

TidalHealth Sussex Central Campus – Ambulatory Surgery Center

*Certificate of Public Review
Delaware Health Resources Board Proposal*

June 25, 2026

TidalHealth

Mission

To improve the health of the communities we serve.

Vision

To be the trusted leader in health and wellness, providing world-class care while serving as the premier destination for healthcare professionals to excel and thrive.

“From day one, our commitment has been to deliver and provide access to best-in-class clinical quality, unmatched patient safety, and affordability. This new campus is an extension of that promise,”

Dr. Leonard.



TidalHealth, serving Delmarva for nearly 130 years



Three Acute-Care Hospitals



Over 477 Practitioners



More than 65 Locations



Over 6,000 Team Members



Integrated Population Health



**Growth in
Graduate Medical Education**



Research & Innovation



Trauma Center



Joint Partners

Project Overview

Project Overview

Expansion of Orthopaedic Access in Sussex County will enhance access to advanced, convenient, and patient-centered outpatient orthopaedic surgical care for residents of one of Delaware's fastest-growing regions.

Construction of the TidalHealth Sussex Central Ambulatory Surgery Center, including site development, will encompass a modern surgical environment designed to support efficient workflows, advanced technology, and safe, high-quality care.

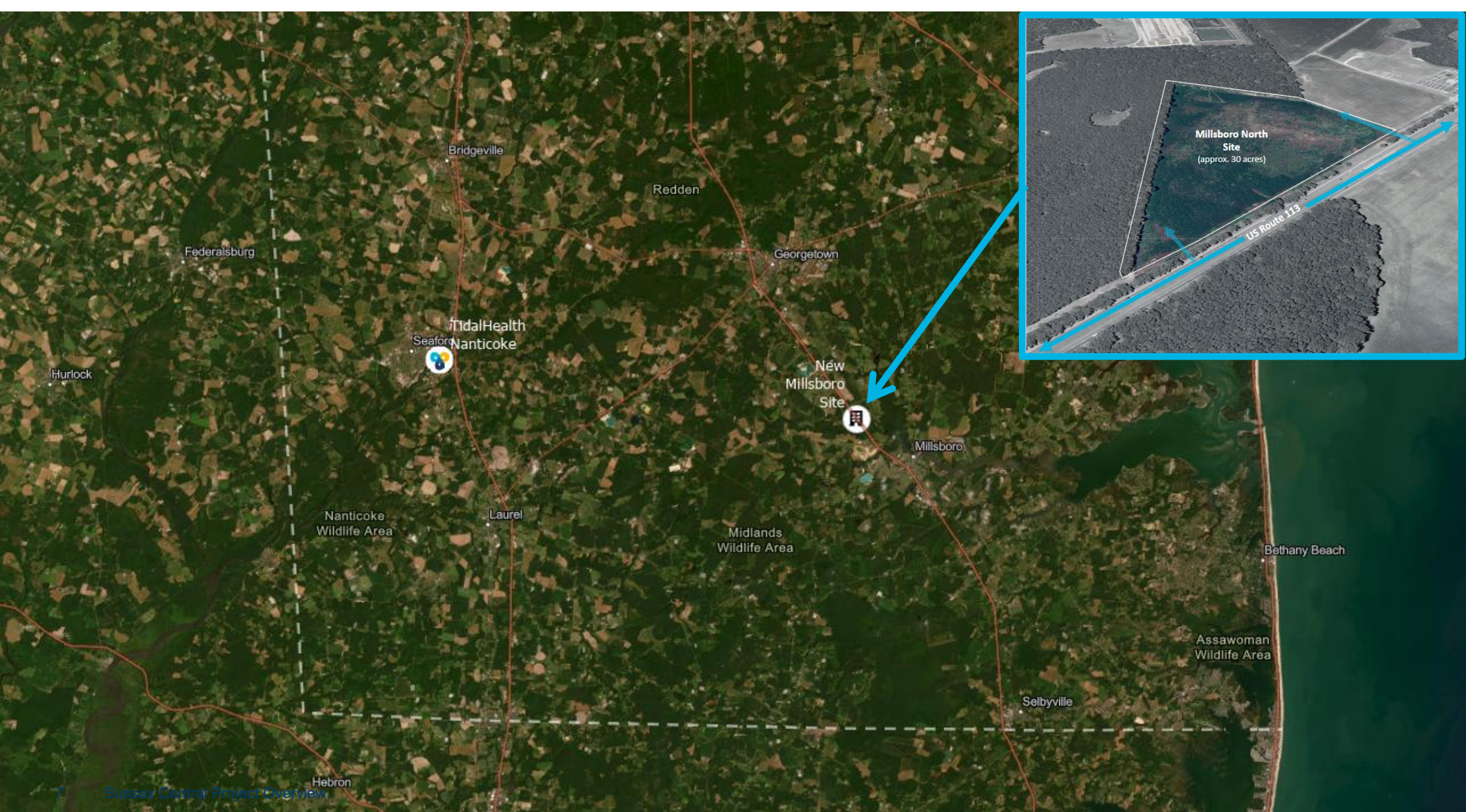
Comprehensive orthopaedic outpatient surgery services will be designed to improve timely access, reduce travel burden, lower costs versus hospital-based settings, and support coordinated care across the full continuum of musculoskeletal diagnosis, treatment, surgery, recovery, and follow-up.

