

Frequently Asked Questions



How long has St. Joseph's Medical Center been serving the region and what expansions have been made in the past?

St. Joseph's Medical Center (SJMC) has been a leading health care provider in Stockton and the San Joaquin region since it was founded in 1899. It has grown from a 25-bed hospital to the region's largest medical center with 355 beds, nearly 900 physicians, and more than 2,300 employees.

Why is St. Joseph's proposing to expand the hospital?

Serving one of California's fastest-growing regions, Dignity Health and SJMC have developed a master plan and proposed expansion to ensure we continue to meet the needs of our patients and the community. The proposed hospital expansion ensures we can accommodate this growth while continuing to provide accessible world-class health care for generations to come.

SJMC will grow its residency program, helping address San Joaquin County's severe physician shortage by training an estimated 200 residents per year. This will help SJMC to recruit, train, and retain the next generation of primary care and specialty physicians who serve our region.

The SJMC expansion will also strengthen the hospital against natural disasters. It will include state mandated safety upgrades that ensure the facilities would remain operational after a large-magnitude earthquake.

These improvements will create more high-paying permanent jobs. SJMC is one of the region's largest employers and modernizing the existing hospital will help attract talented health care professionals and serve as an anchor for the local economy.

What specific changes will be made to the hospital by this proposed expansion?

SJMC's expansion includes multiple phases and is designed specifically to meet the community's health needs by incorporating advanced technology in a healing environment. The outdated buildings will be replaced by a new Acute Care Hospital Tower, parking structure and surface-level parking.

The proposed project will include:

- 24 intensive care patient beds
- 120 general acute patient beds
- New 70-station Emergency Department
- New surgical area with 10 general operating rooms
- Up to two new emergency response heliports

How will the expansion promote greater health equity in the region?

SJMC is committed to inclusion and equity. As California's largest Medi-Cal provider, Dignity Health cares for all people, especially historically marginalized and vulnerable communities. Since 2018, SJMC has contributed nearly \$170 million to pay for care for people who are uninsured, underinsured, ineligible for government help, or otherwise unable to pay. The expansion project will enable SJMC to expand its community benefit investments, providing preventive care and wellness services beyond the walls of the hospital.

Will SJMC seek a trauma center designation?

San Joaquin General Hospital is the region's designated trauma center, and SJMC is not seeking a trauma designation. SJMC expansion will expand its Emergency Department, providing greater capacity to deal with critical care and life-threatening situations.

What are the environmental impacts of the project?

The proposed project will be reviewed as part of the required California Environmental Quality Act process to address environmental impacts. The public will have an opportunity to review and comment on the impacts identified as well as proposed mitigation measures.

It is anticipated that the overall environmental impacts will be an improvement with the upgraded facilities

Will the project add additional parking?

Yes. SJMC's expansion proposes a new parking structure that could include up to 2,000 parking spaces as well as additional surface-level parking. This will give patients, visitors, and staff safe on-site parking.

Will this expansion comply with California's Hospital Seismic Safety Act?

Yes, the proposed SJMC modernization project complies with California's Hospital Seismic Safety Act (Senate Bill 1953).

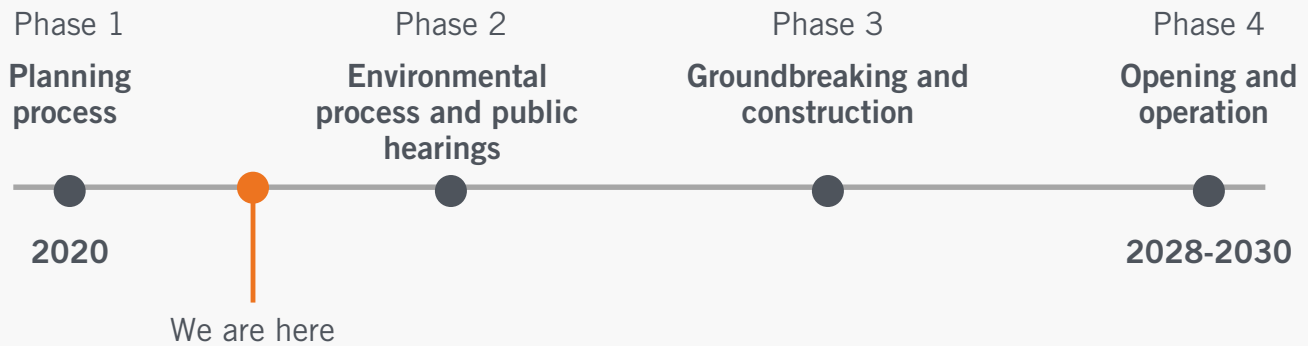
The proposed SJMC modernization will complete the required earthquake safety improvements in conjunction with the modernization project, reducing overall impacts on patient services.

Will SJMC engage the community throughout the proposed expansion process?

SJMC will engage directly with the community and stakeholders throughout the project including through online resources, community meetings, and outreach to people throughout the region. Community members can also provide comments to the City Council and Planning Commission throughout the entitlement process.

What is the timeline of the proposed expansion?

SJMC is currently in the planning phase of the proposed expansion with the goal of securing entitlements in the first quarter of 2023. Following state and local approvals pre-construction work would begin in late 2023 and construction in 2024. The project is estimated to be completed as soon as 2028-2030.



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