



THE CITY OF NEW YORK
MANHATTAN COMMUNITY BOARD 3

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Alysha Lewis-Coleman, Board Chair

Susan Stetzer, District Manager

April 26, 2018

Jeremy Boal, M.D., President
Mount Sinai Beth Israel
281 1st Avenue
New York, NY 10003

Dear President Boal,

At its April 2018 monthly meeting, Community Board 3 passed the following resolution:

VOTE: Request to Mount Sinai Beth Israel Hospital to maintain or restore crucial medical services within or serving community district 3

WHEREAS, in May 2016, Mount Sinai Beth Israel, an 825 bed hospital serving downtown Manhattan, announced plans to close and replace it with a smaller hospital on 14th Street

WHEREAS, residents of Community District 3 use many of the services at Mount Sinai Beth Israel

WHEREAS, in 2016, Community Boards 3 and 6 held joint hearings where Mount Sinai Beth Israel presented an overview of its plans regarding this downsizing

WHEREAS, the downsizing of specific services have been planned without consideration for the types of services that are utilized by community residents; and

WHEREAS, Mount Sinai Beth Israel has submitted individual components of the downsizing to NYS Dept. of Health and Mental Hygiene for review through the Certificates of Need (CON) process, a "piecemeal" process that requires lesser levels of review with minimal or no public input

WHEREAS, Community Board 3 invited community members to speak during the March 8 Health, Seniors, & Human Services / Youth, Education, & Human Rights Committee meeting regarding services provided by Mount Sinai Beth Israel; and

WHEREAS, the public feedback included concerns regarding the *process* of eliminating services without public input and notification, and the articulation of specific services currently provided that should not be removed; and

WHEREAS, the procedural concerns included:

- Concern over the lack of transparency in decision-making
- Concern over the locations of services: from being currently located in the neighborhood to being distributed across the city following the downsizing
- Concern over travel difficulties for people seeking services who face mobility challenges, and for caregivers
- Concern over the "piecemeal" method of downsizing that requires lower level of Health Department oversight; and

WHEREAS, the crucial services that stand to be lost included:

- Primary care for patients with AIDS, HIV and Hepatitis C
- Treatment of acute and chronic illness (e.g. hypertension)
- Radiology
- Case management service
- Pediatrics, Pediatric Plastic Surgery, and a dedicated Pediatric Emergency Room
- Orthopedics, cardiac, and asthma services
- Inpatient beds
- Services for deaf people—specialists who can communicate in ASL, audiology services, live ASL interpreters
- Medical offices that accept Medicaid; and

WHEREAS, the loss of essential medical services and the downsizing process are of great concern to Community Board 3; and

WHEREAS it is crucial to return Labor and Delivery services within the district; so

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that Community Board 3 urges Mount Sinai Beth Israel to maintain the identified services in the community or see to it that they are relocated within a reasonable distance from current facilities; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Community Board 3 recommends that Mount Sinai Beth Israel management improve their decision-making process to address the lack of transparency.

Please contact the community board office with any questions.

Sincerely,



Alysha Lewis-Coleman, Chair
Community Board 3



Mae Lee, Chair
Human Services, Health, Disability & Seniors/Youth-
Education Committee

Cc: Brad Korn, Mount Sinai Health System—Community Affairs
Caroline Wekselbaum, Office of New York State Senator Brad Hoylman