

# Copper Springs plans \$14M behavioral health hospital, facing naysayers 🔑

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Copper Springs

Not in my backyard is the mantra Copper Springs East Behavioral Health Hospital has heard since 2013 when it tried to open a facility in Gilbert.

After meeting the same opposition from residents at two different sites within the East Valley town, the owners of Copper Springs left Gilbert and opened a facility in Avondale, which the community embraced, said [Adam Baugh](#), a zoning attorney with Withey Morris PLC in Phoenix who is working on behalf of Copper Springs.

Since then, Gilbert officials conducted an assessment study that revealed how mental health services are woefully lacking in the area, while the mayor created a behavioral task force to look at the issue, Baugh said.

As a result, Copper Springs is back in Gilbert – this time with more support from town officials, he said.

Plans call for building a 96-bed mental health hospital on 7.6 acres at the northeast corner of Melrose and Rome streets in Gilbert.

Gilbert's planning commission voted in favor of the project, but Baugh is expecting opposition to appeal.