

## Health

# Midwest City and SSM partnering to revive hospital district

## New park, trails and businesses shape vision for future

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SSM St. Anthony Hospital – Midwest has seen quite a bit of change recently.

And more is coming down the road.

The City of Midwest City and SSM Health Oklahoma are working together to revitalize the area near the Midwest City hospital. The plan focuses attracting new businesses and housing and improving connectivity and accessibility with addition of new multi-purpose trails and public gathering spaces.

“This is very collaborative project and we’re looking to something really nice that’s within budget,” said City Manager Tim Lyon. “SSM Health Oklahoma has been such a wonderful partner with this. I just can’t say enough about them.”

TSW Design has been hired to help develop the project.

The hospital district includes the hospital campus and properties along Parklawn Dr. and National Ave., extending east past Midwest Blvd. The property is owned by SSM, the City of Midwest City and private owners.

Work on the redevelopment plan started in Fall of 2021. Residents in the nearby Ridgecrest neighborhood and hospital staff and administration provided feedback for the plan. They used that data and feedback to create the concept last year.

A market study showed that district could support up to 65,000



**SSM Health Oklahoma St. Anthony Hospital - Midwest and the City of Midwest City are partnering to redevelop property around the hospital. Preliminary plans include a park, walking trails, improved streets, and new residential and commercial buildings. IMAGE PROVIDED**

*“We’re working on the park concepts right now and what it will look like. We need it to fit the needs of the hospital, its visitors and the surrounding community.”*

**City Manager Tim Lyon**

square feet of retail and service industry, more than 100,000 square feet of medical and conventional office space. It could attract more than 200 units of urban residential rental properties and about 50 houses. A hotel could also be in the future.

Public feedback on the project showed a support for outdoor dining, trails, directional signage and public art. People also said they supported moderate sized townhouse and office buildings up to

three stories. There was little support for apartments, duplexes and on-street parking.

The city council approved the concept in March 2022.

Lyon said they are currently working on the schematic phase which will provide a general overview of the project.

“We’re looking at the park, trails, and infrastructure and where everything is supposed to be,” Lyon said. “We’re working on the park

concepts right now and what it will look like. We need it to fit the needs of the hospital, its visitors and the surrounding community.”

Lyon said they are hoping to have the design phase completed by the end of the year.

SSM Health Oklahoma – Midwest has been busy in the past year with numerous construction projects within the hospital walls. In December, hospital staff celebrated opening of its new SSM Health Cancer Care facility. The new unit is located in the first floor of the hospital with its own dedicated entrance. Last week, the hospital celebrated the reopening of its remodeled cafeteria.

The hospital’s endoscopy unit is scheduled to open in May.