

MEDIA RELEASE

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Plans for \$7.8 million boost to healthcare in Yarra Ranges officially unveiled

The Healesville & District Hospital and Yarra Valley Community Health redevelopment is continuing to take shape, with plans for the \$7.8 million project officially unveiled today.

A new operating theatre, renal dialysis unit and a redeveloped community health centre are among the key features of the Eastern Health project, which will deliver a 30 per cent increase in services.

Eastern Health Executive Director of Acute Health Adjunct Professor David Plunkett said today marked the beginning of a fresh new chapter for healthcare in the Yarra Ranges.

“This is an exciting time of growth and development. As well as providing a significant boost in healthcare for all patients and clients now, these plans will allow us to adapt to changes in demand for services in the future,” Adj Prof Plunkett said.

“Healesville & District Hospital and Yarra Valley Community Health will be larger to support the new services, with improved facilities and equipment. The interior will be refurbished and modernised while open spaces and parking will also be improved.”

Other key features of the redevelopment at the hospital include ensuites in all inpatient rooms, a new palliative care room with courtyard, a patient lounge and dining area and enhanced security in and out of hours.

The redeveloped community health centre will include expanded consulting suites for clinical consultation and new rehabilitation kitchen, rehabilitation gymnasium, physiotherapy space, paediatric gym and consulting area.

The environment will be a key consideration for the redevelopment, with its design making use of recycled timbers. Steriliser and renal waste water will be recycled to service toilets and garden maintenance. Grounds, gardens and views will also be retained and enhanced.

Adj Prof Plunkett thanked staff for their continuing hard work and dedication, as well as members of the Redevelopment Liaison Group for their valuable input.

“Projects such as this are a real team effort, and the contribution of everyone involved has been of great importance. We look forward to seeing the project become a reality in the months ahead.”

The redevelopment is being undertaken by Eastern Health in partnership with the Victorian Department of Health.

Consultants on the project include Johnstaff Project Managers, Bamford Architects, Lucid Consulting Australia, Hive Engineering, Akritidis Group Building Consultants and Landscape Architects Pty Ltd.

Construction will start in early 2015 and the project is expected to be completed by early 2016.

FACTBOX

Healesville & District Hospital and Yarra Valley Community Health redevelopment: What's on the agenda

Healesville & District Hospital:

- Single and double rooms only, with ensuites provided to all inpatient rooms
- New palliative care room with courtyard
- Patient lounge and dining area, with views facing north
- Enhanced security in and out of hours
- Wall oxygen to inpatient rooms
- New, enlarged operating theatre complex with access to modern technology and equipment and separated theatre and ward entrances
- New renal dialysis unit with six chairs
- Patient rooms able to align with a variety of treatment options (day stay, multi-day stay) to improved movement to and from areas
- Provision for a birthing suite if required in the future.

Yarra Valley Community Health:

- New paediatric gym and consulting area to meet increased demand for paediatrics
- Increase in number of consulting rooms, and larger and more appropriate dedicated staff workspace
- New on site rehabilitation kitchen for cooking programs
- New rehabilitation gymnasium and physiotherapy space for community programs and inpatients
- Capacity to extend Yarra Valley Community Medical Service staffing and hours
- Purpose built consulting rooms

Plans will be on display for the public to view at the Healesville Library from Tuesday 16 September to Tuesday 7 October and on our website at www.easternhealth.org.au/healesvilleredevelopment.

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