

Lakewood Hospital: A Timeline

1907	Lakewood Hospital, founded by Dr. C. Lee Graber, opens its doors.
1917	New four-story brick building, commonly referred to as the “Detroit Building,” completed.
1931	During the economic downturn of the Great Depression, the citizens of Lakewood seek to ensure access to public health. City takes ownership of the hospital.
1956	Lakewood Hospital Foundation (LHF) established to encourage and administer gifts to the hospital.
1985	Lakewood Hospital changes status from a public hospital to a private, non-profit governance structure. Lakewood Hospital Association (LHA) formed to lease Lakewood Hospital from the City and operate it.
1991	With changing demands in healthcare delivery, the Lakewood Hospital Community Health Center opens.
1997	City enters into a long-term lease with LHA through 2026; LHA contracts with Cleveland Clinic to manage the hospital during the lease.
2002	The hospital’s newly expanded and renovated emergency room opens.
2008	At the onset of a national recession, the hospital begins a five-year financial decline; hospital admissions drop from about 12,300 to 8,400 during the same time.
2012	LHA begins discussing options for the hospital’s future.
July 2013	The Lakewood Hospital trustees engage outside advisor Subsidium Healthcare to address four major questions: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Is the status quo untenable; if so, what are the alternatives?2. What is the right strategic model of healthcare for Lakewood in the future?3. Who is the best long-term partner?4. How are we going to finance and structure our future relationships and services?
December 2014	The two-year process involving outside consultant draws to a close after seeking RFPs from potential health care partners, identification of the Cleveland Clinic as the preferred choice, and discussions with the Clinic about terms of a future relationship.
January 14, 2015	Lakewood Hospital Trustees vote to accept Subsidium’s recommendation and approve a Letter of Intent that would sell a parcel of land to the Cleveland Clinic for a state-of-the-art Family Health Center to meet the shifting needs in the healthcare industry and fund a community-based foundation to address health and wellness needs of the community.
January 20, 2015	Lakewood City Council begins review of Letter of Intent.
January 28, 2015	Community meeting slated to take place at Beck Center for the Arts to discuss Letter of Intent and plans for the future of healthcare in Lakewood.
February 11, 2015	Second community meeting slated to take place at Lakewood City Hall.
January-? 2015	Community conversation continues; parties work to finalize definitive agreement; Ordinance is introduced to Lakewood City Council; three readings and public hearings take place, followed by Planning & Development process.
Fall 2015?	After public review and discussion and if definitive agreement is approved, Cleveland Clinic breaks ground on the new Lakewood Family Health Center.