TidalHealth investment of **\$12.4M – \$14.8M**



Artist rendering





Bridgeville

Redden

Georgetown

Federalsburg

TidalHealth
Seaford
Nanticoke

Hurlock

New
Millsboro
Site

Millsboro

Nanticoke
Wildlife Area

Laurel

Midlands
Wildlife Area

Bothany Beach

Assawoman
Wildlife Area

Selbyville

Hebron

Site Plan

Sussex Central Campus

- 30 acres
- 180,000- square foot campus
- Three buildings
- Conveniently located near the intersection of Routes 113 and 20
- Integrated medical care – close to home at lower costs



*ASC: Ambulatory Surgery Center.

Current TidalHealth locations in Sussex Central

TidalHealth Millsboro Pavilion, Millsboro DE

- Cardiovascular
- Ear, Nose & Throat
- Family Lab
- Orthopaedics
- Pediatrics Development & Therapy
- Primary Care

TidalHealth Sleep Center, Millsboro DE

- Sleep Medicine

TidalHealth Primary Care, Georgetown, DE

- Primary Care



Review Consideration 1: The Health Resources Management Plan Access | Quality of Care | Cost

Expanding Access to Orthopedic Surgery in Sussex County

Dedicated Orthopaedic ASC Capacity

- Four operating rooms dedicated to high-demand orthopaedic procedures, including total joints, sports medicine, spine, hand, and foot & ankle surgery.

Strategic Inland Sussex Location

- Located along the Route 113 growth corridor in Georgetown/Millsboro, improving access for rapidly growing inland Sussex communities.

