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## 5.0 Thesis Introduction

The failing financial markets and unstable economy persuaded me to review ways the Washington County Health System could generate extra money to be able to repay the bonds issued for the construction of the new medical center. This was the basis behind the research done to develop the previous facility into a useful and prosperous investment. Developing in these times may seem odd, but the demand for nursing home facilities across the country is growing. The healthcare market in general is one area of construction that is not feeling the effects of the economy as bad as other sectors. The major issue with healthcare construction is the ability to find skilled workers. These are all analyzed and evaluated through the development options to produce a viable investment option for the Washington County Health System.

Washington County Health System is interested in providing the best service to the region they can through any means necessary. Providing the best care is what ultimately provoked the construction of a new medical center. At the heart of construction, the owners want to save money and time while always enhancing value. Through the owner's desire to achieve equitable or better systems while saving money became the main source from which the following two analyses were produced: the redesign of the deep foundation system and the implementation of a composite precast wall panel system. Both of these analyses cost savings also became a source for investing in the previous facilities development.

The deep foundation system used to replace the caissons is minipiles. The composite precast wall panel implementation researched was Metal Stud Crete® by Earl Corporation. Using the owner's interests, these analyses create enhanced value for the Washington County Regional Medical Center and its owner, the Washington County Health System.