SSM Health unveils plan for new $550 million academic medical center

New Saint Louis University Hospital is adjacent to current facility

ST. LOUIS, MO (June 20, 2016) – SSM Health has unveiled a Master Facility Plan for their new $550 million academic medical center in the City of St. Louis, a 316-bed, 802,000-square-foot replacement hospital and new outpatient care center for SSM Health Saint Louis University Hospital.

Developed in partnership between SSM Health and Saint Louis University, the Master Facility Plan establishes a footprint for the new hospital campus and facilities, including location, size, patient services, expanded parking and green space, along with areas for any future campus expansion.

The new complex will be located on the north side of the existing facility between Rutger and Lasalle Streets, adjacent to the hospital’s current location on Grand Avenue, with plans to better integrate the hospital with neighboring Saint Louis University School of Medicine and SSM Health Cardinal Glennon Children’s Hospital. SSM Health continues to explore options for the current Desloge Tower, but no decisions have been made.

“This plan shows our commitment to the City of St. Louis and to an improved patient experience that supports our mission to provide exceptional care,” says Kate Becker, SLU Hospital president. “We will not only provide world-class health care for patients throughout the Midwest, but also ensure they are treated in a more comfortable healing environment.”

The new SSM Health Saint Louis University Hospital includes all-private patient rooms, larger intensive care units and an expanded emergency department. To provide patients with more convenient options, the new outpatient care center will expand outpatient surgery services and provide additional clinical space for SLUCare physician practices. Dedicated educational space throughout the facility will allow Saint Louis University to better train future physicians and health practitioners.

“This state-of-the-art facility represents the health care of tomorrow and will benefit the entire region,” said Robert M. Heaney, M.D., SLUCare Physician Group CEO. “Most importantly, it ensures our patients have the best possible environment, one that incorporates the latest technology and best practices in patient care. In addition, our new facilities also will enhance the education of future medical and healthcare professionals, while strengthening medical research that leads to lifesaving treatments.”

Alberici Constructors, Inc. was selected as the project’s construction manager in April and is slated to break ground in the fall of 2017 with an estimated completion date of Sept. 1, 2020. The replacement hospital and outpatient care center is beyond the hospital improvements under way since SSM Health
assumed ownership of SSM Health SLU Hospital last fall, including construction of a new radiation oncology facility.

Lawrence Group, in partnership with Hammel, Green and Abrahamson (HGA), began developing the project scope in January of this year, working from information provided by planning architects Frank Zilm and Associates, Inc. (FZA). Through meetings with key leaders from SSM Health SLU Hospital and SLUCare Physician Group last fall, FZA gained critical input and developed a defined project scope. The Master Facility Plan takes into consideration SLU Hospital's medically-complex tertiary and quaternary services, such as its Level 1 trauma center, organ transplant program and outpatient bone marrow transplant program.

The project is part of a commitment made by SSM Health President/CEO William P. Thompson on the first day the organization assumed ownership of the hospital on Sept. 1, 2015. He announced an ambitious 5-year plan to construct a new hospital and outpatient center that incorporates national best practices in patient-centered design while delivering an improved patient experience.

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About SSM Health – St. Louis

SSM Health (www.ssmhc.com) is a Catholic, not-for-profit health system serving the comprehensive health needs of communities across the Midwest through one of the largest integrated delivery systems in the nation.

SSM Health – St. Louis operates 8 hospitals, 12 urgent care locations and more than 40 medical offices in the area. One of the largest employers in St. Louis, SSM Health is recognized as one of the Best Places to Work by the St. Louis Business Journal.

For more information, visit us at www.ssmhealth.com or find us on Facebook and Twitter.

About Saint Louis University

Saint Louis University (www.slu.edu) is a Catholic, Jesuit institution that values academic excellence, life-changing research, compassionate health care, and a strong commitment to faith and service. Founded in 1818, the University fosters the intellectual and character development of nearly 13,000 students on campuses in St. Louis and Madrid, Spain. Building on a legacy of nearly 200 years, Saint Louis University continues to move forward with an unwavering commitment to a higher purpose, a greater good. For more information, visit us at www.slu.edu or find us on Facebook and Twitter.

About SLUCare Physician Group

SLUCare Physician Group (www.slucare.edu) is the academic medical practice of Saint Louis University, with more than 500 health care providers and 1,200 staff members in hospitals and medical offices throughout the St. Louis region. SLUCare physicians are among the most highly trained in their fields – more than 50 specialties in all – and are national and international experts, renowned for research and innovations in medicine. For more information, visit us at www.slucare.edu.