

Construction News

March 2010



PROJECT UPDATE

Main Entrance Will Close, Traffic Re-routed



Full Size Map on Back!

The ongoing construction and renovation work at Oneida Healthcare Center has reached another important phase. Effective Tuesday, April 6th, the main (Bess Chapman) entrance and traffic circle will be closed to all pedestrian and vehicular traffic. The area will remain closed through most of the summer.

This is part of a major phase of the project and our team has worked to minimize the inconvenience to our patients and visitors, while also assuring their safety.



A temporary main entrance and patient pick-up/drop-off area have been created in an area between the rear of the hospital and Extended Care Facility. All pedestrians and patient related vehicles will be directed to this area via special signage and pavement markings. Construction fencing will help

define the designated pedestrian walk and extra security personnel will also be available to help with directions to the appropriate parking areas. One of the main considerations is to divert patient traffic and pedestrians away from the path of nearby ambulance traffic in that area. If everyone follows the signs and pavement markings, the plan will work.

Once inside the temporary main entrance, the familiar volunteer desk will be available with information and directions and special signage will be in place to assist with way finding. Morreale noted that some departments have been temporarily relocated for this construction phase. For example, a single nearby doorway will lead patients to Patient Registration, the Emergency Department, Pre-Admission Testing and a temporary Phlebotomy station for blood draws, since the main Laboratory area will be closed off. Lab patients might prefer instead to use one of the convenient draw stations in Oneida, Canastota, Chittenango or Camden. Those locations and hours of operation are available at www.oneidahealthcare.org.

Meanwhile, not everything is of a temporary nature. The busy Radiology department now has a brand new permanent reception and waiting area, which is located very close to the temporary main entrance.

This comprehensive phase also includes finishing the expanded Ambulatory Surgery department, Surgical Holding area and PACU (Recovery) Unit, the new Surgical Reception & Waiting area, Patient Registration area and a convenient Lab Draw Station.

The updated and expanded main entrance will feature a portico extending out over the traffic circle for more convenient patient pick-ups and drop-offs, even in inclement weather.

The final phase of the \$18 million project will consist of adding four new treatment rooms to the Emergency Department. That that will be the most challenging phase, since those (ED) services can't be temporarily relocated elsewhere in the hospital. There will be some more inconvenience for these next few months and when it's all complete this coming fall, everything will be readily accessible, easy to find, aesthetically attractive and comfortable for our patients and visitors!

We appreciate everyone's continued cooperation, understanding and support as we work to "keep exceptional care, exceptionally close".

