

Parkland Memorial Hospital, Dallas

Client: The New Parkland Memorial Hospital

Architect: HDR & Corgan Associates

Type of build: New Build

Location: Dallas, Texas

Parkland Memorial Hospital in Dallas, Texas, is the flagship of Parkland Health & Hospital System and serves as Dallas County's public hospital. Steeped in tradition and local history, Parkland Memorial Hospital originally opened in 1894 in a wooden building, and was later replaced by a brick construction in 1913, the first brick hospital constructed in Texas. In 1954, Parkland moved to its current site about 1 mile from its original location. Parkland Memorial Hospital has not just played a primary role in local history, but in national history as well; this is the facility where President John F. Kennedy died, as well as Lee Harvey Oswald and Jack Ruby.

Parkland Memorial Hospital has delivered more infants under one roof than any other hospital in the nation, currently averaging more than 10,000 deliveries per year. In addition, there are over 240,000 emergency visits each year with more than a million patient visits annually. However, treating this many patients in an overcrowded, 50+ year-old facility soon became a challenge, and with Dallas one of America's fastest growing cities, an increase in traffic was sure to come.

So when planning began in 2002 to construct an updated Parkland facility, the stakes were certainly very high indeed. Renovation of the existing facility was not an option, as it would have led to diminished patient capacities that would have been unacceptable. The decision was made to replace the building with a new 1,700,000-square-foot, 17-story, 862-bed facility, along with a new 380,000-square-foot outpatient center, a 275,000-square-foot office facility, and parking for 6,000 cars, all housed on a 2.5 million-square-foot campus located on the northeast corner of Harry Hines Boulevard and Medical District Drive. Total cost of the project is about \$1.3 billion.



At nearly twice the size of the current hospital, the new Parkland Hospital was designed to meet both the present and future needs of Dallas County. The hospital is one of the first “digital hospitals” in the United States, featuring technological advances that didn’t even exist when planning began more than a decade ago.

With an opening scheduled for August 20, 2015, The new Parkland Hospital will soon become a reality nearly a decade after it was first imagined. Given the foresight and choices made in design, construction, and execution, the new Parkland Hospital will proudly carry on the 100+ year tradition of the Parkland name, and VISTAMATIC will be standing right beside them.

Vistamatic’s Partnership

In addition to all the upgrades in size, infrastructure and technology, the important decision was made to include products from Vistamatic in the new Parkland Hospital as the product of choice for their integral blind needs.

Once the decision was made, Vistamatic supplied in excess of 2,000 vision panels across the full remit of the hospital with the exception of the ICU. Vistamatic vision panels are now one of the main focal points of the hospital, as they are installed in the patient rooms, as well as NNICU, Labour and Delivery unit, X-Ray and operating rooms.

“Parkland is excited about the lifetime warranty that Vistamatic offers. The standard integral blinds are often a maintenance nightmare frequently breaking and not working properly, as are common with these other products. They also usually have a limited warranty that doesn’t cover the life expectation of this daily-used product.”

Gena English, AAHID, EDAC, RAS, Senior Program Manager

NPH FF&E/Interior Designer of the Parkland Hospital Replacement Program