

Julie Elliott

5N359 Fairway Lane | ([REDACTED]

September 1, 2021

Itasca Village Board
Itasca Planning Commission

Dear Village Board & Planning Commission

I am writing to you today in regards to the Itasca Haymarket Proposal. I would urge all of you to vote no on this proposal. As a long time Itasca resident my main concern is with the health and safety of the tax paying residents of this community including myself and my family as well as the families of my two sisters who are also long time Itasca residents. As a health care worker, I am well aware of the problem of substance abuse in this country, however, just as Haymarket is trying to save lives, I am concerned with saving the lives of my family. Some of my family members have dire and long term health issues and as such may need emergency care from time to time. I've been to Alexian Brothers' emergency room twice this year alone with two different family members. The emergency department is overwhelmed and has been even before the pandemic. I believe that this 240 bed facility would put quite the strain on the hospital systems in the area even with Haymarket's own ambulance. My husband has already had



one heart attack and as a heart patient, he is always in danger of having another.

Heart disease remains the number one killer in America and still outpaces drug overdoses. Time is of the utmost importance during an emergency and I know this first hand. I do not want the lives of the tax paying citizens of Itasca to be put at risk because of this facility.

In conclusion, I would like to say that Haymarket would not be an asset to this community by its presence and would only be a hinderance to the lives of my fellow Itascans.

Sincerely,



Julie Elliott





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WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

September 1, 2021

Brendan Daly, Chairman
Itasca Plan Commission, Village of Itasca
550 W. Irving Park Road
Itasca, Illinois 60143

Re: Haymarket Center

Dear Chairman Daly:

I am the Alderman of the 44th Ward in Chicago and understand that Haymarket Center has applied for a special use permit to open a substance use disorder treatment facility in Itasca. I became aware of this application, and the hearings that followed, because Haymarket Center's attorney also represented Rosecrance Health Network in its application for a special use permit for a facility in our Ward. My experience in the Rosecrance matter might be informative to you and the Itasca Plan Commission.

Rosecrance Lakeview was an incredibly controversial case with many hearings and significant community opposition. Rosecrance proposed a recovery home and outpatient clinic on Ashland Avenue, a commercial street with a strong residential component. The proposed site is located immediately adjacent to condominiums and directly across an alley from high-end single-family homes. I had reservations about the project when it was considered and approved by the Chicago Zoning Board of Appeals but always understood the need for facilities of this type in every community. From what I understand, the Rosecrance facility is smaller than that proposed for Itasca but as impactful in a different way due to the close proximity to housing.

Since Rosecrance Lakeview opened in 2016, they have been a good neighbor, responsive to residents and participates in the community. I have had no adverse experience with the facility nor objections from its neighbors, many of whom strongly opposed the project during the approval process. Rosecrance's presence in the ward has been a positive addition for Lakeview and the City of Chicago.

I am familiar with Haymarket Center and its reputation as a highly regarded substance use disorder treatment provider. I share my perspective of Rosecrance Lakeview to offer helpful information as the Itasca Plan Commission reviews Haymarket Center's special use permit.

Please contact me at 773.525.6034 or Ward44@cityofchicago.org if you would like to discuss further.

Sincerely,



Thomas Tunney
44th Ward Alderman