

MINNEAPOLIS/ST. PAUL BUSINESS JOURNAL

Minnesota Eye Consultants plans Woodbury expansion

Jul 13, 2016, 1:46pm CDT
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This rendering shows the 41,000-square-foot medical office building that would be occupied by Minnesota Eye Consultants.

Another medical-specialty practice is targeting Woodbury for expansion.

Ophthalmology group [Minnesota Eye Consultants](#) has teamed up with Eagan-based developer MSP Commercial to propose a 41,000-square-foot medical office building near the southeast corner of Tamarack Road and Weir Drive. The site is on the opposite side of Interstate 494 from where [several orthopedics practices are planning clinics](#).

Minnesota Eye is consolidating and expanding two facilities — a small office in Maplewood and a clinic in Falcon Heights — at the Woodbury site, said President **Candy Simerson**. The practice plans to fill the entire building with a clinic and surgery center.

It selected the site partly because it's easy to see, she said. "Many of our patients don't see real well — we need to create spaces that are visible and accessible."

The demographics of Woodbury as a whole are also appealing, she said.

Minnesota Eye is still finalizing cost estimates for the project. The practice plans to open the clinic next year.

Minnesota Eye has six clinics, including locations in Minneapolis, Blaine and Bloomington. The firm has no immediate further expansion plans, though Simerson said the aging population is fueling strong demand for ophthalmology services.

Simerson said the medical office development activity in Woodbury is reminiscent of what happened in Maple Grove.

Golden Valley-based Twin Cities Orthopedics recently submitted plans for a roughly 50,000-square-foot facility at the southwest corner of Radio Drive and Bailey Road in Woodbury. That site is near where Tria Orthopaedics and Woodbury-based Summit Orthopedics also are opening clinics.

Katharine Grayson covers med tech, clean tech, technology, health care and venture capital.

Original Article: <http://www.bizjournals.com/twincities/news/2016/07/13/minnesota-eye-consultants-plans-woodbury-expansion.html>