

# Kissimmee identifies areas of opportunity in proposed medical district

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If you're a medical professional in the areas of dermatology, urology, mental health or weight management, Kissimmee officials want to speak with you.

Those are the medical specialties the city is lacking, and ones it hopes will come to the area as part of the city's proposed Medical Arts District project that aims to create a medical hub between Florida Hospital Kissimmee and Osceola Regional Medical Center, which are 1.5 miles apart.



Osceola Regional Medical Center will be one of the anchors of Kissimmee's proposed medical district

Strategic planning documents from last week's City Commission meeting say those four medical areas, as well as specialized surgeries like thoracic, esophagus and transplants, are needed to make the city a full-service health care destination. Currently, those specialized surgeries are only available at Florida Hospital Orlando and Orlando Health — hospitals that are about 25 miles away.

What the city hopes for is a hub of medical doctors' offices and other health care businesses in the medical district. There currently are 158 vacant parcels, or 130 acres, within the designated district zones. Most of the land is owned by Kissimmee Investors Ltd., William H. Prather Jr., Adventist Health Systems and Islamic Center of Osceola County, but smaller sections are owned by various other land owners. Adventist's land may be used for future Florida Hospital Kissimmee expansions, documents state.

If Kissimmee is successful in creating a medical district, it could have tremendous economic impact. For example, although much larger than Kissimmee's proposed district, Lake Nona's Medical City is expected create 30,000 jobs and \$7.6 billion in economic impact by 2017.

Check back for more information, and see [here](#) for more health care news.