

**I**t's time to invest in your future health care! Power County Hospital District has served the community and its health care needs for 56 years. The proposed bond and renovation plans will update the facility to help us meet the health care needs of our community. These renovations are not just cosmetic! They will improve patient care, access, and safety; help recruit providers and additional services; create greater potential for area economic development; and allow us to continue our mission in providing quality care, close to home.

We appreciate your interest and support in this important project. Please contact Dallas Clinger or Jackie Taylor at 226-3200 or visit our website for more details at:

[www.pchd.net](http://www.pchd.net)

**Why do we need the hospital if everyone gets transferred?**

Hospital ER transfer rates for 2016 was only 5% for all patients received. We treat, release or admit 95% of what comes through our doors!

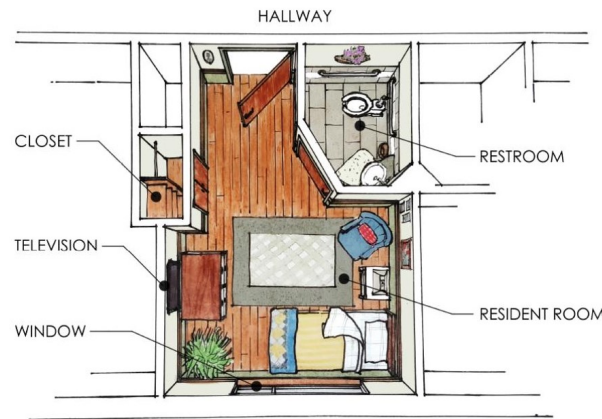
It is critical that patients in our community have access to emergency services within the first 'golden hour' of need. A provider is required to see patients within 30-minutes of arrival to the ER (no long waits) and can provide the needed medication and stabilization to help patients have the best chance of survival during critical care. Our EMS crews do an amazing job, but they are not paramedics and are limited on what medications and procedures they can administer via transport for patients.

Patients transferred from us also get the benefit of a direct doctor-to-doctor transfer to other facilities. This is faster, provides notice for further testing and care with the receiving facility and allows us to send you directly to the best facility for your continued care— whether it's Pocatello, Idaho Falls, or Salt Lake.

**What renovations are included for the nursing home?**

The nursing home will receive a 7500 square foot addition to the east end of the building. This expansion will create 16 private and 2 double resident rooms— all with bathrooms. Currently all residents in the nursing home have to share small rooms and have no private bathrooms!

This extra space will also add family and activity areas, a larger elevator for transfers, and safer workflow at the nurse's station to give residents and families the space, amenities, and privacy they deserve and expect.



**What renovations are included for physical therapy?**

The bond includes the cost to build a brand NEW 2500 square foot therapy building across the street from the hospital in the present location of the Administration Annex. The current therapy

trailer would be removed and no longer needed. This would provide plenty of space for therapy services and expanded exercise programs.

**What about better parking?**

There will be additional parking in the front-lower area of the facility with no stairs for easier access to the Nursing Home. The upper entrance to emergency and hospital services will have additional angled parking.

The planned renovations also include a \$748,000 parking garage where the helipad is located. This element fixes three problems for us. First, it eliminates the parking congestion surrounding the hospital by getting 20+ cars off the streets. Second, the raised helipad will be connected to the hospital-ER area for faster and easier patient transfers. Third, the raised helipad is a much safer and easier landing space for the emergency helicopters.

The total project plans are expected to get approximately 35 cars off the street!

**Are you just adding a bunch of office space?**

Like any business, the hospital needs office space for billing, technology, human resources, medical records, administration, etc. to get work done for the facility. Currently all these offices and staff are scattered throughout the facility in various available buildings and spaces. The total current square footage for office space functions is approximately 5000 square feet.

This renovation will allow us to consolidate all of these office spaces to a single area that totals 7500 square feet on the upper level. This addition does give us some additional room for growth and more importantly moves these departments to a single area for greater efficiency and by vacating other spaces leaves more room for expansion to patient care areas.



