

Riverside Rehabilitation Hospital set to open in August



Construction on the hospital, which will be on Josephs Drive in York County off Route 17, began last year. (Staff file)

BY RODRIGO ARRIAZA STAFF WRITER

WILLIAMSBURG —

Riverside's planned 50-bed, 52,000-square-foot York County rehabilitation hospital is expected to open to

patients on or about Aug. 6, Riverside Rehabilitation Hospital CEO Administrator Daniel Ballin said.

Construction on the hospital, which will be on Josephs Drive in York County off of Route 17, began last year. It will replace the existing Riverside Rehabilitation Hospital in

Newport News when completed, Ballin said, and will specialize in rehabilitative care for patients, offering daily therapy, among other services.

The project is the result of a partnership announced last year between Riverside Health and Select Medical, a health-care company specializing in long-term acute and rehabilitative care.

“We typically see patients after they’ve had some sort of a short stay in an acute care hospital, and then the need is identified that they need some more extensive rehabilitation,” Ballin said. “The majority of our patients are going to be stroke, brain injury, spinal cord injury, amputation, orthopedic trauma, cancer, neurological diseases or cardiac respiratory conditions.”

In a prior interview, Riverside spokesman Peter Glagola said the aging facility in Newport News — which is more than 100 years old — spurred the move into a brand new building. Ballin also said that by moving into York County, the rehabilitation hospital will be more centrally

located to serve patients across the Peninsula.

“Even though we’re

located on the south end

of the Peninsula, moving (to be) more centrally located will allow greater ease of access for people to use our facility from the Middle Peninsula as well as from the Williamsburg market, and it’ll be a lot more

accessible right off of

Interstate 64,” he said.

The \$25 million project will bring 200 jobs to the county, with no planned layoffs during the transition from the Newport News facility to York County, Ballin confirmed.

An expansion at the

Riverside Doctors’ Hospital Williamsburg that was

completed in December added about 6,700 square feet to the hospital, Glagola said. Additions to the Williamsburg hospital

included an MRI full-body scanner and a third,

620-square-foot operating room.

Williamsburg Landing recently appointed three new members to its board of directors.

New board members Jeanne Zeidler and Elizabeth Fletcher Davis will each serve three-year terms, while Tim Wright was elected as residents’ council president by the

Williamsburg Landing Resident Association.

Williamsburg Landing is governed by a local 18-member Board of Directors that includes two voting residents, a news release from the retirement community states.

“The new members exemplify our board’s long-standing practice of high-level engagement with a focus on serving the greater Williamsburg community,” Williamsburg Landing President and CEO Greg Storer said in the release. “They bring a wealth of experience to Williamsburg Landing and we are extremely pleased to welcome them to our Board of Directors.”

Zeidler retired in 2018 after spending eight years as president and CEO of the Williamsburg Community Health Foundation. She also served for 12 years as Williamsburg mayor. She serves as chairwoman of the Chamber and Tourism Alliance Board of Directors and has led a career spanning three decades working in museums and cultural and educational institutions, according to the release.

Davis is the director of patient care services for Sentara Williamsburg Regional Medical Center, and was a member of the Williamsburg Landing Board from 2011 to 2016, including a term as board chair from 2013 to 2015, the release states.

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