, again working with SDCI and DON, has conducted two additional meetings of the SAC to obtain additional comments on the Project. That process remains underway.

As noted, Children's worked carefully with SDCI and DON to ensure that the pre-application meeting with the SAC would satisfy Condition 15 under the COVID-19 restrictions then in place, and Children's believes that this pre-submittal process did indeed conform to the requirements of Condition 15 under the circumstances. Children's has always been committed to an open and inclusive process with the public and the community regarding its projects, and in this spirit – even though additional steps to address Condition 15 are *not* required – Children's is prepared to withdraw and resubmit its MUP application so that additional pre-application SAC review of the Project can occur.

Children's is prepared to take this step with the understanding that this additional opportunity for review and comment should not unduly delay the Project. There has already been a substantial amount of public and SAC review of the Project to date, and this review process will commence again following resubmittal of the MUP application. The new surgery building is a critical project for Children's and the populations it serves and so it is important that the MUP process resume expeditiously. Given the many hours already devoted to SAC review of the Project, we believe two additional meetings would allow the SAC ample opportunity to provide "pre-submittal" comments. More hours of SAC review and comment will ensue following MUP application resubmittal.

For these reasons and under these conditions, Children's hereby withdraws its Project MUP application. We look forward to scheduling a SAC meeting for pre-submittal review as soon as possible and we will work with the co-chairs of the SAC toward this end.

Sincerely,



John C. McCullough

cc: Maureen Sheehan  
Seattle Children's