

# Construction Workers Prepare Site For New Building's Groundbreaking

It's easy to tell something big is happening on the northwest side of Tampa General Hospital

What once was a serene section of the hospital campus is bustling with bulldozers, cranes, and heavy trucks. Trenches are being dug, dirt and concrete are being moved, and pipes are being laid as construction workers prepare the site for Tampa General's exciting new expansion project.

Actual construction of the hospital's new 280,000-square-foot building won't begin for months. Before that can happen, workers must concentrate on moving utility lines, a loading dock, and a road, all of which are currently in the new building's way.

Getting this done is a massive project in itself.

The first site-work project began in September, when a construction crew began tearing down the old seawall north of the hospital and building a new one.

Since then, workers have built a temporary road along the seawall to replace an older section of road that ran through the new building's site. Eventually, they'll build a



**The northwest side of Tampa General's campus is now a construction zone as workers prepare the site for groundbreaking.**



**This parking lot, once reserved for employees with 25 years of service, has been closed. It's slated to be a staging ground for construction materials and equipment.**

**Site**

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**(Above) The Rehab Center's patio had been closed while the seawall was being rebuilt. It should be back in use within the next few weeks.**

## Site,

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permanent road that will route traffic around the new building.

Completion of the seawall will allow the Rehabilitation Center to reclaim its patio, which was fenced off while the wall was being rebuilt.

In addition to the site work, you'll see some changes being made to the existing hospital building as you drive along the temporary road: the West Pavilion loading dock is being extended to accommodate the closing of the East Pavilion dock. And the Emergency Care Center drive-up ramp will be partially

closed to make way for the dock's construction.

All this is in preparation for groundbreaking of the new building's foundation, expected to begin early this month.

Everything about the construction project must be carefully timed, explains Building Operations Director Oslec Fernandez.

"The biggest thing about this project is that the site has very tight constraints. There's not a lot of land to put materials and equipment. So everything has to be scheduled very closely," he says.

**(Left) The West Pavilion's loading dock, across from the Aeromed helipad, is being extended to accommodate red bag dumpsters and soiled linen. The dumpsters and soiled linen are now held at the East Pavilion loading dock. A permanent dock is now being built as part of the expansion project.**



**Workers prepare a temporary road to route vehicles around the construction zone. The road, which recently opened to traffic, will eventually be replaced by a permanent road around the new building.**

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