

#NoHospitalDowntown

(Search us up on Facebook)

10-12 Liberty Street

Utica, NY 13502-3524

www.NoHospitalDowntown.com

Below is our official FB Group (#NoHospitalDowntown) response to MVHS's Board of Director's decision to approve the downtown Utica site as a location for the new hospital...

First we would like to thank the MVHS's Board of Directors for their vision in realizing "if the issues facing a downtown Utica location cannot be resolved, that they will look to approve a St Luke's Campus as the alternative site".

Our group will soon request copies of all the studies that were done and used by the MVHS Board to conclude that a downtown location was the best site. Also, we respectfully request that our leaders make these same reports public on their website www.mvhealthsystem.org

Our mission is to seek answers and to fully understand the following questions. We call on our leaders to address these and other issues openly with Utica and Mohawk Valley taxpayers:

- Will there be a feasibility study done, if so what criteria will be looked at?
- Can the infrastructure in the downtown location handle a project of this scope? That is; sanitary sewers, storm sewers, water, electricity and gas.
- What capacities will be left on public utilities for future development?
- What State and County agencies will be involved in the planning process, what firms have been hired to date?
- What are tentative start and completion dates for various stages of planning and construction?
- Will properties be purchased prior to final project approval?
- Who will be lead local agency?
- Are there any historical buildings in the planned foot print of the complex?
- How will the public be notified on progress and of public hearings and scoping sessions?

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Let it be further understood, that our group does not seek to generate negative energy and or to throw cold water on what some feel is an exciting plan. To the contrary, #NoHospitalDowntown is a champion for continued downtown Utica development. Our major concern is that we desire professionally-vetted plans and smart development. Our new website and research has only just begun.

In the coming weeks and months we will seek to educate both ourselves and the community as to the best use for downtown real estate. We feel smarter and more innovative development is vitally required to keep our recent successes on track. Such development- even if it is a new hospital- will only come by way of an open conversation, full public disclosure, and very careful study and planning.

As an example we offer multiple major road construction projects in Utica, whereby the NYS DOT has offered numerous public hearings, surveys, alternative plans and open access on their website. We want the same for this hospital plan and downtowns further development.

Our effort is to be a good friend to all Utica and Mohawk Valley residents; present, future (and especially to our historic past), so that anyone seeking healthcare, a vibrant downtown to live, work, or play within can have it!

Signed this day 9/22/2015 by:

#NoHospitalDowntown Facebook Group

NOTE: Please meet us online, or at the Utica Public Library at 4:30-5:30 each Friday. Share your ideas and knowledge of healthcare, and views on Utica's past and future for urban life. If you're a member of any Utica-area community group, please invite us to attend a future meeting.