Integrated Orthopaedic Care Model

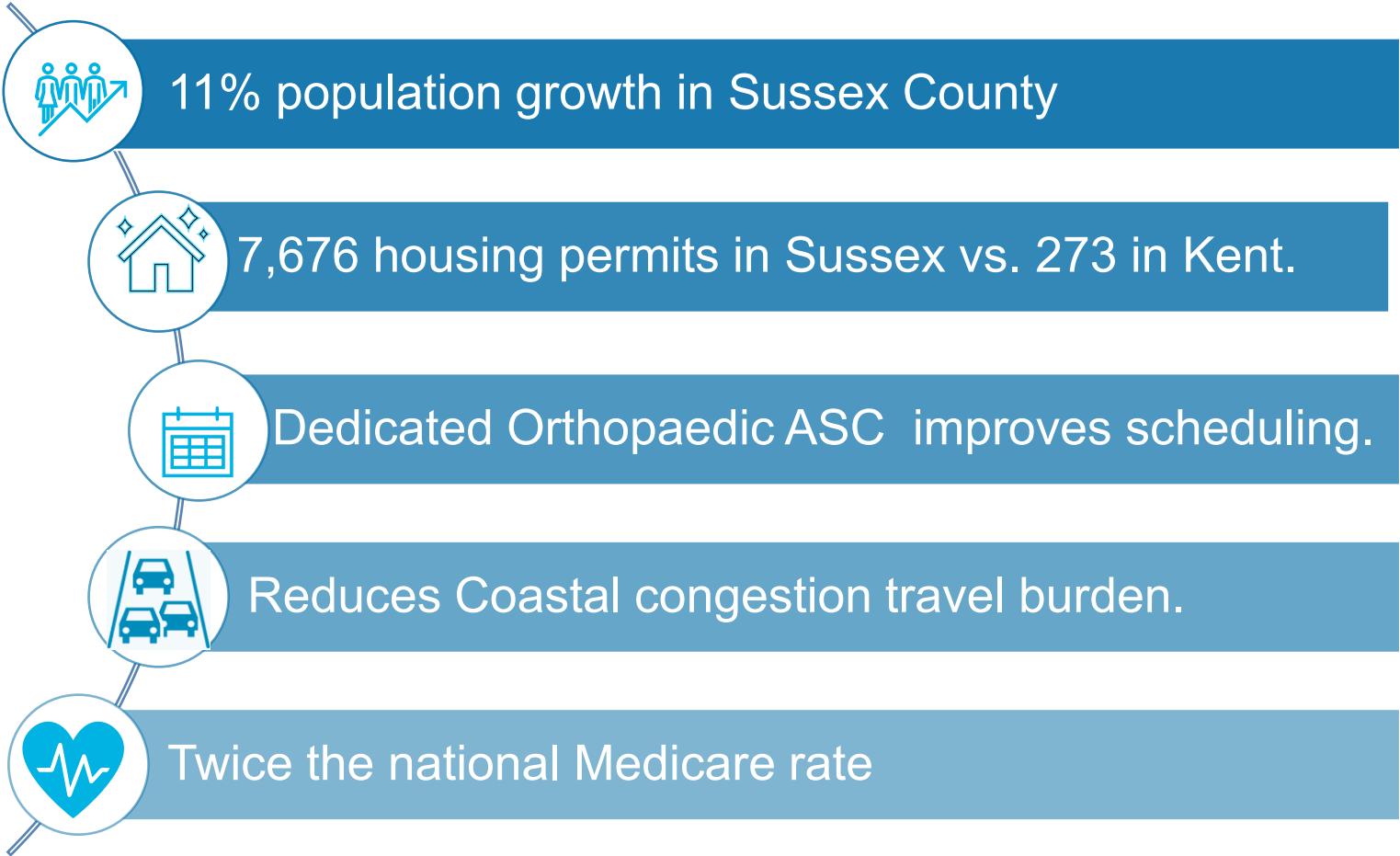
- Connected to TidalHealth physicians, imaging, rehabilitation, specialists, and hospitals to support seamless pre-surgical, surgical, and post-surgical care.

Right Care in the Right Setting

- Allows appropriate outpatient orthopaedic procedures to be performed in a lower-cost, patient-centered ambulatory setting while preserving hospital capacity for higher-acuity care.



Improving Access for a Growing and Aging Population



Delivering High-Quality Orthopaedic Care

- For 2025, TidalHealth Nanticoke is designated a Blue Cross Blue Shield Blue Distinction Center for total Hip and Knee Replacement Surgery for its dedication to treating individuals living with joint pain.
- For 2026, TidalHealth Nanticoke earns The Joint Commission's Gold Seal of Approval® for Advanced Total Hip and Knee Replacement Certification, reflecting the hospital's commitment to providing safe, high-quality patient care.
- TidalHealth Nanticoke was recognized in the 2025 First State Favorites – South Community's Choice Awards.



Lower Cost, More Efficient Surgical Care

Better for Patients

Affordability and more convenient outpatient surgical experience.

Better for Payers

Lower-cost ambulatory surgery setting supports more affordable care delivery and reduced healthcare spending.

Better for Hospitals

Preserves hospital operating rooms for trauma, inpatient, emergent, and higher-acuity surgical cases.

Better for Delaware

Supports statewide affordability and healthcare efficiency goals through appropriate site-of-care utilization.



Review Consideration 2: Need

Demand in Central Sussex County



Sussex County is projected to grow by 11.1% over the next 5 years.



Orthopaedic Office visits are expected to grow by 30% over the next decade.

Orthopaedic Procedures are expected to grow by 26% over the next decade.



Orthopaedic Medical Imaging is expected to grow by 23% over the next decade.



TidalHealth is meeting growth



Healthcare infrastructure must expand to meet future access needs.



Orthopaedic current wait times for Central Sussex County are 6+ months.

