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The City of New York Manhattan Community Board 8

Health, Seniors, and Social Services Committee Meeting Chapel of the Good Shepherd 543 Main Street Roosevelt Island, NY April 16, 2013 6:30PM

Community Board members in attendance: Jacqueline Ludorf, Ellen Polivy, Hattie Quarnstrom

LaRay Brown of the NYC Health and Hospital Corporation discussed the closing of Coler-Goldwater Hospital on Roosevelt Island. She discussed the building of a brand new skilled nursing and acute care hospital at what had been North General Hospital. This will be completed by the end of October at which time 300 patients from Coler-Goldwater will be transferred to that facility. Some patients will not be moving but will be transferred to Coler-Goldwater Hospital on Roosevelt Island. The hospital, replacing North General, will have a new name Henry Jay Carter Rehabilitation Center.

The replacement for Coler-Goldwater has been planned for over 10 years. The facility was operating since 1940. It does not meet current medical or regulatory requirements. They have worked with a private developer and various housing agencies for the developer of 175 apartments for patients at Coler-Goldwater who no longer need to be at a hospital but need mobility help. This is on east 99th street and 1st avenue. All these changes will allow Coler-Goldwater to be replaced. The patients will move to the new building on 99th street in 2015.

Once the patients leave Coler-Goldwater late October/November, the property will revert back to the City of New York who has entered into an agreement with Cornell-Technion who is responsible for the demolition.

The patients will be moved out at the end of October in two moves; one to the new facility on East 122nd street between Madison and Park then other patients will be moved to Coler-Goldwater Hospital. By the end of November HHC will be out of Coler-Goldwater. Upon vacating the building it will be ready for demolition.

The criteria for moving the patients will be based on clinical need. At the Henry Jay Carter Facility there are ventilators and other acute care equipment available. Patients who need this care will move there.

Then Coler-Goldwater patients will be moved and there is space for all the patients that need to go there. The patients will also be given their choice where possible. The high functioning patients can stay at Coler-Goldwater, or they might move to the new 99th street facility. Several of the patients have been in focus groups to discuss the new apartments on 99th street. A patient cannot be discharged involuntarily. Discharges are constantly being made at Coler-Goldwater and patients are constantly being placed in living facilities. The patients have to be engaged in their move.

The funding for these moves is as following. The funding for the housing on 99th street is \$57 million.

Most of the funding came from tax credits mostly federal. HCR Housing Community Renewal also provided funding because this housing reduced the cost of funding between Medicaid and housing costs. There is also an expectation of a mortgage and the rent income. They were able to get HUD Section 8 housing funds.

The financing of the new nursing home which cost 330 Million was as follows. Some funding from Medicaid reimbursement, 30 million from the state as a grant, the largest piece was NYC capital funding for the remainder of the project, which HHC as to pay this back as debt service.

A resident brought up the fact that some patients should remain at Roosevelt Island in apartments. Coler-Goldwater will have 815 residents but there is an affordability issues on Roosevelt Island. The basic problem is the lack of Section 8 funding to move people from Coler-Goldwater into apartments in Roosevelt Island. A long discussion followed on this matter. Ms. Brown had extensive discussions with elected officials on this matter. The challenge is what to do to obtain affordable housing. Ms. Brown also suggested we move forward with this idea not chastise HSS for efforts already underway.

There were problems with Hurricane Sandy and Coler-Goldwater Hospital. The necessary repairs are being made and renovations are underway.

The HSSS committee stated that they would see what they could do to allow patients of Coler-Goldwater Hospital to stay in apartments on Roosevelt Island.

Submitted by: Jackie Ludorf

Jackie Ludorf Chair, Health, Seniors, and Social Services Committee