

Groundbreaking set for new Mesa College building

San Diego Mesa College will break ground Wednesday for new four-story, 85,000-square-foot Student Services Center on campus in Linda Vista at 7250 Mesa College Drive.

The building is the latest San Diego Community College District project funded by Propositions S and N.

The \$55.7 million project will provide a central location for most student services on campus, including admissions, financial aid, evaluations and testing, counseling, student government, disabled student services, and information and outreach.

The new building includes classrooms, conference areas, a café and an express elevator between the lower parking lot and upper campus.

Designed by **Architects Hanna Gabriel Wells**, the facility is on track for LEED Silver green building certification:

- Projected energy savings of 340,000 kilowatt hours annually are 38 percent better than state requirements.
- Water-efficient plumbing, irrigation and landscape will result in a water savings of 40 percent on the building use and 50 percent on landscape.
- The project will include materials and finishes that include recycled content, attention to indoor air quality and the use of natural daylight

Other design features include:

- All of the departments are arranged around an open four-level atrium. Each department opens into the atrium, without doors.
- Each floor opens up onto a series of outdoor terraces that move up the hillside from the lower parking lot to the upper campus. A grand stair connects the upper and lower plazas to form a new campus entryway.

Engineering consultants were **Michael Wall Engineers** for electrical, **Snipes-Dye Engineering** for civil and **McParlane & Associates** for mechanical.

The landscape architect was **MLA Design Studio**. The construction manager is **PCL Construction**. The Propositions S & N program manager is **Gafcon Inc**.

The \$1.555 billion Propositions S and N construction bond program is providing new teaching and learning facilities, major renovations, parking and public safety enhancements, and campus wide infrastructure projects at City, Mesa and Miramar colleges and six Continuing Education campuses throughout San Diego.