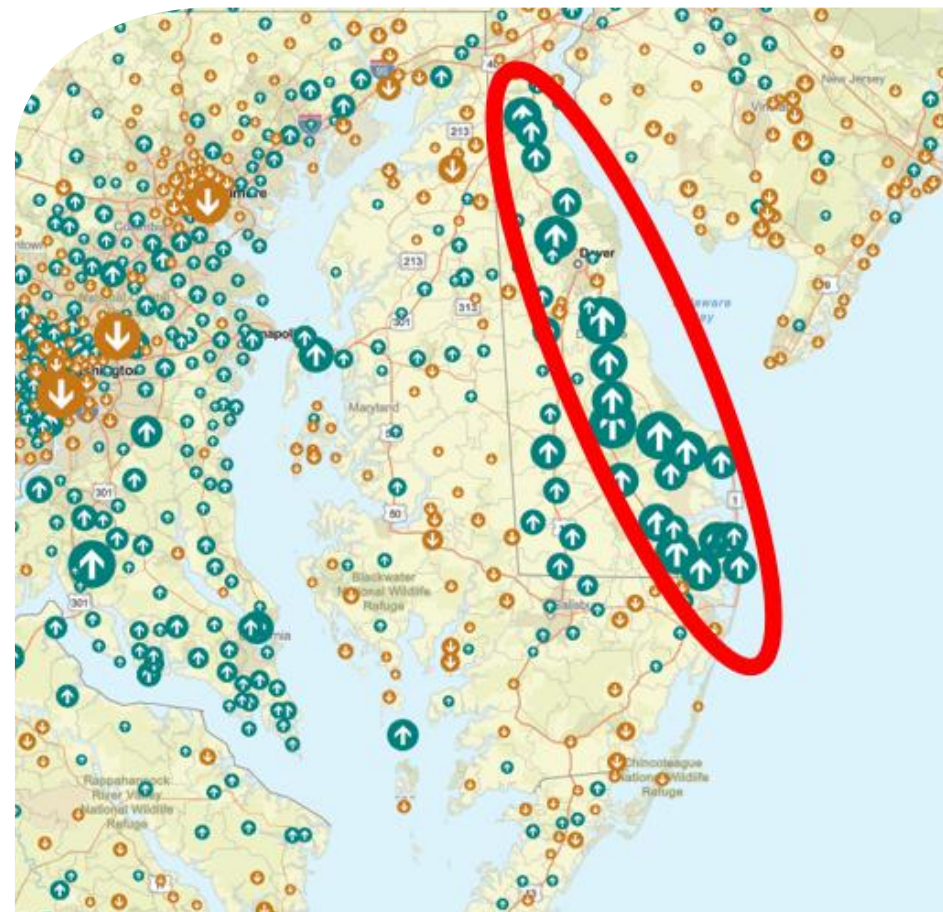


TidalHealth Nanticoke performed more than 1,200 Orthopaedic procedures in Millsboro over the last 3 years.



POA states that “Delaware residents accounted for 30% of our surgical cases, and 40% of our office visits.”

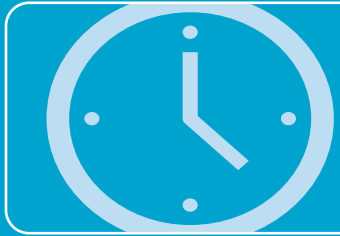
- Jason Scopp, MD at Peninsula Orthopaedics



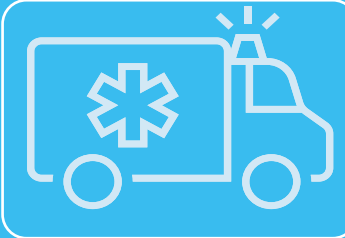
Growth is accelerating along the Route 113 Corridor

Review Consideration 3: Alternatives Analysis

No Alternative Better Addresses Access, Affordability, and Growth



Expanding hours at existing hospital campuses does not address the geographic access challenges facing inland Sussex County residents.



Continuing to perform lower-acuity orthopaedic procedures in hospital operating rooms is a less efficient and more costly long-term solution.



Existing hospital campuses remain subject to inpatient, trauma, and emergency surgical pressures that can impact outpatient scheduling access.

