

## Eric Zamft, AICP

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**From:** Chief Annette Mecklenburg  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 11, 2021 2:11 PM  
**To:** Eric Zamft, AICP  
**Cc:** Chris Britton; Karen Knittel; Susanna Niermann O'Neil  
**Subject:** RE: MetroHealth - 10 Severance Circle

Eric,

I spoke to Susanna and she suggested that probably all that is needed is a statement from me about the MetroHealth expansion. Here are my thoughts on the safety and security of the expansion.

Since learning of the expansion, I have had a few conversations with the Police Chief about the matter. The facility will be a locked down unit and people who are admitted will not be released until having received treatment. The unit will not be handling prisoners nor court ordered patients, but rather those who are brought in by family members or who enter the facility voluntarily for treatment. The building will be locked and the courtyard area outside will also have a non-climbable wall as a security measure. The Chief advised that there will 24 hour security in the unit so an officer will be assigned at all times if needed. Based on these measures, I do not have any concerns about the security of the unit and I will continue to maintain contact with the Chief regarding these issues. While I certainly understand the concerns of nearby residents, I do not believe that people will be freely leaving the unit and running through our neighborhoods. In the past, this occurred more often when Walmart and other stores were operational at Severance. On occasion a person committing a theft may have fled toward the residential neighborhoods to avoid apprehension. However, I do not believe that there is currently a problem anymore due to the limited number of retail stores that are open and operating at Severance.

I hope that this addresses the concerns of the community. If you have any further questions or would like more information, please feel free to contact me.



**Chief Annette Mecklenburg**

City of Cleveland Heights Police Department  
40 Severance Circle  
Cleveland Heights, OH 44118  
P: 216-291-4974  
chief@clvhts.com  
[www.ClevelandHeights.com/Police](http://www.ClevelandHeights.com/Police)

