



February 16, 2011

On Schedule and Taking Shape

The Northwest Addition remains on schedule for its opening in early 2012. Some recent developments include:

- The connection between the new hospital building and the clinic will be completely enclosed in February
- Crews have finished installing sprinklers, half of the wiring, HVAC and data cables in the lower level
- Drywall installation work has just begun

Keeping it local

Monroe Clinic is committed to hiring local contractors and sourcing locally made products as much as possible throughout construction:

- PDC Electrical Contractors from Monroe and Faith Technologies' Sun Prairie-based group are installing the electrical systems
- Techline is building all of the cabinetry—including reception desks, office units, nurse stations, medical and patient room cabinets—in its Waunakee factory. They are building more than 1,100 pieces of furniture in total.

Rooms get a “run-through”

Even though the architects from Kahler Slater and teams of Monroe Clinic nurses and physicians worked together on the Northwest Addition design, it's impossible to evaluate hands-on use with a blueprint. That's why medical staff are testing out rough mock-ups from ICU, medical/surgical and labor and delivery rooms to identify potential problem areas.

“We're finding things that aren't obvious until you physically interact with a room,” said project manager Chuck Bernhagen. “For example, the vital signs monitor over the patient bed was too high for several nurses. We moved it down six inches.”

The mock-up tests will wrap up soon. Once drywall is installed in the first few rooms in the new addition, medical teams will test an actual finished patient room. Then crews will build out the rest of the rooms to include any final modifications.

To learn more, visit monroeclinic.org and click on the expansion button. Make sure to check out the construction webcam for a live view of what's happening.