

Cancer hospital wants to break ground in Goodyear this month

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A proposed zoning change could allow Cancer Treatment Centers of America to break ground on its Goodyear hospital this month.

The Goodyear Planning and Zoning Commission on Wednesday urged approval of a zoning request that would accommodate the hospital's aggressive construction schedule, which could have workers starting in October.

The commission's recommendation will be considered by the City Council, which is expected to make the final decision soon.

The hospital will be on a 25-acre site south of Interstate 10, off Bullard Avenue.

It is part of a larger development called Airport Gateway at Goodyear that could have stores, light manufacturing and offices on an additional 187 acres. The land, which is vacant, now is zoned for industrial uses. The proposed change would allow the land to be developed as a business park.

With construction scheduled to start this month, the hospital could be open by the end of 2008.

"CTCA is poised to move as quickly as possible and get this facility up," Scott McCoy, an attorney working on the project, told the commission.

Cancer Treatment Centers of America, a national hospital chain based in Illinois, announced at the end of July it would open its newest hospital in Goodyear, its first in the Southwest.

Goodyear offered the company a tax break that could not be matched by Phoenix, the other Valley city it was negotiating with.