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HENNEPIN COUNTY MEDICAL CENTER, MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA 55415 VOLUME 28, NO. 2, JULY 2007

## Work to begin on major facility renovation and expansion

Hardhats and cranes are in our future as an \$80 million renovation and expansion begins this summer. The first phase will add up to 58 more inpatient beds on the downtown campus, replace Family Medical Center, and fund the purchase of land downtown for a new ambulatory clinic and education building.

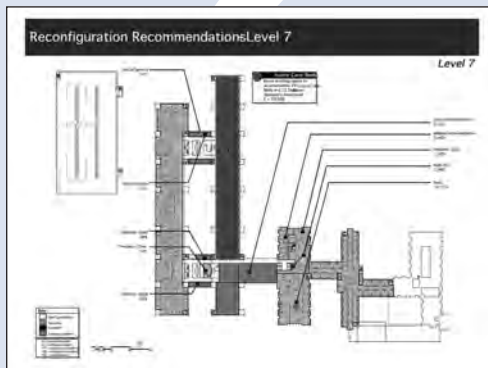
“The projects downtown are focused on providing patients easier, more convenient access to our services by getting high volume clinics off the upper floors of the buildings and into a modern, accessible ambulatory building and, at the same time, adding new variable acuity beds in rooms that are private, which is today’s standard for infection control, patient privacy, and operational efficiency,” said Deborah Sweetland, Office of Strategy Management.

Capital funding for the project was approved in June and already hospital employees, physicians, and patients are providing input to architects and planners as they create new facilities that will meet current and future needs. Employees from 26 departments, with more than 750 years of combined experience at Hennepin, met with architects in July.

“We’re actively seeking input from employees to identify what nurses, ancillary staff, support staff, physicians, and others who will work in the units will need, and where they need things to be located in order to do their jobs,” said Sweetland. “We are fortunate to be working with an industrial engineer and architects who have extensive experience designing hospitals and clinics that meet

today’s functional programming needs, so the input of employees plus the experience of the planners and architects will combine to create an outstanding facility.”

The first project is to relocate the Infectious Disease Clinic and Positive Care Center from Red 7 to the former Urgent Care Center space on Blue 1. The construction will begin to add 38 new ICU and Med Surg telemetry beds, which are expected to open by May 2008.



### New Buildings

The timeline for construction of the two new buildings in the Hennepin system is still being finalized. Planning has started on the new ambulatory building in South Minneapolis that will replace Family Medical Center. The intent is to purchase land by the end of 2007 and complete construction by early 2009. A site has not yet been identified.

The preliminary planning for the downtown building shows acquisition of land by March of 2008. The second phase of the capital project includes construction of the ambulatory and education facility to be completed by summer of 2009.



## New CNO joins Hennepin

Kathy Wilde joined Hennepin County Medical Center July 16 as the hospital’s new Chief Nursing Officer, succeeding Becky Enos, who retired last month.

Wilde (rhymes with tiled) has more than 30 years of nursing leadership experience. Since 1995, she was with Mercy and Unity Hospitals, most recently serving as Vice President of Operations/Patient Care and as Chief Nursing Officer. Prior to that, she spent more than 20 years in nursing management with the University of Minnesota Hospital and Clinics. Before moving into nursing leadership roles, she practiced nursing in the areas of critical care, oncology and general medicine.

“We are so fortunate to welcome Kathy to Hennepin at this time,” said Lynn Abrahamsen, CEO. “Her experience is such a good fit for who we are and are becoming, so we couldn’t be more pleased.”

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