

that we can hear the speaker. Thank you.

SENATOR HANNIBAL: Thank you, Mr. President. I do understand that I may be saying some things that you already know and I really don't want to waste your time. I think it is important that I try to present it very briefly and I will do that. So ambulatory care facility is a major part of this new facility. A second priority in a new facility is an upgrading of the current operating room structure. It has been pointed out and I am convinced, and as a lay person I realize I am not an expert, and I think the committee has been convinced that the surgical facilities, the operating rooms are not adequate because of the things that have changed over the past several years and in technology and in the mission, if you will, at the university. So a part of this, and a major part of this structure is to create six new operating rooms, remodel two of the existing seven operating rooms and have a total then of eight which is one more than they presently have, but they are going to be better equipped to handle the needs because they are not equipped now to handle the needs that we have at the center. A third part of the program is the establishment of a new parking garage and the parking garage is going to add an additional five hundred and some odd stalls to a total of about 750. It is a very mundane thing, however, it is very important. If any of you have been to the Medical Center you are well aware of the parking problems that they have there and have had for many years. Those are the three components of the issue. A couple of major questions that I had in my mind when this proposal was brought to us, is why do we need it, why do we have to do it, why is it so much more expensive than it was last year when we did it and who is going to pay for it? The answers are I think presented to you with what they are asking and what you have been told as far as what the facility is going to do. There has been many changes that have happened between now and last year, not the least of which were just a projection for future actual inflationary cost, an increase in square footage, an updating of some of the facilities that were brought out by a better, more thorough study and partly because of negotiations with Clarkson Hospital. Now one of the questions we've had is why doesn't Medical Center do more things together, we've got two hospitals there. They are trying to do that. I hope that maybe some of you saw the article in last night's paper, as a matter of fact, where Clarkson and the Medical Center are working diligently to try to use some shared facilities. It is important that you