

## PARKING SPOT

The demolition of University Terrace apartments earlier this month is key to developing MU's Southeast Gateway area. In September, site preparation gets under way for a new 2,000-car parking structure that will be completed in May 2009 and will be used by University Hospital patients and visitors as well as MU faculty, staff and students.

Rob Hill photo

# Room to grow

## IN THE PIPELINE

### New garage will trigger fee increase

Work crews earlier this month began demolishing University Terrace, the apartment complex for married and graduate students southeast of University Hospital. The demolition work is a first step in developing the area known as MU's Southeast Gateway.

Development plans for the area call for a new surgery tower to be built where the hospital's patient parking garage is now located, a free-standing orthopedic medicine institute and road and infrastructure improvements. Perhaps the most visible addition to the area will be a new 2,000-car parking structure for hospital patients and for faculty, staff and students.

Site preparation for the new parking structure will begin this September, says Jim Joy, director of MU's Parking and Transportation Services. Also in September the monthly parking fee will increase by \$3 to pay for the \$28 million project. The fee that faculty and staff pay to park in a surface lot will go up from \$15 to \$18, and the fee for parking in an existing garage will increase from \$18 to \$21.

The fee increase, which was recommended several years ago by MU's parking and transportation advisory committee, will be the first increase since 1998, Joy says. All six of the current parking garages were built with funding from parking fees.

Although MU now has a lot of experience in building parking garages, each project requires a tremendous amount of planning. This project is no different, Joy says. "There will be a domino effect all the way down the line."

The garage will be built on the site of existing surface parking lot HSC4, so Joy's office has to find another location to move the faculty and staff who park in that 800-space lot. To do that, MU will build a temporary 800-space surface lot on the east half of the University Terrace site. "Although we say 'temporary,' that surface lot could be there for 10 years until the University decides how best to use the site. We plan to pave it and install lighting," Joy says. "Construction of the orthopedic medicine institute is planned on the west end of the University Terrace site."

While the building project is under way, the campus also plans some infrastructure improvements: extending utilities to the Southeast Gateway, including a chilled water plant and piping, and straightening the sharp curve in Hospital Drive near the south end of Hitt Street.

Also, as part of campus transportation improvements, Mick Deaver Drive, which runs between Memorial Stadium and the Hearnes Center, will be extended. Deaver Drive currently ends at Mizzou Arena. It will be extended down the hill behind Mizzou Arena out to South Providence Road at its intersection with Research Park Drive, where there is a traffic light.

The extension will improve commuter bus service to that area of campus. "We're also trying to alleviate some of real dangerous traffic congestion issues" after sporting events and concerts in the area, Joy says. "it will take a tremendous amount of traffic away from the Stadium Boulevard-Providence Road intersection coming into campus."

Construction of the new Southeast Gateway parking structure is expected to be completed by May 2009, Joy says. "It will be terribly inconvenient for some time, but it will be a very nice addition when it's open."