

Cabarrus Health Alliance Breaks Ground



Construction has started on the new Cabarrus Health Alliance facility in downtown Kannapolis.

The state-of-the-art, 61,000-square-foot building is situated on a 3.6-acre site which anchors one corner of the gateway intersection to the new NC Research Campus. In addition to the full offering of public health services provided by the CHA, the new facility will include a public health training facility as well as a training/practice daycare.

“Our new facility will significantly enhance our service delivery,” said William F. Pilkington, DPA, director of the Cabarrus Health Alliance. “Not only that, but the physical proximity to the NC Research Campus will allow us to increase our collaborative research efforts.”

CHA is currently involved in several national research development projects. One of these is a business process reengineering project funded by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. Another is a collaboration with IBM to bring personal health records to every health care consumer in the United States. CHA is also working with the State of North Carolina, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and IBM in developing electronic surveillance systems for tracking emerging diseases of public health significance.

Kannapolis and Cabarrus County are financing partners for the project. The building was designed by Odell Associates, Inc., and Cox-Schepp Construction, Inc. is the general contractor. The projected completion date is December 2011.



Pedestrian Tunnel Construction Underway

In March, Loop Road was closed between A Street and West C Street for the construction of the pedestrian tunnel that connects the NC Research Campus and Village Park. The project also includes the installation of new storm water lines. The closure will last until late fall or early winter. Signs will be posted throughout central Kannapolis to help direct the flow of traffic along recommended detour routes. More information on this and other road closings can be found at www.cityofkannapolis.com.

Center City Masterplan Effort Launched

After months of thoughtful development, a new Center City Master Plan has been released. Prepared to provide the City of Kannapolis with a prioritized set of goals for the ongoing development and revitalization of the Center City, the document is one way that the City can help address the future of downtown.

“We’ve had incredibly positive feedback from our key stakeholders,” said Kannapolis Planning Director Ben Warren. “I’m excited by the potential impact that recommendations in the plan can have on the vibrancy of downtown Kannapolis.”

The Center City has experienced drastic changes in the past decade. Once home to the expansive Cannon Mills textile manufacturing complex (later Pillowtex) and a thriving retail/factory outlet base that focused on home furnishings and textiles, today’s Center City is an emerging hub for scientific research.

Recommendations in the plan include streetscape improvements, bike lanes, enhancements to the appearance of major gateways and removal of high voltage transmission lines. The plan also addresses revitalization of downtown, from residential to retail to institutional developments on the NC Research Campus.



This plan will be used to focus the efforts of the City on those projects and issues that can make the most positive impact on the future of Center City. And like all good plans, it is designed as an evolving document that will need to be evaluated and updated as time passes to account for changing realities in the economy, City priorities and growth.

To view the plan in its entirety, visit www.cityofkannapolis.com or contact Ben Warren at 704-933-5999.