

Resolution in opposition to the closure of the VA Hospital in Leeds, MA:

Whereas: Many Holyoke & Western MA resident veterans receive medical care at the VA H In Leeds, MA

Whereas: the current V.A. plan is to consolidate beds for the Veterans' mental health care and long-term care either in Eastern Mass. (Bedford, Brockton, Jamaica Plain) and/or in Newington, CT

Whereas: Lack of transportation to distant locations will create a hardship for families and lead to limited access to care for veterans

Whereas: Decreased care locations for veterans will lead to long delays for or denials of needed care.

Whereas: Our veterans have earned the medical/community care they receive due to their service to our country

Now be it resolved: The Holyoke City Council opposes the closure of the VA Hospital in Leeds MA and/or the reduction of community services offered at or through that site.