Carnarvon Residential Aged Care facility

These are exciting times as we start to see visible construction progressing on site of the $19.1 million redevelopment which is co-located with the Carnarvon Health Campus. Once complete, the new facility will include 38 beds, palliative enabled bedrooms, rooms for couples and multi-purpose rooms with bariatric capabilities.

Main works

Following a competitive tender process, Crothers Construction was awarded the building contract on 8 June 2020 with their construction program broken up into two separable portions. The first portion, called Separable Portion (SP) 1, is then split into sub sections:

- SP1A – Was completed in October 2020 and included service diversion, disconnection and temporary access. This meant the construction of a new temporary walkway into Poinciana Lodge and sewerage, power and fire services disconnected from the old maternity and temporary emergency department wing (Block F).

- SP1B – Includes demolition of remaining areas of the old nurse's quarters (Block K) and part of Block F. Due for completion in December 2020.

- SP1C – Construction of the new 38 bed facility and associated works – currently the eastern side retaining wall, pad footings, ground slab, and roof and wall trusses are all underway.

- SP1D –Will involve the setup of all equipment and furniture in the new facility and moving the residents over from Poinciana Lodge in preparation for it to be demolished.

Picture 1. Wall trusses and plumbing works installed on site

Separable Portion 2 involves the demolition of Poinciana Lodge and completion of landscaping works to that old site.

Current and planned activities

Public art

The first Community Reference Group session for public art was held on 10 December 2020. Local artists, a current resident's family member and a representative from the Gascoyne Arts Society attended. This meeting was to discuss the public art brief and receive community feedback on the Expression of Interest (EOI) process to directly purchase or commission 2D and 3D artwork to be used in the building and the landscape.

The EOI is being released on 16 December 2020 and closes on 4 February 2021. The EOI is open to all members of the public who meet the brief so keep an eye on the Facebook page 'My Healthy Midwest' for details.

Carnarvon Senior Citizens update

The WA Country Health Service (WACHS) Redevelopment Project Officer attended the senior citizens morning tea on 8 December 2020 to show them the progress of the project and answer their questions. Most of their questions were around the admissions process into residential aged care including how to be placed on the waiting list, how the service is billed to the resident and what affect it may have on their pension.

Based on the interests of the group, WACHS has planned a follow up morning tea on 9 February 2021 at which the social worker, clinical nurse manager and redevelopment officer will be present at the Senior Citizens Hall to answer any questions that the community may have around the admissions process and new build.
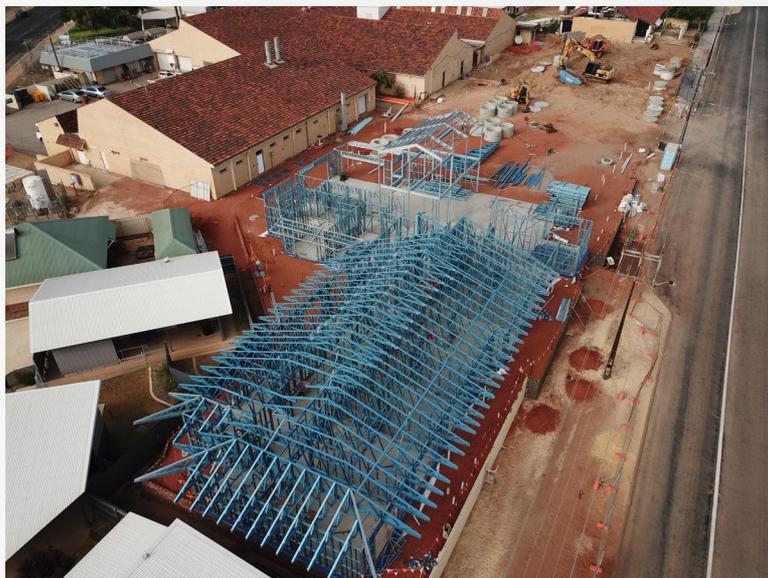
Landscaping

WACHS will be holding a Community Reference Group session for landscaping in the New Year. We'd like to work with the local community and service providers to get input on proposed plants for the facility, donations of plants the community might like to gift the facility and assistance with aspects of the planting program.

Everyone in the community is invited to attend this session and an invitation will be posted on the Facebook page 'My Health Midwest'. For people interested in donating plants please contact Alex on the details below.

Future conversations

Should you wish for more information at any point on the project or would like the WACHS Redevelopment Project Officer to talk to any local community groups please contact Midwest.Redevelopment@health.wa.gov.au or phone Alex on 9941 0308.

Picture 2. Aerial view of the eastern end development of the new aged care building