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Keswick: Roland Park project to generate 160 new jobs

Baltimore Business Journal - by [Rachel Bernstein](#) Staff

Keswick Multi-Care Center's plan to build a retirement complex in Roland Park would create close to 160 full-time jobs, according to an economic impact and traffic analysis designed to allay neighborhood opposition to the controversial project.

Keswick, which plans to construct a \$195-million facility on 17 acres of Baltimore County Club land, first commissioned an economic and fiscal analysis of its proposed continuing care retirement community this spring.

The analysis said that during construction, the proposed complex would create more than 500 job openings. Contractors have not yet been named.

Post-construction, the proposed retirement complex would create 158 full-time, permanent jobs. More than 80 percent of these spots would be filled by Baltimore City residents, according to the analysis.

Beginning in 2015, the proposed complex is expected to generate \$1.18 million in property and income tax revenue for Baltimore City.

Keswick also commissioned a traffic report, analyzing Falls Road, Hillside Avenue and Cold Spring Lane. Keswick's findings said the project would have minimal impact on the existing road system with the addition of a future access road to the facility.

Residents, guests and employees would primarily use the Falls Road entrance to the retirement community.

The analyses come at a time when Keswick faces strong opposition from Roland Park residents who want to preserve the property -- long owned by the **Baltimore Country Club** -- as open space.

Keswick CEO Libby Bowerman said in an interview Wednesday that Keswick will hold a meeting in early September with members of the **Roland Park Civic League** to address questions the organization may have with completed documents that Keswick has provided.

There will also be a neighborhood meeting in October for Keswick to present the project to

residents. Bowerman said she anticipates the top question from the community will be related to traffic, infrastructure, size and height.

"The general feeling is overall positive to everyone that has seen the details about the project," she said. "I'm not denying that the neighborhood has a different perspective, though. The unknown is much harder to visualize."

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