Welcome to the first edition of re:building, our newsletter designed to keep you current on the construction plans for the UCLA Westwood replacement medical center. We will be sending re:building to you regularly, as we make progress toward our goal of bringing a new state-of-the-art hospital to life in our community.

In this first issue, we set the stage for keeping you informed about the changes you can expect to see. We want you to know our schedule so that you can anticipate periods of high activity. We understand that the impact of construction can be unsettling for our neighbors. Please contact us if you feel there is anything we can do to minimize this impact.

We hope you will share with us the excitement of achieving the milestones along the way. We want you to be as pleased as we know we will be when the hospital finally is completed and open for business by early 2005. This medical center belongs not only to those of us who have the privilege of planning it and someday working in it; but, it is also a gift to our community.

Our medical center will be both technologically advanced and an architectural work of art. We aim to set new standards in healthcare, in service, and in the operation of a beautiful facility that functions well. Our goal is to set the standards for excellence in 21st century healthcare.

In the meantime, we will try to answer your questions about the medical center as we construct it, including topics such as what we will do to try to minimize any inconvenience you might experience because of traffic or noise. You can contact us with your concerns or questions at the address listed on the mailing label, or call Diana Brueggemann at (310) 794-6824.

Thank you for your interest in and support of this project. We look forward to serving you in our new home.

Sincerely,

Michael Karpf, MD
why we need a replacement UCLA Medical Center

The UCLA Westwood replacement medical center aims to set the standard for medical care in the new millennium. It is being built to replace the current structure that was built in 1951 and weakened in the 1994 Northridge earthquake. The new structure will be able to withstand an earthquake of magnitude 8.4 and will be one of the first hospitals in the state to meet stringent new 2008 California seismic safety standards.

Created by a team headed by renowned architect I.M. Pei; Perkins and Will, Architects; and the Pei Partnership Architects, and emerging from a two-year intensive planning process, the new hospital’s design centers on the concepts of openness and flexibility. The 1,050,000-square-foot hospital will house 525 beds in private rooms and 63 observational beds. The 10-story (eight stories above ground) structure will combine the operations of UCLA Medical Center, UCLA Neuropsychiatric Hospital, and Mattel Children’s Hospital at UCLA.

Some highlights of the new medical center include:
❖ Most of the beds will function as “universal rooms”—large 315-square-foot rooms that can convert to intensive care beds, if necessary.
❖ The operating rooms and adjacent interventional procedure rooms will feature modular floor plans, allowing them to expand and reconfigure as medical technology evolves.
❖ Each patient room will have a window seat that converts to a bed, allowing family members to room-in with patients. ICU areas will feature a comfortable sleeper chair.
❖ Physicians and nurses will perform many procedures in the individual rooms, instead of moving patients around the hospital.
❖ Patient rooms will benefit from an abundance of natural outdoor light through windows that overlook gardens, green spaces, and gathering places that surround the new building.
❖ Cutting-edge medical equipment and communication technology will be integrated throughout the hospital.

what about traffic and noise?

In planning the construction of the UCLA Westwood replacement hospital and research complex, we have tried to keep the inconvenience for our neighbors and environment to a minimum. Noise impact studies were conducted during the initial construction phase to determine if the sound level proved too loud, and the work crews have been instructed to be sensitive to the amount of noise generated. Arborists monitor the health of the trees around the construction zone and will continue to do so every month to ensure that they remain healthy.

Regardless, there will be times when noise and traffic will impact our neighbors. We have included a map (see below) and some particular dates of which to be aware. In June, we begin the first of five weekends of pouring concrete which will bring a steady stream of trucks into Westwood and the campus. We have listed below the dates and times that this will take place to help you in your planning.

You can also visit our construction website at www.ucmt.org for an update and photos about the construction at both Westwood and Santa Monica-UCLA Medical Center.

If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to call Diana Brueggemann at (310) 794-6824.
WESTWOOD REPLACEMENT HOSPITAL
MAJOR CONSTRUCTION MILESTONES 2001/2002

Sub-Surface Drainage, March 2001 – June 2001
❖ The sub-surface drainage system will be placed under the permanent building’s five-foot-thick concrete mat slab foundation.

Concrete Mat Slab Foundation, April 2001 – September 2001
❖ Steel rebar and concrete will be placed for the building foundation.
❖ Approximately 5,400,000 pounds of steel rebar will be installed.
❖ Approximately 35,000 cubic yards of concrete will be placed over a 15-week period. The concrete placement will occur during this period on five weekends and will be continuous for about 15 hours each weekend. The process will usually begin Saturday at 12 a.m. and conclude Saturday afternoon at 3 p.m. During the night, trucks will enter and leave on Westwood Boulevard. During the day, trucks will use Gayley Avenue (see map).
❖ The first concrete placement is currently scheduled for June 7; the second placement on July 7. The following dates are tentative: the third placement on August 11; the fourth on August 18, and final placement on September 8.

Impact: In addition to trucks entering the building site, expect increased truck and pump noise, as well as noise from truck back-up safety warning bells.

Construction of Structural Steel Frame, August 2001 – September 2002
❖ During this time, 22,000 tons of steel will be delivered following a similar route as shown on the map.

Impact: While traveling near the building site, the loading and unloading of trucks and placing steel will be visible. In addition, welders’ lights will be visible through October 2002.

ALL DATES SUBJECT TO CHANGE