

Cincinnati Children's Burnet Campus Expansion – Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Why do you need to expand the medical center and how are you communicating your plans?

- Because of the significant growth in patients and services over the last decade. The new building would expand services for our sickest children, including patients needing newborn and pediatric intensive care, cardiac care and bone marrow transplants.
- Between fiscal years 2009 and 2016, the average number of patients spending the night in the hospital grew more than 26%. Our Intensive Care Units operate above 90% capacity more than half of the year, which can create a backlog in surgery and trickle down to the rest of the system.
- We have been considering further expansion as our hospital occupancy has risen to levels that can soon compromise our ability to deliver great care to all our patients.
- This plan was widely shared with many community organizations, including the Avondale Community Council, ACDC, Concerned Clergy of Avondale, Uptown Consortium, and others.
- In the past 6 months, we have developed more detailed plans with our design and construction partners, and began the community meetings to engage our neighbors. We have recently established a Community Advisory Committee of Avondale residents and leaders to further improve communication and engagement.

Why is the planned expansion to the North requiring a reroute of Erkenbrecher?

- The only clinical option to effectively combine the services needed for our sickest patients; those getting intensive care, heart surgery, cancer care and newborn nursery care exists in the North expansion.
- Because of the hill between Erkenbrecher and Hearne, this building has to be built into the hill and cannot span Erkenbrecher. Because of underground infrastructure and the connections that are needed between our services, the expansion could not be built over a tunnel. The re-routing of Erkenbrecher will maintain the important East – West connection between Burnet and Vine Street.
- The Ronald McDonald House will stay in its current location.

See below for a map of the planned expansion and rerouting of Erkenbrecher:



Why are you expanding the Northern Avenue Parking Garage along with this expansion?

- There are zoning requirements for increased parking when completing a building expansion project such as the proposed clinical expansion project.
- Expansion of the existing garage to the south will allow employees to park at that site and open parking spaces under the hospital for patients and families.
- Proposed parking will improve on-site parking for staff, working to reduce or eliminate employees that presently park in the neighborhood.
- There will also be one floor of underground parking under the new building for families.

What are you doing to help relocate any residents that need to move?

- There would be approximately 5-8 families who would need to relocate because they live in the area of the planned building. We have informed all of the families who will be impacted about our plans for expansion and the potential for relocation.
- Families will get several months advance notice before needing to move.
- A Community Coordinator will work directly with families to help with resources and support services. The Coordinator will help ensure that their transition is successful.
- If additional families will need to relocate, we will inform and provide them with relocation services and supports.

Cincinnati Children's owns many properties in Avondale. What is the plan to re-develop these properties; many are presently boarded up and not occupied?

- All properties were purchased for at least their value by city appraisal at the time of the purchase. Eight were purchased as part of a "sheriff's sale", all others were purchased from the individual owners.
- We will engage in a planning process to determine the future use of improvement to the properties.
- We also plan to continue to work with the Uptown Consortium and other developers (e.g. Steiner, etc.) on development along Burnet Avenue and would hope that these efforts will be complementary – working together – to create a vibrant community.
- Properties that are in reasonable shape will be maintained - as much as possible - as single-family homes. We have in the past done significant upgrades and repairs on many properties to maintain their use, investing well over \$1 million in renovations to date.
- Properties that are unsafe will be taken down and not left boarded up. Our goal would be to maintain the character of Avondale whenever possible with existing housing stock.
- We will commit to the community that any properties that we own will be properly maintained and will enhance the value of the neighborhood.
- We are not a property management company, so we partner with others who have expertise in this area.

How will you protect residents during demolition and construction?

- Demolition and construction partners are committed to following regulations to manage and reduce exposure to lead, asbestos, dust and other particles. Sites will be monitored regularly to protect the health and safety of residents.

What will this project do to help employment in Avondale?

- We hope to employ residents of Avondale at all levels of the project and after the project is completed.
- We plan to exceed 25% diversity on our construction hiring (MBE and WBE). We will be working with Messer Construction, Triversity and our subcontractors to ensure that Avondale



and Uptown partners and residents know about jobs in construction and about other jobs at Cincinnati Children's once the expansion is complete.

- We commit to diverse spending - 30% of project costs spent on diverse spending including dollars spent on Minority Business Enterprise and Women Business Enterprise.
- Messer Construction has a long and successful track record training individuals for gainful employment in the construction industry and this will be available to qualified Avondale residents.

What has Cincinnati Children's done to improve Avondale and Uptown?

- As we have previously shared, we have committed to invest of \$11.55 million over five years in the areas of community development, nonprofit partnerships and workforce development. We have already made significant grants to nearly 20 agencies to help enable capacity-building efforts.
- We are continuing our on-the-ground work with partners to improve child and community health. Some of those partners are: Every Child Succeeds, Greater Cincinnati Urban League, Gabriel's Place, Cincinnati Public Schools, and more.
- We are continuing collaborations that have increased single family housing, home ownership and neighborhood stability including: the Avondale Home Improvement Partnership, Uptown, Hickory Townhomes, Home Ownership Center, Financial literacy program
- As a community partner, in fiscal year 2015 we contributed \$229 million in community benefit. This includes free or discounted services, community outreach, and subsidized health services.

The following information as well as additional maps and pictures can be found at:

www.cincinnatichildrens.org/expansion.

- **Community Benefit Reports**
- **Summary of Community Partnerships and Investments in Avondale**
- **Maps/Diagrams of Planned Expansion and Street Rerouting**
- **Community Advisory Information and Summary**
- **Workforce Development Summary (coming soon)**