Westmead team ready for NSW’s biggest health project

The biggest hospital redevelopment in NSW kicked off in December 2014 when NSW Minister for Health Jillian Skinner gave the signal for work to begin on the Westmead Hospital redevelopment project.

With one blast of an air horn and the words, “Demolition zone clear, you are approved to proceed,” Mrs Skinner instructed expert excavator driver Joel George to begin demolition of the old administration building, which will clear the way for a new acute service building.

“This is an historic day for Western Sydney. Westmead Hospital is an iconic but ageing hospital which must be transformed to meet the needs of this rapidly-growing region,” Mrs Skinner said.

“In June, I stood on this site with the Treasurer to announce Stage 1 of the redevelopment - a project worth in excess of $400 million.

“Today I am delighted to return to see an excavator get to work.”

Stage 1 of the Westmead Hospital redevelopment will deliver:
- A new acute services building with emergency department
- Up to 14 operating theatres
- Additional intensive care beds and more inpatient beds
- Extra ambulatory care services
- State-of-the-art pathology services
- Comprehensive care centres with co-located complex and critical care services including trauma and surgery
- Additional car parking.

More than 1000 clinicians, other staff and community members have been consulted about the Westmead Hospital redevelopment.

The concept plan for the redevelopment will be finalised in mid-2015, and the project team will continue to consult with hospital and precinct stakeholders.

Redevelopment will be delivered in stages to ensure clinical services are maintained at all times.

The total project is expected to cost more than $1 billion when complete.

Minister Skinner with the redevelopment and construction teams

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Foyer pop-up to gather views

More parking, better wayfinding, transport improvements, privacy, quiet on the wards, improved waiting times and comfy chairs were some issues raised at the recent Westmead Hospital Redevelopment Project community consultation pop-up.

“We spent two days talking to patients, carers, families and visitors to Westmead Hospital about what they’d like to see in a redevelopment,” said Deanne Turner, WSLHD Director Clinical Strategy.

“We have the opportunity in building a new hospital to make the hospital and the experience different and better for our patients and their carers and families. “We asked them to tell us what’s important to them, and what sorts of things could make a difference to their experience at Westmead,” she said.

The team interviewed public, volunteers and staff and posted the comments on sticky notes to create a comment quilt – a colourful wall of ideas, opinions and advice about how to improve the hospital for consumers.

The information has been provided to the team for the next stage of planning. More sessions are planned for 2015.

Transport survey shines a light on our travel habits

Our recent transport survey results were submitted to the NSW Government late this year and will be used to help precinct transport for the future. Thanks to all who participated.

Transport survey results:
- 1776 responses
- 74% come by car
- 18% use the train
- 79% arrive between 7am - 9am

PROJECT STEPS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NOW</th>
<th>NEXT</th>
<th>LATER</th>
<th>FUTURE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Early works: demolition</td>
<td>Govt announcements if project is approved</td>
<td>Planning, design &amp; tender for hospital construction</td>
<td>Westmead Precinct projects; research &amp; technology projects</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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