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**FAX COVER SHEET**

**TO: Jim Brock**

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**FROM: Dr. Max**

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**DATE: 4/5/16**

**MESSAGE: Please see attached**

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As a physician in the community for the past 30 years, I have been a proponent for combining the services of all the hospitals serving the city of Utica and surrounding areas. The city I love and care for. At this point and time, we need to optimize the services and potential to streamline medical care in the Utica-Rome and their environs. We need to provide the best possible medical care for the community, especially with the bright future I foresee. A new state of the art hospital would be part of that vision. I, and others feel that the hospital is not just the hospital for Utica but the hospital for the Mohawk valley, Oneida, Herkimer and Madison counties and beyond. I have discussed this with many of my peers and members of the community. We feel that the new hospital should not be downtown but at the St. Luke's campus for the several reasons.

- It serves the whole community and not Utica alone.
- The cost savings would be significant (>100 million dollars).
- The lack of parking is paramount (non downtown).
- Putting a hospital in close proximity of a police department, Utica courthouse, Auditorium (with questionable future expansion) would affect the flow of traffic, progress and development of downtown Utica as it should be developed (I think an urban planner would agree with my position).
- A non-profit hospital does nothing for the Utica tax roles.
- Communities and cities are looking to consolidate services, decrease cost and taxes and some feel this may be a route for Utica-Rome and Oneida County in the future. A win-win for everyone.
- The smoothest transition would be via the St. Luke's campus and the possibility of medical school affiliation would be enhanced.
- The hospital at Murnane Field, once a consideration, would revitalize South Utica. On a random survey of practitioners, I have found a significant majority in support of this location.

If there is significant contention for this plan, we would be more than happy to sit down with the officials at the local, county, state levels to provide input and discussion into this dilemma. The decisions of today will form and provide for the growth and development of our community in the future.

Christopher C. Max, MD