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PRESS RELEASE

Kantonsspital Aarau: Groundbreaking ceremony for hospital new-build

The groundbreaking ceremony for the new building of Aarau Cantonal Hospital took place yesterday, Thursday, 12 August 2021. With that, everything is in place for construction to go ahead. The “Dreiklang” project was developed by an architectural partnership of Burckhardt+Partner and wörner traxler richter and emerged as the winner of a two-stage overall-performance competition.

In their planning design, Burckhardt+Partner and wörner traxler richter ideally implemented the client's specification of uniting 23 buildings in a single central replacement building: The new building is divided into three areas of use – outpatient clinics, functional areas and wards (“Triad”) – and comprises a total of around 470 inpatient beds, 130 day-clinic places and 18 operating theaters. As the largest non-university hospital in Switzerland, Aarau Cantonal Hospital will now be in a position to guarantee modern health care.

The new central building will provide Aarau Cantonal Hospital with a modern, future-oriented main building that unites all clinical areas under one roof in a coordinated manner. The architects' solution provides for short distances for staff and patients, thus offering ideal conditions for harnessing synergies and streamlining operational processes: Inpatient and outpatient areas are systematically separated from one another by a central boulevard. This is the heart of the building and connects all areas with each other, helping patients, visitors and members of staff to find their way around the entire building. Open connecting stairways and atria further enhance the mesh of connections between the individual departments.

With the clear positioning of the building in the park and the precise configuration of the large building volume, the new-build is compelling from both the urban-planning and architectural perspective. Plenty of daylight and the recreational space offered by the park support the wellbeing of patients, family members and staff and hence, ultimately the recovery process – a fine example of a “healing environment”.

The project will significantly change the cityscape and the park, therefore positively impacting the city itself. With the demolition of old buildings, the green space will be increased from 75,000 m² to over 94,000 m². The new building will not only create a beneficial environment for patients, but will also provide a generous, central recreational space for the population of the city of Aarau and the surrounding communities.

Contact person for media professionals

Burckhardt+Partner

Daniel Hauswirth, Project Management Architecture
Available Friday, 13.8.2021, 11 am – 14 pm

via Burckhardt+Partner Communications

+41 61 338 34 95

kommunikation@burckhardtpartner.ch

About Burckhardt+Partner

Burckhardt+Partner are an internationally distinguished and technologically prominent architectural company. It was founded in 1951 in Basel and has continued to develop ever since. Over the past 70 years, Burckhardt+Partner have not only had a major influence on architecture in Switzerland, but have also been able to compete on the international stage. Burckhardt+Partner currently run five branches in Switzerland and three in Germany.

About wörner traxler richter

wörner traxler richter has been successfully designing and realizing pioneering projects in the field of healthcare and research construction for decades. Residential and hotel projects, cultural buildings, as well as the development of urban planning concepts and master plans make up the rest of the portfolio of the architectural office. The architectural office, which today has around 160 staff, was founded in Frankfurt am Main in 1971. Branches were later added in Dresden, Munich and Basel.