Review Consideration 4: Relationship to Existing Health Care Delivery System



Strengthening the Regional Healthcare Delivery System

- The ASC will operate as an integrated extension of TidalHealth's coordinated healthcare delivery system.
- Epic integration supports seamless communication between patients, surgeons, primary care providers, specialists, rehabilitation teams, and hospitals.
- The project improves regional surgical capacity while preserving hospital operating rooms for higher-acuity and emergent care.
- The ASC strengthens coordination across the orthopaedic continuum, including evaluation, imaging, surgery, rehabilitation, and follow-up care.
- This project fills an important geographic access gap in inland Sussex County.



Review Consideration 5: Financial Feasibility

Financial Feasibility

- Project capital cost: \$12.4M–\$14.8M.
- TidalHealth's solid balance sheet includes \$440+ million in long-term investments and over \$60 million in available funding.
- Strong financial stability ensures long-term operational support, maintenance, and staffing sustainability.
- Workforce supply secured through educational partnerships with Delaware Tech, Wor-Wic, Salisbury University, and regional imaging programs.
- Through Graduate Medical Education (GME), TidalHealth is developing a long-term physician and clinical workforce pipeline who will live, learn, and practice in our communities, ensuring long-term access to care



Review Consideration 6: Effects on Costs & Charges

Supporting Affordable Orthopaedic Surgical Care

- Ambulatory surgery centers are widely recognized as a lower-cost alternative to hospital outpatient surgical departments.
- Affordable patient copays and coinsurance reduce barriers to care.
- Appropriate outpatient migration helps preserve hospital resources for trauma, inpatient, and complex surgical care.
- More efficient surgical delivery supports lower healthcare spending for employers, payers, patients, and the healthcare system overall.
- The proposed ASC supports Delaware's goals around affordability, efficiency, and value-based healthcare delivery.



Review Consideration 7: Effect on Quality

Improving Quality Through Coordinated Orthopaedic Care

- Reduced scheduling delays support earlier intervention and improved patient outcomes.
- Dedicated outpatient surgical workflows improve efficiency, patient safety, and patient experience.
- Integrated Epic coordination supports seamless communication across the orthopaedic care continuum.
- Standardized outpatient pathways improve recovery, discharge coordination, and post-surgical follow-up.
- Patients benefit from receiving care in a convenient, accessible, community-based setting closer to home.



Supporting Long-Term Community Health and Access



Tidal Health's charity care policies exceed Delaware requirements, helping ensure access for underserved and vulnerable populations.



Graduate Medical Education programs help strengthen the long-term physician workforce serving Sussex County and the Delmarva region.



The Sussex Central Campus supports sustainable access to coordinated specialty care for a growing community.



Bringing Advanced Orthopaedic Care Closer to Home



Convenient access to outpatient surgery for Sussex County residents.



Coordinated orthopaedic care connected to physicians, imaging, rehabilitation, and specialty services.



Faster access to care in a modern, patient-centered surgical environment.



Less travel. Less waiting. More care close to home.



Designed to support the growing needs of inland Sussex County communities.



Thank you!

Questions?



Appendix

Alignment with Seven Criterion

Review Consideration	How the ASC at TidalHealth Sussex Central Campus Meets all Requirements	
1. HRMP Alignment	Expands inland Sussex access; advances quality, affordability, coordinated care, population health, and right-site surgical delivery.	✓
2. Demonstrated Need	Responds to Sussex growth, aging demographics, and Sg2-projected increases in orthopaedic procedures, visits, and musculoskeletal imaging.	✓
3. Alternatives Analysis	Status quo, hospital expansion, or extended hours do not solve geographic access, OR pressure, affordability, or dedicated orthopaedic capacity.	✓
4. Relationship to Existing Delivery System	Integrates with TidalHealth physicians, Epic, imaging, rehab, and hospitals; preserves hospital ORs for trauma, emergent, and higher-acuity care.	✓
5. Financial Feasibility	\$12.4M–\$14.8M investment funded by TidalHealth financing and capital resources; no state funds requested; long-term operational sustainability.	✓
6. Impact on Costs & Charges	Lower-cost ASC setting reduces patient and payer expense, supports affordability, and shifts eligible cases from higher-cost hospital settings.	✓
7. Quality of Care	Extends TidalHealth's quality infrastructure through dedicated workflows, standardized pathways, Epic coordination, and proven orthopaedic excellence.	✓