

Work Starts on New Edmond Hospital

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EDMOND - Dirt work at the site of Edmond's new 40-bed hospital at 4801 Integrus Parkway, along Interstate 35, is under way after a delay because of national economic conditions. The \$94 million project is being constructed on the east side of the interstate, just north of 15th Street. Integrus Health Edmond is expected to open in fall 2011.

Groundbreaking for the hospital took place in the fall of 2008. Construction was delayed until now because of the economic downturn of late 2008 and 2009, said Avilla Williams, Integrus Health Edmond president.

Lane Pittman, project manager for Robins & Morton of Plano, Texas, said his company has moved onto the 44-acre site and began clearing the property about three weeks ago. Bad weather has hindered work so far.

Construction crews are currently building a quarter-mile-long road from the frontage road to where the 151,482-square-foot hospital will be built.

"We truly value the strong showing of support from the Edmond community," Williams said. "We look forward to working closely with Edmond city leadership as well as our Integrus Health Edmond Advisory Board to seek their counsel as we proceed."

The acute care hospital will have 24 medical and surgical beds, six intensive care suites, 10 women center suites along with four operating suites, a full service emergency department and a state-of-the-art imaging center.

The women's center will give mothers an opportunity to have their babies inside the city limits. That has not been an option for pregnant women in Edmond for several years.

"The feedback has been very positive," Williams said.

According to information provided by Integrus, a 45,000-square-foot medical office building will open in conjunction with the hospital. Future plans are to build an extensive medical complex that serves the future health care needs of Edmond and the surrounding communities. The hospital is designed with the focus of enhancing the patient and visitor experience.

Single-patients rooms will have hotel-like amenities such as wireless Internet services, temperature control systems, room service dining and oversized windows.

The hospital is being built as environmentally friendly as possible and will use wind power from Edmond Electric.

Integris is working with the city of Edmond to preserve trees on the hospital property. Plans call for more than 3.5 acres of trees to be preserved and for construction of trails along Spring Creek with community parking.

Integris has started geographically locating primary care clinics in the Edmond community to assist patients in accessing care closer to home.

"Our hope is that the residents of Edmond will not only embrace our hospital and clinics as their health care provider of choice, but that they will see us as a committed civic member within the community as well," Williams said.

Construction of the Edmond Integris Hospital is scheduled to be finished in the summer of 2011, according to information posted at the Robins & Morton Web site.