

The New St Mary's

Growing *Healing* Moving Forward

St. Mary's Delivers \$10 Million Letter of Credit

February 2011

Road Work Expected to Start in Spring

The construction of a Highway 179 interchange leading to the site of the new St. Mary's Health Center is expected to get under way this spring, now that all the pieces in this community partnership are falling into place.

St. Mary's has signed and delivered a performance notice and a \$10 million letter of credit into escrow, authorizing the Missouri Department of Transportation to take the next steps on a new Highway 179 interchange near the replacement hospital.

That step means MoDOT can finalize the design phase of the interchange, which includes public review and comment.

"This is the step we've been waiting for so we could move forward with showing the design of the proposed interchange and location to the public," said Roger Schwartze, district engineer for MoDOT. "It will also allow us to secure all the right-of-way needed for the project."

Once the interchange is completed on Highway 179 between West Edgewood Drive and Route C, it will open the door for construction to begin next year on a new St. Mary's. The \$200 million hospital is currently being designed to create the optimal healing environment on the 110-acre site. Completion of the new health center is slated for late 2014.

"The design of the hospital has been steadily moving forward, and we will be excited to see it take shape at the new site," says hospital president Brent VanConia. "The progress on the highway interchange is a significant milestone in the journey."

The highway interchange has been a community partnership, with participation from the City of Jefferson and Cole County in developing roadways connecting to the hospital campus. The interchange also opens the opportunity for other development along the highway.

"The city, the county, MoDOT — these have all been tremendous partners on this project," VanConia says. "We could not do this without their support."

County officials say they see many benefits from the new project.



"I'm glad to see this big step go forward," said Cole County Presiding Commissioner Marc Ellinger. "It opens up a whole area for economic development along the Highway 179 corridor."

Jefferson City Mayor John Landwehr added: "St. Mary's gave the community a wonderful gift 100 years ago when the sisters arrived and cared for the sick and infirm. This new project is another gift of the same magnitude. It will endure long into the future."

The final step — awarding the interchange construction bid — is expected to occur this spring, after the April Highway Commission meeting and St. Mary's final release notice. Construction documents for the new hospital will be completed later this year, with the hospital construction contract awarded in 2012.

What's in a Street Name?

With the Highway 179 interchange project ramping up, a new road will soon be paved leading to the new St. Mary's campus. A new road also needs a new name, so St. Mary's asked its employees, physicians, volunteers and board members to provide ideas for potential road names.

With almost 200 responses, the top-ranking name for the road connecting Highway 179 to the new hospital was Mission Drive. A fitting name for a very mission-driven organization.

