



Waitematā

District Health Board

Best Care for Everyone

2 August, 2019

Hospital construction project to meet future health needs

Please attribute to Director of Hospital Services Cath Cronin:

“Waitematā DHB is embarking on the construction of a major new \$240 million-plus hospital building on the North Shore Hospital campus over the next four years. This exciting project will deliver at least 150 extra hospital beds, eight additional operating theatres and four procedure rooms.

It is the biggest expansion undertaken since the construction of the North Shore Hospital tower block more than 30 years ago and will enable us to meet the future health needs of our rapidly growing population. (Waitematā DHB already has the largest population of any DHB in New Zealand, standing at more than 630,000 people, and this is expected to reach 803,550 by 3036/37).

During construction, around 200 existing staff car parking spots will be unavailable. We know this is a source of inconvenience for some of our people but we have worked hard as a good employer should to offer a range of options to assist and minimise impacts, including:

- A convenient, cost-effective nearby off-site parking option that will work well for many people. On-site staff parking normally costs \$15/week. We are offering parking at a nearby location for just \$8/week, with a free connecting shuttle to and from the hospital. Staff who use this option will be saving money and, due to congestion at peak shift changeover times, they will actually be able to enter and exit the site more rapidly than if they were in their own cars, as the shuttle accesses the express bus entry/exit lane. A number of staff are already choosing this option.
- Staff were given the option to lease a dedicated parking spot on the campus at a cost of \$45/week. Revenue from this initiative is being used to subsidise the cost of off-site parking and the shuttle service. (Note that the DHB is not leasing spaces to external parties). The DHB has had higher-priced fully reserved spaces available for a number of years.
- We have promoted a staff car-pooling system whereby those who register and arrive on-site with at least three staff in their vehicle qualify for guaranteed on-site parking.

In addition, we are encouraging staff to make use of the nearby Smales Farm bus interchange and have appointed a staff car parking working group to feed through practical ideas that can assist us to meet the reduced parking challenge during construction of the new hospital.

We are also making changes to arrangements for the remaining on-site staff parking to smooth the flow of traffic during the construction period. This is aimed at reducing

congestion and delays on entry and exit to the hospital campus for not only our own workforce but also the public. These changes have been communicated in advance and our Traffic team has worked hard to guide people as the changes come into effect.

For some staff, this will mean they aren't able to park on-site any longer or may not be able to park in their preferred location.

Clinical staff who work later in the evening are not directed to parks on the top two floors of the parking building. Our security staff are also available to escort staff to their cars on request and we have CCTV in place.

On a project of this size, we are asking our people to be flexible and to be willing to put up with some short-term changes for the greater good while we build the facilities we need for the future.

To date, this challenge has been met with a high degree of understanding and goodwill. We are committed to working in partnership to address these parking challenges together."

ENDS

Waitematā DHB media line 09 487 1276