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There are no immediate plans to expand the campus at Scottsdale Healthcare Shea but a rezoning request was granted by the Scottsdale City Council on Tuesday.

## Council OKs hospital's plans

### No immediate plans to expand site on Shea

By Lynh Bui

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The Scottsdale City Council unanimously approved a rezoning request Tuesday that will allow Scottsdale Healthcare to expand its Shea medical campus.

The plans will allow the hospital to add an eight-story patient tower and a 90-foot-high surgical center.

The rezoning won't add density to the property, but the height will allow Scottsdale Healthcare to develop a more efficient medical campus, said John Berry, the zoning attorney representing Scottsdale Healthcare.

"Vertical is better than horizontal," Berry said, adding that height and speed matter in the health-care business, where minutes mean life or death.

There are no immediate changes proposed for the hospital at 90th Street and Shea Boulevard. The rezoning allows Scottsdale Healthcare to move forward with long-range plans to expand the 60-acre medical campus. The hospital has 433 beds. That number could increase to about 670 with the rezoning.

Only Scottsdale resident John Washington spoke at the meeting with con-

#### Also at the meeting

The Scottsdale City Council unanimously approved naming the entry into the Gateway of the McDowell Sonoran Preserve "Carla Way."

Mayor Jim Lane proposed the name because Carla has been "tireless, and dedicated and driven" toward the goal of completing the preserve.

Carla, her full legal name, has been involved in Scottsdale's efforts to preserve one-third of the city's land as open space for more than 20 years.

"She was integral in getting the public behind the preserve," Councilman Tony Nelssen said.

Scottsdale has acquired more than 16,000 acres of land for the McDowell Sonoran Preserve, which is envisioned to be about 36,000 acres when complete.

cerns about the project. Washington said he wasn't necessarily opposed to the project, but worried about the council approving a rezoning when Scottsdale Healthcare didn't have more details of its plans. He also was worried about transportation plans in the area, where the number of trips generated by the hospital is expected to jump 26 percent by 2015.

Reporters Diana Balazs and Jane Larson contributed to this story.