

Wright-Patt Hospital undergoes major renovation



Removal process of demoed debris from the Intensive Care Unit at the Wright-Patterson Air Force Base Medical Center Complex. The Medical Center is undergoing an extensive renovation.

Katie Newton, public affairs

The sprawling Medical Center Complex at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base in Dayton, Ohio, which serves Soldiers and their family members is undergoing a major \$90 million renovation managed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Louisville District.

The project, slated to be complete by December 2014, involves renovating the hospital to a state-of-the-art health facility with an overhauled Intensive Care Unit (ICU), new dining facilities, updated patient rooms, surgery areas, office areas and a dental clinic. Renovations to 260,000 square feet of the facility will modernize 30 different departments throughout the hospital.

"This renovation project is the district's biggest military construction project going," said Steve Farkus, Louisville District project manager. "The magnitude of the renovation and the number of moving parts is really incredible. It has taken a lot of coordination and great partnerships to ensure smooth transitions."

One of the most pivotal points of the project is currently underway with a three-month complete shutdown of the hospital's ICU.

The project delivery team worked to consolidate phases of the ICU shutdown in an effort to minimize impact on the user. The ICU shutdown began Aug. 16,

2013, and is scheduled to be completed by December 2013, a full year sooner than originally planned due to the changes in the project schedule.

"This change involved a lot of coordination," said Jeremy Cobb, USACE resident engineer. "Everybody came together to make it happen. We reduced the number of phases and are able to renovate the ICU in one phase, which helped minimize the impact to the user," said Cobb.

"This was a win-win for all parties," said Cobb. "The end user is impacted for less time and able to get a fully renovated

space earlier and the contractor has many more efficiencies doing it at one time then breaking up the area to small phases."

Other transitions are currently underway as well, including new temporary trailers for food services while the dining facility is being renovated. The trailers, which will be used for food preparation, were installed and operational in mid-September. The new dining facility and food services area are expected to be complete by April 2014.

"The work of everyone involved is increasing patient care at the Wright-Patt Medical Center and that is something everyone can be proud of," said Farkus.

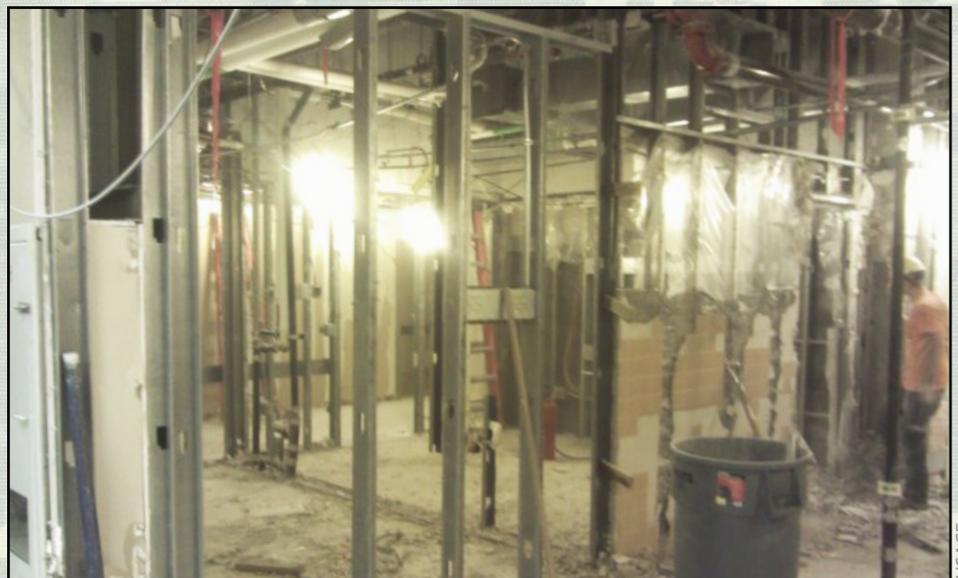
Those groups include the 88th Medical Group, 88th Civil Engineer Directorate, Air Force Civil Engineer Center, USACE Louisville District, the construction contractor Walsh/Butt Joint Venture and the design contractor HKS/WS .

"We've really got a diverse group tackling this project," said Farkus.

Although everything is moving smoothly so far, the team still recognizes that many crucial milestones are ahead.

"The work over the next few months will be a test to the team to solve all design and construction issues in a timely manner to meet the agreed timeline for completion of the area," said Cobb.

The project is on schedule for an expected completion date of December 2014.



A wall in the Intensive Care Unit was demolished as part of the renovation project.