

Plans for new hospital unveiled

By Rose Brown
Enterprise Staff Writer

Livingston HealthCare released an exterior rendering of its new hospital Wednesday, revealing architects' efforts to highlight the area's scenic beauty in their design.

"The 30-acre property for the facility is one of the most scenic canvases we've ever had the opportunity to work with," said Steve Wolters, senior vice president with the Erdman Company, the architectural firm designing the hospital.

The new hospital, which will be built on the east end of town, will remain a 25-bed critical access hospital, but rooms at the new facility will be spacious and private, according to a Livingston HealthCare press release.

The new rooms will also feature views of the Crazy Mountain Range, the Absaroka Mountain Range and Livingston Peak.

Aside from prettier scenery, the new hospital will improve LHC services by allowing the organization to bring all services under one roof — it currently operates out of 15 separate locations, the release said.

Building a new facility will also allow LHC to update technology.

"We are putting a lot of effort and care into making sure our new facility has the latest in technology and equipment so Livingston HealthCare



can provide the best care possible to our patients,” LHC Board Chairwoman Michelle Becker said in the release.

Constructing the new hospital is a \$43.5 million project that will be funded by a combination of a United States Department of Agriculture grant, local financing and a local capital campaign fund.

Throughout planning stages, the LHC board has received advice from Project Manager Mitch Goplen through an affiliation agreement with Billings Clinic.

Last month, LHC hired Swank Enterprises, of Kalispell, to serve as the general contractor for the project, and bids should go out to local contractors this fall as construction begins.

Planners hope the new hospital will be completed by late summer 2015.

Far above: An Erdman Company architects’ drawing of the new Livingston HealthCare hospital that is to be built on land just east of the Yellowstone River bridge on Livingston’s east end.

Middle left: The new hospital’s first floor, which will feature a clinic, shown in blue, as well as an emergency medical delivery area, in red.

Middle far right: On the second floor, the medical wing, in purple, will feature 25 private rooms, while the obstetrics section is shown in a salmon color.

Lower left: The location of the new hospital just east of Livingston.

Lower right: An aerial view shows the new medical building and the proposed parking area.

Drawings courtesy of Livingston HealthCare

