

Walk-in medical clinic to be built on Highway 80 West

By Janet S. Lee

In action at its regular October 17 meeting, Clinton's Board of Aldermen approved a dimensional variance at 601 Highway 80 West for the building of a TrustCare walk-in medical clinic by Kerioth Construction Company of Ridgeland. Plans for the proposed facility have also been approved by the City's architectural review committee.

The site is currently occupied by a branch of Kolb's Cleaners. Plans call for that building to be demolished and a new 3,725-square foot building with thirty parking spaces to be constructed at the busy intersection of Mt. Salus Drive and Highway 80.

TrustCare already has free-standing minor medical care clinics in Brandon, Northeast Jackson, Flowood and two sites in Ridgeland. The clinics are deemed free-standing because they are not associated with any area hospitals. According to Kerioth project development manager Gabriel Herring, who is also one of the owners of TrustCare, the company's clinic model is devoted to providing quality care and prompt service for patients.

The Kerioth Company is a developer of the Township on Highland Colony Parkway in Ridgeland, where one of the TrustCare facilities is located. The company has long wanted to locate in Clinton but could not find a suitable property. Though Herring says the process includes performing "due diligence about the proposed property," the projected timeline calls for closing on the sale of the site by the end of this calendar year and for the clinic to be fully operational by fall 2018.

Kerioth will invest approximately \$1.5 million to build and furnish the Clinton TrustCare facility.


"We kept hearing negative reports about other clinics with poor service and long wait times," explained Herring. "On a national level, the urgent care model was picking up, and we determined that it was under-represented in our area. By doing some things differently, we decided that we could make a big impact with patients."


The typical TrustCare clinic has a nurse practitioner and a doctor, along with support personnel. The total staff is usually seven, with the capacity for ten staff members, if needed. The medical staff generally comes from the family medicine environment or the emergency room background. Herring says the clinic's goal is to have an average "door to door time, in and out, of an hour."


To meet the needs of busy patients and to honor individual time schedules, the clinic will maintain office hours from 8 a.m. - 8 p.m., Monday-Friday, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. on Saturdays, and 1 p.m. - 7 p.m. on Sundays.

Herring is fully committed to the concept of the urgent care/walk-in clinic as a better way to service medical consumers. "For us, it's all about customer service and promptness, not having to sit and wait for hours to see a doctor or nurse practitioner. We are confident we can provide what people really want because we have seen that they are looking for an easier way than waiting and waiting to see a medical professional. Everybody is trying to get in and out in a reasonable amount of time."

Herring says Kerioth has a proven track record with such medical clinics and will possibly build 2-3 more in the Jackson metro area. He also says that TrustCare has a "massive review process" for determining if a patient's medical issue was resolved professionally and quickly and in a satisfactory manner. Though not an acceptor of Medicaid, the clinic will accept most private insurance.








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