

# Sutter hospital remodel begins

Hospitals Sutter Hospital

Bogard Construction of Santa Cruz to finish \$16.5 million project next year

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**SANTA CRUZ** » A \$16.5 million addition and remodel is underway at Sutter Maternity & Surgery Center, the first expansion since the specialty hospital at 2900 Chanticleer Ave. was completed in 1996.

The project, financed by Sutter Health, is slated to be complete in October 2015.

Improvements include:

- Privacy: 10 stations offering quiet for patients on arrival, before and after surgery.
- Capacity: Two new operating rooms and a new procedure room for patients coming for sur-

## ON THE NET

To view a video of Sutter Maternity & Surgery Center construction, visit [santacruzsentinel.com](http://santacruzsentinel.com) and click on this story.

gery by specialists in ophthalmology, plastic surgery, urology, gynecology, ear, nose and throat and general surgery.

• Compliance: Exterior changes including the front entrance to meet American with Disabilities

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THOMAS MENDOZA — SANTA CRUZ SENTINEL  
Demolition progresses Monday at Sutter Maternity & Surgery Center. Construction will begin on a \$16.5 million renovation expected to be complete in October 2015.

## Sutter

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Act standards.

Many hospitals have renovated areas not designed for patient healing and family comfort, according to Medical Construction & Design, an industry newsletter.

In Sutter's case, the existing patient stations are curtained areas that are fairly compact.

"In the new area, the patient bays will have a lot more space," said Mark Riley, Sutter Health marketing manager, noting a hard wall will be installed between the bays to reduce noise and create more privacy.

Noise-dampening systems to reduce the ability to overhear patient-staff con-

versations will be installed, similar to those at Sutter's Palo Alto Medical Foundation Westside clinic.

Riley said most of the surgeries and procedures to be performed in the new addition are not elective but "necessary" surgical or diagnostic outpatient procedures such as colonoscopies, endoscopies and pain management.

"We have seen a rise in these procedures," he said.

Hospitals nationwide are responding to new accessibility standards required for new construction and alterations since 2012.

Sutter Health is no exception.

In a \$1.056 million settlement in 2008 with Disability Rights Advocates in Berkeley, the hospital group agreed to pay \$12,000 each to 88 people who reported on barriers to access at 31

facilities and provide quarterly reports on its remediation progress.

Riley said it was hard to break out the cost of accessibility because those considerations are incorporated into the design from the outset.

The expansion has been planned since 2006, Riley said. When Sutter Maternity & Surgery Center opened, physicians with Palo Alto Medical Foundation had offices on the first floor.

With the completion of an expansion and remodel at 2911 Chanticleer Ave., the surgeons and rehab specialists moved their offices across the street, making way for construction.

Santa Cruz contractor Bogard Construction and Sacramento-based design firm Silva-Stowell Architects of Sacramento, which

use the "lean construction approach" to minimize waste and maximize value, previously worked on Sutter Health's new Westside medical office and 2911 Chanticleer Ave.

By Monday morning, the area was fenced and landscaping removed by workers with Don Chapin Co. of Salinas.

Riley said there is a plan to contain dust and debris. There will be some noise but day-to-day hospital operations will continue without interruption, he added.

Water conservation measures will include drought-resistant landscaping, dual-flush option toilets, waterless urinals and water-saver faucets.

"I love this place," said patient Katie Benson, who delivered her babies at Sutter Maternity. "I hope they get it done."