

10 projects under construction at region's community colleges

By **CARLOS RICO**, The Daily Transcript

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The San Diego Community College District is in the middle of its \$1.55 billion school bond construction program. Because of propositions S and N, which were passed by voters in 2002 and 2006, respectively, 40 projects totaling more than \$650 million have either been completed, designed or now have the land bought and ready to build on.

The district currently has 10 projects under construction and another 18 in the design or programming stages.

At San Diego City College, a new math and social sciences building as well as a new arts and humanities and business technology building are all under construction, with a science building set to start construction soon.

The math and social sciences building is an \$80.9 million project, and consists of a five-story, 85,000-square-foot building with a 120-seat lecture hall, 100-seat multipurpose room, two 40-seat conference hall classrooms, two small conference rooms and an instructional computer classroom.

The building will include a courtyard with outdoor seating, a convenience store, a satellite bookstore, 32 "smart" classrooms, two instructional computer labs and an anthropology lab.



A rendering of Mesa College's new math and natural sciences building, a \$117 million project that has recently broken ground. Image courtesy of Delawie Wilkes Rodrigues Barker

The project also involves building a seven-level parking structure with approximately 400 spaces that will also have a 6,700-square-foot family health center located on the first floor. Construction is expected to be completed in late 2012.

The 128,000-square-foot arts and humanities building, and the 62,000-square-foot business technology building have a price tag of \$89.2 million combined. There will be a 99-seat "black box" theater with drama classrooms and a dressing room, and related offices and space for faculty and support staff.

The project also consists of a new sublevel parking area, a kiln yard, a sculpture garden and display area, and gathering space for students and faculty.

The \$54 million science building will be a four-story, L-shaped, 77,000-square-foot building that will house new classrooms, labs with state-of-the-art technology for life sciences and physical sciences, a planetarium and a teaching garden and greenhouses.



A rendering of San Diego City College's new science building, which will house state-of-the-art technology, a planetarium, teaching garden and greenhouses. Image courtesy of Harley Ellis Devereaux Architects

At San Diego Mesa College, a student services facility and a math and natural sciences building are currently being built.

The \$45.7 million student services facility will be a four-story, 85,000-square-foot structure. It is designed so that each floor opens up onto a series of outdoor terraces that move up the hillside from the lower parking lot to the upper campus. Also, a staircase connects the upper and lower plazas to form a new campus entryway.

Site demolition for the \$117 million math and natural sciences building project has just been completed and utility site work is under way. When completed, the four-story, 200,000-square-foot structure will have classrooms, lecture rooms, science labs, computer labs and faculty, staff and administrative support areas.

At Miramar College, a new cafeteria/bookstore and student services center, police station and parking structure and a library/learning resource center are all under construction.

The \$34.5 million cafeteria/bookstore and student services center project will be a three-story, 76,000-square-foot building with a cafeteria, bookstore, multi-purpose room, convenience store, coffee shop, meeting rooms and offices.

The \$17.8 million police station and parking structure project will be a three-story complex that will provide 815 parking spaces along with a reception area, conference room, office areas and a secure suspect processing area.

The \$37.4 million library/learning resource center project will be a three-story, 100,000-square-foot facility that will provide a new library, classrooms, computer labs, tutoring services, media production facility and staff offices with work space.