Austin State Hospital
Construction Update

Open House
January 24, 2020
Presentation Agenda

• Project Overview
• Hospital Design
• Ways to Preserve History
• How to get involved
State Hospital Construction

• Older buildings create challenges to providing state-of-the-art care

• Texas lawmakers have approved $745 million for construction

• New hospitals
  o San Antonio
  o Austin
  o Rusk
  o Houston

• Renovations
  o San Antonio
  o Kerrville
Austin Overview

Spending Every Dollar We Can on State-of-the-Art Patient Care

• Design enhances healing
• 240-bed hospital adult units
• Total project budget: $304.6 M
  • Asking lawmakers for $124.1 in next session
• Opens June 2023
• Working with Dell Medical School
Pre-Planning

• More than 100 people made up steering committee
  • 16 subcommittees including:
    • Peer and Family
    • Historic Preservation
    • Academic Integration
  • “People First”

• Pre-planning report published in December 2018 [www.ashredesign.org](http://www.ashredesign.org)
Site Analysis

- Chosen site needed to minimize impact on:
  - Existing hospital operations
  - Support agency functions
  - "Old Main" (building 501)
  - Other historic buildings
  - Campus infrastructure
- Southwest site recommended by Steering Committee
Patient Living Units

Design features include:
- Using the architecture to help people heal
- Single patient rooms and patient bathrooms
- 24 bed units with 8-bed sub-clusters
- Open care desk to promote personal interaction
- Porch and courtyard access
- Activity rooms, quiet activity rooms, and dining room
- Abundant natural light
- Use of color for wayfinding

More trees and enhanced gardens allow landscaping to be part of the patients’ healing on campus.
Design features include:
• Separate areas for adults and children
• Direct connection to medical clinic
• Safe and discreet entrance to enhance privacy and security
Preservation Action Plan

• We’re taking great care to preserve the records that tell the stories by:
  • Carefully documenting the buildings through still and aerial photograph
  • Creating detailed drawings of floor plans
  • Ground-penetrating radar and digging to investigate areas of interest
  • Detailed reports on any pre- and post-demolition archeological findings
Keeping the Stories Alive

• Digitizing records
• Working with cultural consultant creating historical showplace space
• Consider locations for campus historical center
• Working with community to preserve the site’s character
Buildings to Come Down
Community Impact

- Normal hospital operations
- Several hundred construction jobs
- Bidding opportunities
- Efforts to limit construction noise to normal business hours
- Limited impact to traffic off-campus
Thank you

For more information email HealthandSpecialtyCare@hhsc.state.tx.us; Visit ashredesign.org or visit: https://hhs.texas.gov/about-hhs/process-improvement/changes-state-hospital-system