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Integris is planning to build a "micro-hospital" near SE 15th Street and Howard Drive in Del City. The hospital is expected to open in mid 2019. -Provided photo

Integris rising in Del City

BY JEFF HARRISON
Managing Editor

Del City does not have any room to grow out. But that doesn't mean the community cannot grow up.

Integris is building a three-story micro-hospital near SE 15th Street and Howard Drive in Del City.

The facility will feature 24-hour emergency care along with primary care and specialty care physicians, diagnostic and other outpatient clinic services, in a smaller footprint than a traditional hospital.

Construction is expected to begin soon. The facility is scheduled to open in mid 2019.

Del City Mayor Brian Linley said Integris facility will be a welcome addition to the community.

"We're pretty excited about this," Linley said. "Integris will be a compliment to the community and bring good jobs here."

Integris is partnering with Emerus, an innovative leader in emergency, inpatient and diagnostic medical healthcare, to build and operate the micro hospital.

"Our joint venture agreements allow us to provide a better patient experience by bringing together the brand and regional reputation of the nation's leading health systems with our proven expertise in

managing costs and furthering the continuum of care," said Richard Bonnin, Emerus spokesperson.

The Del City facility will house 8-0 inpatient beds for observation and short-stay use. The third floor will be reserved for medical office building space and ancillary services.

Bonnin said micro-hospitals do not replace large, comprehensive hospitals with centers of excellence such as cardiology and neurosciences.

"They expand their footprint and value-based continuum of care portfolio by providing acute, episodic care and short-stay inpatient services in communities where access gaps currently exist," Bonnin said.

The City of Del City will offer support for project in the form of a 50 percent waiver for permit and development fees for demolition, building, stormwater, paving and city utility taps and connections. The fee waiver will cover up to \$25,000.

The city council approved the fee waiver in December.

Before construction can begin, crews will need to demolish the former Value Village building. The micro-hospital will be built on the south end of the property along SE 15th Street with parking on the north side of the building.