Frequently asked questions

**How will community stakeholders be engaged in the development of the project?**

Mayo aims to be transparent about its intentions for downtown Rochester so community members and staff have an opportunity to engage with the process in appropriate ways. Mayo Clinic intends to follow all processes with regard to development in the special medical district.

**What is the current status of this initiative?**

In May, Mayo Clinic’s Board of Trustees approved a series of enabling projects that will allow the Bold. Forward. Unbound. in Rochester team to proceed with further planning and progress on the strategic initiative.

**What will be achieved by making changes to the Rochester campus?**

Bold. Forward. Unbound. in Rochester will introduce new buildings designed to create horizontal connectivity across Mayo Clinic’s downtown campus. By linking existing buildings to new physical spaces and incorporating human-centered design, innovative technology and new care models, Mayo Clinic will be positioned to transform health care — and treat more patients in need of its expertise in serious and complex disease.

**What is enabling work? What type of projects are about to begin?**

In order to gather information necessary to move forward Bold. Forward. Unbound. in Rochester and prepare sites for future development, teams will be conducting enabling work such as site surveys, as well as seeking the approval for street closures and redevelopment of existing sites.

**Have the development plans for the Rochester campus been finalized?**

No. Bold. Forward. Unbound. in Rochester is taking an iterative approach to redesigning the downtown campus. As part of the multiyear strategic initiative, teams will adapt and respond to new learnings along the way. This means that some information may change as work progresses.

**Does this mean construction in downtown Rochester is about to begin?**

As these enabling projects begin, you may start to see or hear changes occurring across campus. Key details are being shared now so staff and community members can engage with the process and learn more ahead of any public processes in the coming months. Not all construction in downtown Rochester is related to Bold. Forward. Unbound. in Rochester, and Mayo will communicate as work progresses to ensure transparency.

**Will the expansion of the Rochester campus impact operations at Saint Marys?**

While Bold. Forward. Unbound in Rochester focuses on the downtown campus, the Saint Marys Campus is and will continue to be a vital part of Mayo Clinic as it plays a critical role in meeting patients’ needs.

**Will Bold. Forward. Unbound. in Rochester provide additional downtown parking for staff, patients, and visitors?**

Mayo Clinic recognizes there is limited space in downtown Rochester to accommodate parking for all the single-occupancy vehicles that travel downtown. Bold. Forward. Unbound. in Rochester envisions an arrival experience for patients that is better than what exists today alongside choice and flexibility to accommodate tens of thousands of individual staff members who arrive from a variety of places. The Bold. Forward. Unbound. in Rochester design team is working closely with the city of Rochester to find creative solutions that are proportionate to Mayo’s downtown presence, including new parking infrastructure like the Discovery Square Ramp, a partnership with the planned Link Rapid Transit line in Rochester and more.

**The former Lourdes High School represents an important part of Rochester’s history. Was the preservation of this site considered as part of Bold. Forward. Unbound. in Rochester?**

Many Lourdes High School alumni remain members of the community, and this is a site that holds an important place in Rochester’s history. Whenever possible, Mayo Clinic aims to invest in the history this city holds. Yet at times, redevelopment is necessary to support long-term growth and best meet the needs of staff and patients for years to come. The current structure is largely unusable due to asbestos and flooding damage. The site could be redeveloped to serve as a new logistics building that would help optimize clinical space for patient care while ensuring supplies are accessible and efficiently restocked. Mayo is committed to working with the Heritage Preservation Commission to identify ways to honor this piece of Rochester’s history as part of the redevelopment.