Buncombe County Board of Commissioners

Chair	*District 1*	*District 2*	*District 3*
Amanda Edwards	Al Whitesides	Martin Moore	Parker Sloan
	Jennifer Horton	Terri Wells	Drew Ball

August 19, 2025

Ms. Micheala Mitchell
Chief, Healthcare Planning and Certificate of Need Section
Division of Health Service Regulation
2704 Mail Center Service
Raleigh, NC 27699-2704

Dear Ms. Mitchell:

On behalf of the Buncombe County Board of Commissioners, I am pleased to express our full support for AdventHealth's Certificate of Need application to develop a fixed PET scanner at its approved hospital in Weaverville.

I am committed to protecting and improving the health and safety of our residents. Western North Carolina faces unique challenges in ensuring timely access to specialized health services, particularly advanced diagnostic imaging such as positron emission tomography, or PET. These services are essential for the early detection and management of cancer, neurological conditions, and complex chronic diseases.

AdventHealth's proposal to develop a fixed PET scanner at its approved hospital in Weaverville represents a vital expansion of diagnostic capacity for Western North Carolina. Strategically located, the hospital will serve as a new access point for patients across Buncombe and Western North Carolina, including many rural areas where such services are not readily available. By locating the PET scanner within this new hospital, AdventHealth is bringing high-quality, advanced imaging closer to home for thousands of residents who would otherwise face travel and logistical barriers.

Early detection is key to improving patient outcomes. A fixed PET scanner in Weaverville will enable timely, accurate diagnoses and reduce the burden on existing providers in the region. Importantly, it will help ensure that underserved and uninsured patients, including those we serve every day, are not left behind when it comes to accessing life-saving diagnostic services.

AdventHealth's longstanding commitment to community service, compassionate care, and regional investment is evident in this proposal. The addition of PET services at the Weaverville hospital directly supports their mission to enhance access and promote health equity across Western North Carolina.

For these reasons, I strongly urge the Division of Health Service Regulation to approve AdventHealth's CON application to develop a fixed PET scanner in Buncombe County. This project will help ensure that the people of Western North Carolina, particularly those in rural and underserved communities, have equitable access to the diagnostic care they need to live longer, healthier lives.

Sincerely,

Amanda Edwards
Chair, Buncombe County Board of Commissioners

DRAFT