



## LANSING REGIONAL CHAMBER

We Work Relentlessly to Help Businesses **Connect, Grow and Thrive.**

July 8, 2024

Lansing City Council  
124 W Michigan Ave  
Lansing, MI 48933

Dear Members of the Lansing City Council,

On behalf of the Lansing Regional Chamber of Commerce (LRCC), we want to share our support for the University of Michigan-Sparrow's proposal to create a new, much-needed 120-bed behavioral health facility in Lansing. One of our key policy priority areas is healthcare accessibility, and we firmly believe that this initiative aligns with our commitment to ensuring patients in our community have appropriate mental and behavioral health options.

We value historic landmarks and understand the resolution before the council this evening. We would caution in using language that could be detrimental to the future development. The Lansing School District sold the old Eastern High School in 2016 and subsequently Lansing voters approved a school bond proposal which included a new Eastern High School to support a modern learning environment. Community needs should outweigh preserving a building that no longer serves its original purpose.

The University of Michigan-Sparrow, which owns the property, is committed to our community's health and well-being. Their new behavioral health facility represents a significant investment in critical healthcare services, job creation in our region and enhancing the economic revitalization of the Michigan Avenue Corridor.

We want to reiterate our enthusiasm for the University of Michigan-Sparrow's investment in this behavioral health facility and urge City Council to fully support the University of Michigan-Sparrow proposal and reject any measures that would hinder this vital project. The health and well-being of our community depend on forward-thinking initiatives, and we are excited about the positive impact it will have in the Lansing region especially, patients in our community.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Tim Daman  
President and CEO  
Lansing Regional Chamber of Commerce