



## Open Letter to Our Community from Martha Marsh and Christopher Dawes

This Saturday, the Palo Alto City Council will hold a special study session on the plans proposed by Lucile Packard Children's Hospital and Stanford Hospital to modernize and replace outdated medical facilities, meet earthquake safety mandates and provide the necessary capacity to care for our community.

We are proud of the work that has been done so far on the Renewal Project and we are eager to share our progress with you over the next several months as we move through the City's approval process. Our primary mission is to deliver the very best in patient care. Hospitals must be designed around that central objective.

- *Currently both hospitals and the emergency room regularly exceed their capacity. Patients have been turned away for lack of space and the emergency room has actually had to send ambulances elsewhere.*
- *Our hospitals require more space to meet community needs and today's standards for hospital design.*
- *To improve the management of infection, patient therapies and patient recovery, single-patient rooms are now the standard of care adopted in new hospital construction.*

We are part of the Palo Alto community and we understand and are committed to addressing impacts of the new facilities on our neighbors. We will be presenting several proposals this Saturday to show how we have responded to various concerns. These proposals include:

- ✓ **Fiscal Benefits.** In these difficult economic times, the \$3.5 billion in our hospitals' construction spending will bring broad and positive fiscal benefits to the City—starting with \$8.3 million in construction-related sales and use tax revenues, over \$10 million in impact fees, and annual General Fund revenues that will exceed projected costs for services.
- ✓ **Traffic Reduction.** We expect to reduce Project peak-hour vehicle trips by 67 percent by providing free CalTrain GO Passes to *all* employees, not just new hospital employees. This significant result, which equates to more than all the new trips from Project employees, is due to the fact that a very high percentage of our employees live in cities and areas served by CalTrain.
- ✓ **Sustainability.** The new hospital facilities are being designed to incorporate leading "green" technologies and will use energy more efficiently than 90 to 95 percent of similar hospitals. Our proposals are consistent with the goals set forth in the Palo Alto Climate Protection Plan.

As non-profit hospitals, community benefit is our core mission. We provide programs and services that improve health, educate, advocate and help prevent illness and disease, in addition to providing healthcare options to the uninsured. In 2007 alone, the combined financial community benefit provided by the hospitals exceeded \$252 million.

You can learn more about our plans and how you can help support them at [www.stanfordpackard.org](http://www.stanfordpackard.org). We also invite you to attend the meeting at City Hall on Saturday at 8:30 am, where you can view architectural plans and hear further project details.

When your family has a medical need—whether for emergency services, the birth of a child or long-term treatment—we want to ensure that we have the capacity, quality and expertise to provide you the very best care close to home. The Renewal Project is a demonstration of our commitment to fulfill our responsibility to our community.

Sincerely,

**Martha H. Marsh**  
President and CEO  
Stanford Hospital & Clinics

**Christopher G. Dawes**  
President and CEO  
Lucile Packard Children's Hospital