A new research centre is being built*

The Max-Planck-Zentrum für Physik und Medizin is a cooperation between the Max Planck Institute for the Science of Light, the Friedrich-Alexander-University Erlangen-Nuremberg (FAU) and the University Hospital Erlangen. This research center will be the home of a division of the MPL, three FAU chairs and five other research groups working together on an interdisciplinary basis. The focus will be on physical processes that play a role in the development of diseases and may be the key to new therapies.

Construction project

The new Max-Planck-Zentrum für Physik und Medizin will be built on the Schwabachanlage. The close neighbourhood to the University Hospital is essential due to the research focus of the MPZPM. The Free State of Bavaria is donating the land for the new building.

Nature Protection Measures

The site for the construction of the research centre has been cut in such a way that the cutting down of 44 trees under tree protection (and 24 trees not under tree protection) unfortunately cannot be avoided. Since new planting is only possible to a limited extent on the very narrow piece of land, the cooperation partners are paying 127,000 euros in compensation to the Environmental Office of the City of Erlangen, which will use the money to carry out nature conservation measures elsewhere in the Erlangen city area. Where and how these compensatory plantings are to be carried out is decided by the Environmental Agency. After completion of the construction measure, 13 large trees will be replanted. In addition, 1,400m² of extensive roof greening will be created on the new building. In order to continue to provide shelter for wild animals, six cave boxes for bats, six nesting aids for cave breeders and six nesting aids for half-cave breeders will be hung in the remaining tree population in accordance with the specifications of the city of Erlangen. Naturally, all the city’s requirements for nature conservation (hanging and permanent preservation of the cave boxes and nesting aids, measures against bird impact) are implemented.

Traffic Management

During the clear-cutting operation, pedestrian and cycle path areas near the Kopfklinik must be temporarily closed. Comprehensive diversion signs and the necessary traffic safety measures have been put up. In the area of the footpath and cycle path, the site fence is already being removed after the felling there. From Wednesday, 22.1.20 it will no longer be possible to park in the Novalis area. The Hupfla is accessible via the main entrance.

Vision of the Future

“The new research centre offers a unique opportunity throughout Europe to combine different disciplines of top-level research and patient care. In future, Erlangen patients will be able to benefit directly from this,” says Prof. Dr. Jochen Guck, Director at the Max Planck Institute for the Physics of Light.

*Expected move-in by the end of 2023

More information on the MPL website:
https://www.mpl.mpg.de/research-at-mpl/max-planck-zentrum-fuer-physik-und-medizin
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