Power County Hospital District  
**Hospital Bond**  
**FAQ:**  
**Frequently Asked Questions**

*Quality Care,  
 Close to Home*

# ? FAQ: PCHD Hospital Renovation Bond

## ***How much will this project cost me?***

The proposed renovation **bond is for \$14.95 million dollars** with a 30-year bond. The total project will cost \$15.25 million dollars and the hospital is saving the balance difference to put towards the final renovation cost.

The bond will cost taxpayers, **\$1.00 per thousand dollars** of assessed value, after your exemption. The average taxpayer will pay a total of \$50-75 per year for the bond.

## ***Where can I vote on the bond?***

All qualified voters in Power County may vote for the hospital bond option at the **Tuesday, May 16th** election. Voters will need to go to their regular county voting precincts #1-6. Precinct information is available at [www.pchd.net](http://www.pchd.net).

Qualified voters must be 18 years of age; a U.S. citizen; and resident of Power County for the last 30 days. Qualified voters may register at the polls with proof of residency and citizenship (utility bill & drivers license).

## ***Why does it cost so much money?***

The total cost includes comprehensive renovations to the entire facility- hospital/emergency, nursing home, ancillary areas and new physical therapy building. The cost is not just for cosmetic purposes. It will update patient rooms, change department workflows, modernize finishes and building systems, more parking areas, and the cost of the bond financing and interest.

The hospital is the **OLDEST** public facility in the community that has not had major renovations completed to it in the last 56 years. The hospital has also not asked for a capital bond from the community during this time. This project will help us renovate everything at the facility for the future- if

you want to continue having health care services in your community, **it's time** to make an investment in the future of those services.

## ***Have other options for the renovations been considered?***

The board looked at doing the renovation in phases, but it's not feasible or practical to only complete these major updates to 1/2 of the building. Phasing the project also means deciding between nursing home or hospital-ER updates- both are badly needed.

The cost of construction also continues to grow and doing renovations in phases will cost taxpayers more in the future to complete everything.

## ***Is the current building worth using and saving?***

The current building had a full assessment done by engineers and architects and was deemed a very sound building. It is also built on a pillar system, making it actually easier for us to complete many of the changes.

## ***Why not build a NEW facility on the hospital's other property?***

The District owns 26 acres on the south end of town. Estimates received on building a new facility would cost approximately \$25+ million dollars- double the cost of renovations. The Hospital District cannot issue a bond for more than \$18 million dollars from the public, therefore cannot move forward with building a new facility at this time.

Moving the facility to a new location means we also risk losing the hospital's Critical Access Hospital (CAH) designation with CMS and the state.



This designation allows the hospital to be paid on costs for Medicare and Medicaid patients and is imperative to helping with our reimbursement. If we move from our present location, we risk losing the designation that we are currently grandfathered in.

The District will retain the land as a sound investment for future expanded services when the community is in need.

## ***Why not buy and renovate the old Kings or Alco building?***

These buildings are half the size of the current facility. They would still need a significant amount of renovations and expansion to make them licensed for hospital and nursing home use. The cost to renovate these buildings would quickly balloon past the \$14.95 million we are currently asking and a move to a new location could affect our CAH status.

## ***What new services can you provide with this renovation?***

The District is always analyzing the service needs of the community. The planned renovations in-

clude spaces for department expansion and possible new service lines needed in our area. The District has already invested in the addition of telehealth to help alleviate specialist travel time.

Potential future services could also include home health, outpatient occupational and speech therapy as well as growing the visiting specialists and procedures program available with the clinic and hospital.

## ***How will this improve my health care?***

The changes to all department areas will create better and safer workflows and access for patients and staff. There are also spaces for department growth and expansion of potential new services.

An updated facility will also make it easier to recruit doctors and health professionals and staff to our facility looking to have more modern amenities and serve our community.

## ***What is the economic impact of the Hospital District to the area?***

Employees and hospital services keep money in our community to have a HUGE impact on local businesses, schools, and the housing market.

Studies in other counties show that wages have a multiplier effect of 1.5 to a local economy. If you take the approximate annual salaries of the 100 employees of \$3.87 million and multiple by 1.5 we get an economic impact of \$5.80 million dollars that PCHD has to our area.

If you are concerned with your taxes now, they would be much worse if the hospital closes and houses are empty directly impacting your values and taxes! Pulling that many dollars out of our economy will hurt everyone.