



# Gilbert Hospital inks deal to buy land in Florence

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Gilbert Hospital has signed a deal to purchase land for a new 50,000-square-foot hospital in Florence.

The health-care group is in escrow to buy 10 acres from Pulte Homes at the southwestern corner of Franklin Road and Hunt Highway. Plans call for closing the land purchase later this year, pending zoning approval.

The two-story hospital would open in the fall of 2009 with 20 inpatient beds, 20 emergency-department rooms, two operating rooms, and such diagnostic capabilities as MRI, X-ray, ultrasound and lab tests.

Gilbert Hospital CEO David Wanger said the \$25 million, privately owned hospital would provide emergency medical care to fast-growing communities such as Florence, Coolidge, Johnson Ranch and Queen Creek.

Gilbert Hospital was the first acute-care facility to open in Gilbert two years ago. Banner Health and Catholic Healthcare West followed with nearby facilities.

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