

Thank you for your interest in the questions being asked about the proposed facilities improvement at JPS Health Network. We hope your question is addressed in these FAQs.

Question: Who makes the policy decisions for the Hospital District and how are those people selected to serve?

Answer: Members of the Tarrant County Hospital District Board of Managers are selected by the four elected county commissioners and the county judge.

Question: What is the process for setting a bond election?

Answer: The Hospital District does not call elections. County commissioners are responsible for placing the issue on the ballot. This decision was made after the commissioners appointed and received the report from a Citizens Blue Ribbon Committee.

Question: What kind of bonds will JPS use?

Answer: The Hospital District's Board of Managers and County Commissioners are using general obligation bonds, which are tax-backed obligations.

Question: Will the three components of the Citizens Blue Ribbon Committee recommendations (new patient tower, new behavioral health hospital, and community health centers, including an ambulatory surgery center and cancer center) be presented as one package or divided into four parts?

Answer: County commissioners have approved a single bond question to be decided by Tarrant County voters on Tuesday, November 6, 2018.

Question: What percentage of the JPS operating budget is contributed by state and federal government? Does the federal government provide anything for debt service?

Answer: Approximately 40 percent of the annual JPS budget comes from local property taxes; another 40 percent comes from insured patients, including Medicare and Medicaid. About 20 percent of the funds come from other federal, state and non-patient revenue dollars. All of the revenue supports both operations and debt service.

Question: Why do some Texas counties have hospital districts while others don't?

Answer: Chapter 61 of the Texas Health and Safety Code Charter requires counties to provide healthcare to eligible residents who are considered indigent. The Tarrant County Commissioners Court created the Tarrant County Hospital District (dba JPS Health Network) in 1959 to provide a sustainable source of funding to the City-County Hospital constructed in 1938 on land donated by John Peter Smith. Other Texas counties fulfill the statutory requirement through creation of a public hospital authority or a county indigent health care program.

Question: Does JPS provide care for only poor people?

Answer: No. JPS Health Network provides healthcare regardless of payer. As Tarrant County's only Level 1 Trauma Center serving the region west of Dallas, patients requiring trauma services may be brought to

JPS Health Network. Likewise, as the only psychiatric emergency center in the county, individuals requiring emergency psychiatric care may be brought to JPS.

Question: What planning went in to determining the need for this bond?

Answer: The original RFP seeking assistance in developing the Strategic Facilities Utilization Plan was issued in 2009. The Strategic Facilities plan continually evolved to address current and future needs of a large, diverse and growing community in light of aging buildings, an aging population, a rapidly changing healthcare environment, technology advancements and increasing academic demands. The Citizens Blue Ribbon Committee used prior analysis and information as a basis for its year-long research into the future healthcare needs of Tarrant County and what role JPS would play in fulfilling them.

Question: How did JPS Health Network identify what Tarrant County's future healthcare needs are?

Answer: With the assistance of outside consultants, JPS conducted an empirical analysis of community health needs as a part of the nine-year facilities planning activities and with community needs assessments conducted in 2010, 2013 and 2017.

Question: Where do we find copies of the needs assessments?

Answer: The 2010, 2013 and 2017 needs assessments, as well as the 2011 Strategic Facility Utilization Plan and the 2013 Community Health Implementation Strategy, are available at www.jpshealthnet.org/about_jps/public_information.