

Exterior Concepts Developed for Hospital Proposed



The exterior appearance of the new Wairau Hospital and Health Centre has been reviewed as the project heads toward the official construction start date at the end of July.

On Tuesday July 1, the Nelson Marlborough District Health Board reviewed the proposed "exterior concepts" produced by the architectural consultants, Maunsell. These concepts included the design and colour scheme for the new facility.

The concept design is designed to blend in as much as possible with surrounding residential buildings. The design incorporated gabled forms, which echoed the rolling Wither Hills; the backdrop to the hospital.

"This redevelopment is our opportunity to

bring the quality of Marlborough's hospital environment right up to date. We're aiming to create an atmosphere which is as pleasant as possible for patients and staff," said NMDHB Chief Operating Officer, Keith Rusholme.

"There may be alterations to the exterior concepts after feedback is received. The design is not something the DHB will consult the public on as cost, practicality and build-ability needs to be considered," said Mr Rusholme.

In the concept design the main entrance would project outwards, thus giving a defined entrance that would provide shelter for pedestrians and people waiting to be picked up by vehicle. Marlborough's scenery is mirrored in the proposed interior colour scheme. These colours have been

selected to enhance the signage that guides people around the building.

"We wanted to create an enduring harmony with the community and the landscape by using the familiar forms, materials and colors that make Blenheim special - its 'sense of place'," commented Architect Carl Grey from Maunsell.

The exterior of the hospital will have a mix of materials including corrugated steel, painted plasterboard and glass which provide interest and identity. Solar shading will be provided.

Public are invited to view the plans and exterior concepts at the Marlborough District Library. Staff can visit the Wairau Cafe or view online on the Intranet



Architect Concept of the Exterior of the completed Wairau Hospital

Revised Preliminary Design Report

The Revised Preliminary Design Report has been submitted to the Ministry of Health for sign off this month. This report marks one of the final documents required by the NMDHB and the project to be provided to the Minister to request final approval on the Project.

The report provides assurance to the Ministry of Health that the Wairau Hospital Redevelopment Project will deliver the enhancements to health services detailed in the approved business case.

Site Safe Training Completed

Members of the Project Team and other Wairau Hospital Staff undertook Site Safe training last month. Staff included Chris Downs, Denise Bush, maintenance crew, Chris Beekmeyer, Hawkins Construction and David Hobern.

The training is designed to ensure that safe practices are adhered to throughout the construction of the new facilities.

Detailed Design Plans 80% Complete

Phase 1 user groups (AT&R, Allied Health and Inpatients) have received their 'Detailed Design' plans this month. These plans have been distributed at 80% complete for the user groups to review and comment back to the Architects.

Detailed design drawings illustrate specific features of each room, including the flooring, walls, equipment and furnishing. Once signed off these drawings will be distributed to the construction company and replicated into the building.

Count down to beginning of Construction – 2 weeks!

User Group Focus - Technology and Communications Group

A Technology and Communications working group has been established to cover the needs of departments and staff in the new development.

The group is chaired by Nick Lanigan, Chief Information Officer and membership includes Andrew Cunningham (communications), Terry Kemp (Infrastructure Manager) and Sandy Russell (Security Manager).

A number of departmental 'users' are also members of the group including AAU, Inpatients, Maternity, Allied Health & Outpatients, Clerical and Theatre.

Nick Lanigan commented that "with information technology moving at such a rapid pace, it's important for NMDHB to future-proof the new facilities as much as possible. We need to make sure that the appropriate services are built into the design and construction as it can be very expensive to retrofit services once the buildings are completed."



Ali Rendall, Emily Radnor and Brenda McAlpine, some of the IT / Communication working group

The group meet monthly and are currently working through requirements such as patient phones, telemetry, security, wireless options and nurse call systems.

Did you Know.....

That during the refurbishment of the old Mortuary, some antique equipment has been identified and donated to Brayshaw Park Museum in Blenheim. This equipment includes a trolley and tray and an old Mortuary 'Bier' (plinth).

The refurbished Mortuary will receive new trolleys; however, in the new model of service a plinth will no longer be required.

Room Data Sheets - What are they?

The phase 2 user groups are now heavily involved in filling out Room Data Sheets as part of their Developed Design. Staff not involved in site redevelopment directly might find themselves being asked to help out complete these in time to take back to Architect user group meetings.

Room data sheets help define all of the equipment, signage, desks, power points etc for each room on the plan. These then get translated on to the design to ensure that everything fits within the space and the project team and designers are clear on what equipment can be transferred to the new areas and what needs to be purchased.

Site Preparation Underway

The Wairau Hospital site is beginning to look very different in preparation for the main construction in late July. Trees have been felled to the west of the Emergency Department and Main Entrance to make way for the new AT&R, Allied Health and Inpatient facilities.

"This is an exciting phase of the redevelopment project because after all of the planning, we can actually see some physical progress being made" commented Martin Ridgway, Project Director.

Trees on the west side of the site have been removed recently, making room for the new facilities, and has generated new interest and momentum for user groups and staff.

The first phase of construction will take around 9 months and these departments can expect to move into their new facilities early next year.

Want to know more about the project?

For more information on the Wairau Hospital Redevelopment project, check out the project web page www.nmdhb.govt.nz/wairau. The web page gets updated regularly and has web cams up and running to view the construction as it happens.

Contact your user group members, heads of departments, District Managers or to talk to the Project Team directly, call or email Emily Radnor 035209859 or emily.radnor@nmhs.govt.nz

Community Liaison Group

A community liaison group is currently being developed to support the project team through the next phases of the project.

This group will be a collection of interested community members who will recommend enhancements to public areas and be the conduit for developing a sense of community ownership of the redevelopment.

Some of the areas that the group will focus on will include Art and Culture, Memorials, Designated Landscaping and public areas, Chapel and courtyards.

Board Member, Lynette Jones has been assisting the team in developing the group and is looking forward to the "additional dimension this group will bring to the look and feel of the future hospital and health care centre."

