

SOUTH COUNTY HEALTH

Frequently Asked Questions – 11 Kenyon Avenue Parking Project

Why Did South County Health Purchase 11 Kenyon Avenue?

South County Health purchased the property at 11 Kenyon Avenue — located at the intersection of Kenyon Avenue and Salt Pond Road — earlier this year after being approached by the previous owner, a real estate investment/holding company, who was looking to sell the property for future development. We are developing this site into a new staff parking lot that will provide approximately 57 new parking spaces for day-shift employees and student workers.

Parking on the main hospital campus continues to be limited, particularly during peak hours and busy seasons. This expansion will help reduce congestion and improve access by dispersing parking across a broader footprint. In particular, patients visiting the Medical Office Building and other areas of our main campus, including oncology, orthopedic, obstetrics, and mobility-impaired patients will have more convenient access to care.

How Many New Parking Spots Has South County Health Created?

Since 2022, South County Health has added 81 new parking spaces. This includes the current project at 11 Kenyon Avenue and additional spots created last year through the removal of the former “shed” near the hospital cafeteria.

How Is South County Health Minimizing the Visual and Environmental Impact of the New Parking Lot?



Highly respected landscape architect Don Leighton, has designed the landscaping to make the new parking lot visually appealing while blending into the surrounding neighborhood. Above is a current rendering of the design. Mr. Leighton will present additional details at the public workshop on July 29.

How Will This Project Affect Traffic, Noise, and Evening Lighting in the Neighborhood?

The addition of this parking lot with vehicle access only from Salt Pond Road is expected to reduce congestion on Kenyon Avenue and improve access by dispersing parking across a broader footprint. Parking will be limited to day-shift employees and student workers minimizing evening noise and use. In addition, dark sky lighting will be installed – designed to direct light downward and reduce skyglow – preserving neighborhood ambiance at night.

Why Did Fencing Go Up?

The fencing currently in place is part of preliminary site preparation. It is intended to prevent staff from parking on the lot before the project is complete. No demolition or construction is scheduled to begin prior to August 1.

What Is the Demolition and Construction Timeline?

We recognize that construction can be disruptive, and we are committed to keeping you informed. We will be sharing additional details — including anticipated work hours, duration, and other project logistics at the workshop, but at this time:

- No demolition or construction is scheduled to take place prior to August 1.
- Once demolition begins, it is expected to take 1 week.
- Estimated time for completion is 5-6 months once construction begins.

How Can I Receive Communication Updates During Construction?

To receive updates throughout the project, we encourage you to:

- Provide your email address when submitting your RSVP for the workshop.
- Or, email us at marketing@southcountyhealth.org, with your name, address, and email, if you are unable to attend the workshop.
- View the parking project page at upgrades.southcountyhealth.org.

Will the permanent signage block views?

The current placement of the “Coming Soon” signage is only temporary. We are actively working with the appropriate parties to determine the final, permanent location of a monument sign, with safety, visibility, and town regulations top of mind. We will be sharing this information with both the Town and neighbors before anything is finalized. Additional details of the permanent signage placement and adherence to town regulations will be reviewed at the public workshop on July 29.

What Safety Measure Will Be Put in Place?

South County Health is committed to ensuring the safety and well-being of both our neighbors and staff. As part of the planned improvements at 11 Kenyon Avenue, several safety-focused features will be incorporated into the final design:

- 1) Crosswalk at the end of Kenyon Avenue**
 - A new pedestrian crosswalk will be installed at the end of Kenyon Avenue, providing a safe and visible crossing point for individuals walking to and from the parking area and hospital campus.
- 2) Landscaping and Elevation Design to Guide Safe Walking Routes**
 - The upper southwest corner of the parking lot has been carefully designed with landscaping and elevation changes to discourage staff from exiting the property at that location. This design encourages use of the designated crosswalk instead of walking across Kenyon Avenue at unmarked points.
- 3) Blue Light Emergency Phone Installation**
 - For added safety, a Blue Light Emergency Phone will be installed within the new parking lot. This highly visible, 24/7 emergency communication device provides immediate access to help in case of emergency.

4) Pedestrian Yield Signage

- Pedestrian yield signage will be installed at surrounding access points to remind drivers to slow down and remain alert for those on foot.

5) Sidewalk Repairs and Maintenance

- The existing sidewalk from the corner of Salt Pond Road to South County Hospital will be repaired and maintained by South County Health – including snow and ice removal - ensuring a safe, continuous, and ADA-accessible path for staff and pedestrians traveling on the sidewalk.

How Did South County Health Pay for 11 Kenyon Avenue?

This project along with all recent parking initiatives are fully funded by a generous gift from an anonymous, grateful patient.

Is South County Health Planning to Move Forward with a Walking Path?

Yes. Plans are underway for a walking path around the hospital campus. Final details are being completed, and updates will be shared as that project progresses. These paths will be fully maintained by South County Health and will be available to the public.