



FRONT ENTRY RE'10-11106

Deschutes Rim Health Clinic
Malheur, Oregon
2020.02.20



“Growing Your Community Clinic”

White River Health District

Suzanne Knapp, Board Member

“Growing Your Community Clinic” is the new phrase developed by the White River Health District Board, clinic staff and capital campaign committee. First and foremost it emphasizes that it is “your” clinic. Second, the “growth” is the growing of space and services for the wider South Wasco community. After months of working with the architect to downsize the building footprint to reduce costs, a new design has been finalized.

The new building will be positioned to the east of the existing clinic and closer to the road than originally planned. This site relocation will eliminate the need for and cost of a sewage pump. The reduction in building size also reduces the size of the parking lot, another cost savings. Pictured here is the clinic’s front entry facing east.

The interior has a welcoming entrance and lobby area for patients, along with a play area for children. Feedback we received from engineers with Mid-Columbia Medical Center was instrumental in adjusting the floorplan, including room and hallway dimensions, the size and number of rooms, and the location of certain areas. The facility will have a large conference room (the existing clinic has none) and larger ‘providers’ office, medical storage area and breakroom. A ‘consulting room’ and ‘WIC room’ are new additions ((WIC is for women, infants and children. The health department screens individuals to qualify them for free food and formula). This extra room can also be used for other purposes. A dental office and exam room, two public restrooms, lab, manager’s office, reception area, and WIC room are all included

The COVID pandemic has changed a few things for us. There will be no large-scale fundraisers this year although ‘soft’ fundraising may occur. Obtaining grant funds is difficult because foundations are mainly focusing on COVID emergency funding. Because of this, construction may not start this year. The Board is applying for a USDA ‘bridge’ loan to bridge the gap in funding that is needed to allow construction to start. This application and approval process takes time and has had to be adjusted with the change in building size and design.

The Board will continue to be the lead on this effort, addressing the many tasks that need to be done. We are excited for this goal to become a reality of having a new, state-of-the art medical facility that will better provide for the health care needs of the greater South Wasco community for years to come.