



The Next Era of Excellence

- 1. What is the status of the current hospital bond?** In 2004, we opened a new state-of-the-art hospital funded by an \$8.2 million bond, philanthropy, and bank financing. Since voters passed the 2001 bond for the new hospital, we have worked to be excellent stewards of our public district hospital, including refinancing the original bonds in 2011 – a district taxpayer savings of more than \$400,000 over the life of the bond. This bond will be paid off in 2021.
- 2. What has the current Era of Excellence provided the community?** Over the last five years, Pullman Regional Hospital has invested approximately \$12 million in plant, facilities maintenance, and equipment and have used hospital reserves and philanthropic gifts to add a fourth operating room and build the new Same Day Services addition to keep up with the growing demand for outpatient care.
- 3. What new services will be provided through the Next Era of Excellence?** The Next Era of Excellence includes a proposed addition to the hospital—a pavilion -- in order to co-locate and better coordinate medical services. Space is needed to create this improved patient experience that we are calling one-stop care. Examples of possible new services include a Center for Women’s & Children’s Health, a medical residency program for training future physicians, physician and clinic space, a medical fitness center, telehealth, staff training simulation lab, and community education. Also included would be an upgraded, state-of-the-art information technology system that is essential infrastructure to develop a seamless community-wide patient electronic medical record.
- 4. What is an electronic medical record and what does it mean to me?** An electronic medical record contains your health information and history. Hospitals and physician offices use different software systems or paper records that do not “talk to each other.” As such, most times patients must fill out a form when they visit a new provider. A universal community-wide electronic medical record would connect patient medical records to one system used by the majority of physician offices and hospitals in the region and even in the state of Washington.
- 5. When will the bond proposal be on the ballot?**
We are exploring the possibility of placing the measure on the city ballot for a vote in spring 2019.
- 6. What are the boundaries of the hospital district?**
The boundaries are the city of Pullman. Those residing in Pullman city limits will be eligible to vote on the bond levy.
- 7. How much will the Next Era of Excellence cost and how will it be funded?**
The total project cost is estimated to be \$40 million. We plan to fund this through a combination of community support (bond levy), philanthropy, and hospital reserves.
- 8. What is the expected levy rate?**
We have not determined this yet but are currently evaluating a proposed levy rate for the project. In 2001 when the community approved an \$8.2 million bond to help finance building a new hospital, the levy rate was approximately 99 cents per \$1,000 of assessed property value. Today, that levy rate is approximately 33 cents per \$1,000 of assessed property value.
- 9. When would the project be complete?**
If funding is approved and generous philanthropic support from the community is attained, the plan is to break ground on the new project in 2020 with a goal to be completed in 2021.

