



MEMORANDUM

To:
Mercy San Juan Medical Center employees,
medical staff and volunteers

From:
Paul Luehrs, Vice President/Chief Operating Officer

Date:
Jan. 27, 2009

Subject:
New entrance to the hospital

In just a few weeks, we plan to make a temporary change we think will benefit many people who enter and leave our hospital. With key work planned to connect the new patient tower to the existing hospital, we plan to close what is currently the main entrance and instead have much of the foot traffic go through what is now called the contemplation garden (the garden between the Telemetry/CCU building and the Trauma building.)

The change enhances campus safety by separating construction work from people who are entering and exiting Mercy San Juan. The garden entrance will be the main entrance to the hospital until the opening of the new patient tower, which will include the new hospital lobby. The new patient tower is expected to open this fall, possibly in November.

You may have already noticed work happening in the contemplation garden as preparations are made to make the garden entrance ADA compliant. There will also be an effort to enhance the landscaping. To make sure the entrance transition goes smoothly, a hospital committee has been formed. What is now the surgery desk will become the first point of contact for many of our visitors. Signage will also be key to make sure that patients and visitors can easily get to patient registration or the public elevators, even if there is no one at the desk.

During this time, hospital staff who park in the employee garage in back of the campus will still be able to enter through the back door next to the cafeteria or through the door next to the Pharmacy.

All employees and volunteers are encouraged to park in either the employee garage or the main garage. Other than late-night employees, no staff should be parking in the lots for the 6401 and 6403 medical office buildings. Those spaces are intended for patients during business hours.

We will be quick to communicate when we have an exact date to begin the transition. At that time, we plan to have both entrances open simultaneously for a few days as people adjust to the change. Any departments communicating with patients and visitors on a pre-registration or outpatient basis will then be asked to alert them before arriving that they should continue to either park in the main garage or use valet parking in the circular driveway. If you have questions or concerns, please call the Construction Hotline at 537.5243.

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