Foster + Partners Develops Master Plan for Cleveland Clinic Growth

Cleveland Clinic, the renowned medical center based in Cleveland, knows the valuable role of architecture in delivering its mission and brand recognition as one of the top hospitals in the United States. With a presence also in Las Vegas, Florida, and Toronto—and soon in Abu Dhabi—Cleveland Clinic has developed a global reputation as a top heart care hospital while being ranked the number 4 hospital overall in the United States in the 2012/2013 rankings by U.S. News & World Report. For its future in Cleveland, the medical center has developed a master plan by Foster + Partners of London that will guide growth for 13 major new buildings and related open space. Establishing a framework for future medical center growth over the next 30 to 40 years on the 178-acre main campus, the master plan defines organizing principles for building placement.

The plan, led by Lord Norman Foster, places buildings along a “Green Spine,” a three-quarter-mile long green corridor that is an organizing element for development as well as much-needed open space for the campus that currently can seem confusing to navigate. New buildings will be planned with interior circulation and public spaces facing the corridor. As future development is incrementally built, Cleveland Clinic will eventually need to demolish about eight existing buildings on its dense 50-building urban campus.

Landscape architect Peter Walker of Berkeley, California, has collaborated with Foster on the campus plan, and he designed a “Grand Allee” of trees leading to the new Sydell and Arnold Miller Family Pavilion. Walker also co-designed the National 9/11 Memorial in New York.

At locations elsewhere, Cleveland Clinic is making its presence known with architecture that attracts attention. The Cleveland Clinic Lou Ruvo Center for Brain Health in Las Vegas designed by Frank Gehry opened two years ago. And Cleveland Clinic Abu Dhabi, a multi-specialty 360-bed hospital designed by HDR, is currently under construction in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates, with completion set for late 2013. —JOHN CZARNECKI