



Final Design Review Complete. . .

Final Pre-Bid drawings were issued for review April 6. Representatives from Physical Plant, Cardiovascular Services, Neurosciences, Oncology, Pediatrics, Support Services, and Hospital Administration completed review of the drawings during April and May. This was a final review to be certain previous comments and concerns were incorporated into the design of the project. All program elements need to be accommodated as initially indicated at the onset of the project. The project is scheduled to go out for bid August 15.

Constructability meetings are also nearing completion in order to have the phasing information included in the project specifications. Issues relating to the space dedicated for the mechanical shafts and rooftop penthouses are resolved. The design of the new helipad is finalized. Construction impacts to the 5th and 6th floors of the east wing are being finalized. Direction has been given to the consultants to absolutely minimize any impact on

operations, especially with respect to the closure of any beds.

As the design phase of the Vertical Expansion Project winds down, the VE Communications Team thought it was time to summarize where we have come from in this project and the next steps to be taken.

As a reminder, all decisions for processes and procedures for the expansion, as well as for those units remaining in the north wing, are based upon the guiding principles of customer focus. The customer is not just the patient and family, but also includes all who work here. The main theme is Patient and Family Centered Care with an interdisciplinary team working on how this philosophy will unfold here at University Hospital. Another principle in the decision-making process is that the solutions must be financially viable; they need to add value and be cost effective.

Lastly, work redundancies will be eliminated and the processes will incorporate best practices. This

is vitally important as we benchmark ourselves with like institutions throughout the country. All outcomes will be measured through quality, service and productivity.



Figure 1: Tim Gadziala, Physical Plant, provides direction to contractors working in the mock up room at the Continental Can Bldg.

Many accomplishments have been realized in the last year. The Unit Logistics Team is defining the day-to-day operations of how patient care will be delivered in the Vertical Expansion as well as the north wing. The mock up room has helped the group to make decisions. Once the processes have been finalized, there will be discussion on how and who will be completing each task. Along with this will be the need for staffing models to be evaluated and then implemented.

The Vertical Expansion work groups have readily accepted input from staff on the design developments as well as processes of workflow. Decisions that the staff have impacted include: the medical gas service booms in the Pediatric ICU patient rooms, interior design color choices, use of shared spaces, use of a pneumatic tube to support delivery of chemotherapy and other pharmaceutical supplies which presently are delivered to the floor via courier, and patient lift equipment. Each of the working groups has staff representatives involved in the decision processes. It is important that staff have the input into how the work will be done in the new expansion as well as within the north tower.

Amended Certificate of Need Approved

The State Hospital Planning and Review Council has approved the amended certificate of need (CON) for the Vertical Expansion Project. Approval of the amended CON was required by the state since vertical expansion costs and design plans changed from the originally approved CON. The Council's decision enables University Hospital to increase its pediatric bed capacity to 61. Original design plans called for 50 pediatric beds.

"It was very clear 50 beds would not do it," said Dr. Thomas Welch, Chairman of Pediatrics, "We thought what a shame to go through all this effort and a few months after the facility opens

find out we didn't have enough beds." We are currently certified for 43 beds, 12 of them temporary. Our revised plan enables the 12 to become permanent, plus adds 18 more.

The amended CON also includes other key features that will provide the hospital with greater efficiencies such as: a 6" pneumatic tube system, a fire command center, decontamination space on the 7th interstitial floor, and air handling system upgrades.

The additional 11 pediatric beds, several upgrades and the increase in building materials such as steel and fuel costs raised the price of the Vertical Expansion project from \$99 million to \$118.9 million. Part of the additional expense will be covered by charitable donations and the remainder will be supported by additional hospital bond funds.

"The state's approval of our plans reflects well on the dedication and determination so many individuals have shown to the Vertical Expansion Project," said Phillip S. Schaengold, JD, interim executive director of University Hospital.

Site Visit to Faxton-St. Luke's Healthcare in Utica

Representatives from Pediatrics, Respiratory, Facility Design, IMT and Hospital Administration visited Faxton-St. Luke's Healthcare in Utica. The purpose of the site visit was to look at their medical gas service boom. They use a system

comprised of two service arms; one delivering all necessary gases, outlets, data ports, while the second medical service arm is primarily a ventilator hook up. The design of this piece of equipment is universal in that any ventilator can be hooked up to it. Our Respiratory Department really liked this model.

The personnel at Faxton-St. Luke's also shared their experiences with us. They praised the overhead boom system. Advantages included: environmental cleanliness - it is easier to clean the room since the equipment is not touching the floor; and the equipment can be moved to meet the needs of each individual patient.

Project Timeline

4/4/05 - Architect submitted Pre-Bid architectural, electrical, mechanical, structural and site plans for Upstate to review.
7/1/05 - Updated Drawings submitted for final coordination and review.
8/15/05 - Project goes out for bid.
12/15/05 - Contract Awarded. Construction will start as soon after this date as the contractor is able to mobilize crews. Demolition of the two houses on Irving Ave will occur at the onset of the project along with site preparation.

Please forward your questions or comments to:

VEupdate@upstate.edu.