

**MetroHealth**

SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
CASE WESTERN RESERVE
UNIVERSITY

Akram Boutros, MD, FACHE
President and Chief Executive Officer

Clinical Professor of Medicine

May 20, 2015

The Honorable Michael P. Summers
Mayor, City of Lakewood
Mayor's Office
12650 Detroit Avenue
Lakewood, OH 44107

Dear Mayor Summers:

I have not yet received your actual letter, but do have an e-mail version and am prepared to respond.

We at MetroHealth are committed to responsibly collaborating with others in the interests of improving the health of our community. Therefore, we are uncomfortable re-engaging in any discussion about the proposal that MetroHealth and our partner, Premier Physicians, submitted in May 2014, and augmented with an in-person presentation in September 2014. Our concerns also extend to any new proposal which would require a reassessment of the changes that have occurred since the initial submission, which was based on 2012 and 2013 Lakewood Hospital data.

In addition, it's been widely reported that the City of Lakewood and the Cleveland Clinic Foundation have an agreement regarding the future of Lakewood Hospital. We do not want in any way to interfere with that agreement. This is both a legal concern (tortious interference with any legally binding agreement) and an unwillingness to act with anything less than transparency and cooperation with all the parties involved in the future of Lakewood Hospital.

As always, we remain committed to working with you and other partners in improving the health of the Lakewood community.

Warmest regards,

Akram Boutros, MD, FACHE

c: Members of Lakewood City Council
County Executive Armond Budish
Members of Cuyahoga County Council
Members of Lakewood Hospital Association Governing Board