



MaineGeneral Health Certificate of Need Application (CON) Abstract for a New Inpatient Regional Hospital in North Augusta, Maine

In 1997 Kennebec Valley Medical Center and Mid-Maine Medical Center consolidated to create MaineGeneral Health and MaineGeneral Medical Center. The vision of the combined entity was: "To be a comprehensive and integrated healthcare system committed to improving the health and quality of life of the people living in the MaineGeneral Health service area."

Today, some twelve years later, our mission is: "To enhance every day, the health of the people of the greater Kennebec Valley (KV)." Our vision is: "To be the leading community healthcare system in Maine, recognized for clinical excellence, customer satisfaction, financial stability, and impact on community health."

Originating from the most mergers and consolidations of any hospital in the state, MaineGeneral is guided by a single standard; to maintain access in the KV region to an appropriate complement of coordinated primary and specialty care services.

By appropriate, we mean services that can meet national standards of quality. By access, we mean not just geographical proximity but access in terms of right place, right time and right care.

The new in and outpatient hospital and Thayer comprehensive outpatient project takes the next step to achieve the clinical and operational potential of the 1997 consolidation. The project consists of:

- A 226-bed regional replacement hospital. The 578,140 gross square foot hospital consolidates all of MGMC's inpatient beds onto its North Augusta campus, site of the Harold Alfond Center for Cancer Care.
- A comprehensive outpatient facility at the MGMC Thayer Waterville campus which builds on investments made in its surgical, diagnostic and emergency facilities over the last decade and maintains continuity of location and care for the majority of patients serviced in our northern tier.
- Closure of the Augusta and Seton hospital facilities to reduce costs and improve the clarity of service way finding.
- Implementation of innovative primary care models to decrease emergency and inpatient utilization.
- Investment in primary, secondary and tertiary prevention to decrease the burden of disease in our population and to help service area-residents lead healthier, more productive lives.

The hospital project incorporates principles of evidence based design, LEED design and lean design. The new inpatient building is organized to move the public through the major stages of healthcare: from information/education and prevention services near the front door; to diagnostic and treatment services in its core; and finally to birthing, inpatient and rehabilitation services in its northernmost wing. The design uses the "front stage/back stage concept" to support privacy and create a tranquil therapeutic environment.



It includes all private rooms to allow patients the support of their loved ones, to create an enhanced environment for privacy and rest, and to increase safety by reducing patient room transfers, rates of infection and falls.

Likewise, it provides private rooms for all procedure prep and recovery as well as emergency department patients. Light and outside views are the organizing elements of the design, extending the concept of "healing enhanced by nature," initiated at the Cancer Center, to the new hospital facility.

The investment of \$322 million in this project will allow MGMC to:

- Reduce physician coverage requirements from two hospitals to one and increase coverage panel size.
- Recruit and retain primary care and specialty care physicians to meet the healthcare needs of the people of the greater capitol/Kennebec Valley region.
- Reduce labor and supply expenses by \$7,123,323 annually.
- Reduce licensed hospital beds by 61 due to the higher occupancy rates afforded by the private room model and ongoing refinement in our care processes.
- Create a learning lab for advancement of understanding of the impact of emerging models of patient care and facility design to continually improve the care of the people we are honored to serve.

Assuming approval of the project June 2010, the new regional hospital and Thayer renovations will be complete in fiscal year 2015.