DIVIDER II. PROPOSAL DESCRIPTION:

1. PROVIDE A COMPLETE DETAILED PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND INCLUDE EQUIPMENT BID QUOTES.

Currently St. Francis Hospital is utilizing a mobile MRI service for all MRIs completed at St. Francis. The proposal is to purchase a MAGNETOM Altea MRI System. The MAGNETOM Altea is the new 1.5T Open Bore system. This combines the BioMatrix technology with the new syngo MR XA software platform and the Turbo Suite to transform care delivery for the better. The open MRI reduces patient anxiety and claustrophobia. The Tim 4G (total imaging matrix in the 4th generation) provides for excellent image quality and speed with Siemens unique DirectRX technology enabling all digital-in/digital-out design and Dual-Density Signal Transfer Technology. The TIM 4G suite allows excellent head-to-toe imaging for Neuro, Angio, Cardiac, Body, Oncology, Breast, Ortho, Pediatric.

See attached quotes for equipment and shielding costs. The MAGNETOM Altea MRI System with accessories is $1,401,692. Shielding cost is estimated at $113,000. The MRI will be funded through Mercy Foundation and the shielding will be funded through Mercy routine capital funds.

2. PROVIDE A TIMELINE OF EVENTS FOR THE PROJECT, FROM CON ISSUANCE THROUGH PROJECT COMPLETION.

This project is expected to go-live with patient usage in January 2026.

3. PROVIDE A LEGIBLE CITY OR COUNTY MAP SHOWING THE EXACT LOCATION OF THE PROJECT.

The unit will be located at St. Francis Hospital, 100 US-60, Mountain View, Missouri. A map of the service area for St. Francis hospital is attached.

4. DEFINE THE COMMUNITY TO BE SERVED AND PROVIDE THE GEOGRAPHIC SERVICE AREA FOR THE EQUIPMENT.

Below is a summary table that outlines projected 2026 population for each of Mercy Hospital St. Francis's primary service area counties. Most patients originate from these counties for this Critical Access Hospital. Total projected population for 2026 in St. Francis primary service area totals 89,307. The data source for this information is Missouri Hospital Data Institute – census data is broken down by counties.

COUNTY	2026 PROJECTED POPULATION
Carter	5,724
Howell	40,134
Oregon	10,311
Shannon	8,054
Texas	25,084

5. PROVIDE OTHER STATISTICS TO DOCUMENT THE SIZE AND VALIDITY OF ANY USER-DEFINED GEOGRAPHIC SERVICE AREA.

Missouri Hospital Institute reports 215 inpatient discharges for fiscal year 2024 for Mercy Hospital St. Francis and a total of 28,970 outpatient visits. Outpatient visits include emergency department visits, observation patient visits, outpatient surgeries, and clinical outpatient visits. Most of these discharges and visits are derived from the primary service area that has been presented. This defined service area has been consistently accepted by the CON committee with previous CON applications.

6. IDENTIFY SPECIFIC COMMUNITY PROBLEMS OR UNMET NEEDS THE PROPOSAL WOULD ADDRESS.

The Mobile MRI that St. Francis Hospital is currently using is unreliable due to transportation issues and the movement on the systems causes equipment failure. In the past 2 years MRIs have had to be canceled due to weather. There have also been driver, tech, and equipment issues. Radiologists state that the images are subpar with the mobile unit. When the mobile unit is not available patients must travel longer distances for an MRI scan. There is high poverty in this rural geographic area where reliable transportation is a barrier to accessing needed healthcare. A stationary unit will allow growth in the regional area and will provide the same level of service the patient would receive at Mercy Hospital Springfield, but the patients will be able to stay in their local area for service.

7. PROVIDE THE HISTORICAL UTILIZATION FOR EACH OF THE PAST THREE YEARS AND UTILIZATION PROJECTIONS THROUGH THE FIRST THREE (3) FULL YEARS OF OPERATION OF THE NEW EQUIPMENT.

FY2022 509 Mobile MRI
FY2023 700 Mobile MRI
FY2024 946 Mobile MRI

Projected:
FY2027 1,700
FY2028 2,000
FY2029 2,250

8. PROVIDE THE METHODS AND ASSUMPTIONS USED TO PROJECT UTILIZATION.

Mercy Hospital St. Francis uses a fiscal year reporting period that runs from July 1 – June 30. All utilization quantities and projections are based on this reporting method.

In projecting utilization, historical procedure trends were reviewed. Also, these projections take into consideration expansion and efficiency gains.

9. DOCUMENT THAT CONSUMER NEEDS AND PREFERENCES HAVE BEEN INCLUDED IN PLANNING THIS PROJECT AND DESCRIBE HOW CONSUMERS HAD AN OPPORTUNITY TO PROVIDE INPUT.

There have not been any direct new releases to patients, however the stationary MRI will provide a better patient experience over the mobile unit utilized currently. Due to various issues MRIs have had to be canceled due to the unreliability of the Mobile MRI which causes dissatisfaction for patients. Data supports these statements and gives reasoning behind this request in our strategic planning as a Ministry.

10. PROVIDE COPIES OF ANY PETITIONS, LETTERS OF SUPPORT OR OPPOSITION RECEIVED.

There is no known opposition to the proposed request. Letters of support to move forward with the purchase of the stationary MRI are attached.

11. DOCUMENT THAT PROVIDERS OF SIMILAR HEALTH SERVICES IN THE PROPOSED SERVICE AREA HAVE BEEN NOTIFIED OF THE APPLICATION BY A PUBLIC NOTICE IN THE LOCAL NEWSPAPER.

The notice ran in the Howell County News on April 23, 2025. A copy of the notice is attached.

12. DOCUMENT THAT PROVIDERS OF ALL AFFECTED FACILITIES IN THE PROPOSED SERVICE AREA WERE ADDRESSED LETTERS REGARDING THE APPLICATION.

There is no other hospital within a 15-mile radius of Mercy St. Francis hospital. Therefore, no letters were sent out for this project.