

SOUTHWESTERN COMMUNITY COLLEGE GOVERNING BOARD

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Raj K. Chopra, Ph.D.
Superintendent/President



Southwestern College

Corner Lot Groundbreaking Ceremony

Wednesday, October 13, 2010
11 a.m.



Rendering of the future corner lot development at East H Street and Otay Lakes Road by BCA Architects.



*June 1964: Aerial view of
Southwestern College.*

A special acknowledgement to
BCA Architects and **Echo Pacific Construction, Inc.**
for sponsoring today's Groundbreaking Ceremony.

B C | A

architecture
planning
interiors

EPC
ECHO PACIFIC
CONSTRUCTION, INC.

EDUCATING OUR STUDENTS, FUELING THE ECONOMY

The Southwestern Community College District is located south of San Diego and extends to the U.S. – Mexico border. The college is the primary source of higher education for approximately 400,000 residents of the South San Diego County area including communities of Bonita, Chula Vista, Imperial Beach, National City, Nestor, Otay Mesa, Palm City, San Ysidro, Sunnyside and Coronado.

In addition to the main campus in Chula Vista, the Southwestern Community College District has Higher Education Centers across San Diego County.

Southwestern College is fueling the economy in other important ways, too:

- ☑ In 2010, the college announced **\$456,000 in new funding** for its Small Business Development Center (SBDC) and the Center for International Trade Development (CITD), as well as its San Diego Contract Opportunities Center. The money will allow the Centers to help businesses improve their operations at no cost.
- ☑ During the 2009–2010 academic year, SWC students worked at more than **160 organizations**, and the college had more than **100 students** volunteer at community non-profits and schools
- ☑ In 2009, the college's Small Business Development Center **served 675 clients** and helped them obtain more than \$19 million in loans.
- ☑ In 2009, the SBDC and CITD helped 675 clients obtain 26 loans, totaling \$2,565,800. Clients also reported 72 jobs created, 34 jobs retained and **\$1,637,400 increase in sales**.
- ☑ Clients of our Contracting Opportunities Center attributed more than \$68,000,000 in awards to the Center's assistance and services. The awards **created more than 1,300 jobs in the region**, according to a federal study.



May 2010: College community meeting to unveil the future corner lot model. More than 100 students, faculty and staff attended the presentation in Mayan Hall.

NATIONAL ANTHEM

Joey Molina
*Alumni & Featured Soloist
for the Southwestern Concert Choir*

INTRODUCTION

Paola Hernandez
ABC News 10 and Aztec America San Diego 15

WELCOME

Raj K. Chopra, Ph.D.
Superintendent/President

MAYOR'S REMARKS

Cheryl Cox
Mayor of Chula Vista

STUDENT SPEAKER

Manny Lopez
ASO President/Student Governing Board Member

ARCHITECT & BUILDER

Paul Bunton
President, BCA Architects

Chris Rowe
President, Echo Pacific Construction, Inc.

CLOSING

Yolanda Salcido, President
Governing Board

COMMEMORATIVE GROUNDBREAKING

*Light refreshments
immediately following program*

BUILDING CHULA VISTA'S FUTURE

In November 2008, South County voters overwhelmingly approved a \$389 million bond to improve educational facilities, including the corner lot development. Their vote demonstrated a belief that we must keep investing in education and the facilities to support it.

Southwestern College then issued a Request for Proposals in December 2009 for the corner lot design and 41 firms responded. The process was narrowed to seven finalists who participated in a design competition, which received input from the faculty, classified staff, community, business, and civic leaders and college leadership. From those seven finalists, a recommendation of one – BCA – was made to the Board.

The Southwestern College Governing Board selected BCA Architects to complete the corner lot's architectural design at a special Board meeting on Tuesday, April 20; in July, the Board, selected Echo Pacific Construction to implement BCA's design.

The project will be the largest new development since the College's original construction in 1961:

- A new **college bookstore**, **classroom space**, **food court** and **culinary arts program** for Southwestern students.
- An **art gallery** to showcase the work of **students** and **faculty**.
- A **wellness center** to better serve the **community** and a College **police station**.
- **Conference rental space** to generate funds for **student programs**.
- New administrative spaces, **freeing up** the current spaces for other uses, including **classrooms**.

"This development will allow us to create jobs for our residents, offer more classes to our students and further our College's reputation as a center of civic engagement and culture. We are grateful to the community for their energy and ideas, and for passing the bond measure that made this project possible," Dr. Raj K. Chopra, Superintendent/President of Southwestern College, said.



The new design will incorporate the Mayan architecture that is integral to the College's architecture. The buildings will also be models of green design and development with elements to protect the environment and save the college money:

- Native drought tolerant plants will be used in landscaping to decrease the dependency on water;
- Individual thermal zones and occupancy sensors will monitor and control the use of heating and air conditioning, and;
- Low VOC materials will be used to maintain air quality.

Construction waste will be recycled and recycled materials will be used where possible.

"We are now one step closer to turning this project into reality – and realizing its benefits for our students and community," Yolanda Salcido, President of the Southwestern College Governing Board, said. "We are proud to be this community's institution of higher learning and when this project is complete, we will be able to offer more of the classes, programs and services that set our college apart."

BENEFITS FOR COLLEGE AND COMMUNITY

- **Education:** Continues Southwestern College's mission of providing affordable and accessible education.
- **Best use of land:** Replaces underutilized dirt lot with an open design and attractive architecture that invites student and public use.
- **Community space:** Provides community conference centers for civic use and generates new revenue for student education, services and programs.
- **Parking:** Creates more parking spaces than required. Project provides for over 800 spaces, compared to the 434 required for a project of this size.
- **Environment:** Planned as an environmentally "sustainable" project that will be seeking Leadership in Energy & Environmental Design (LEED) Platinum Certification. Developed by the United States Green Building Council, LEED provides developers a framework for identifying and implementing practical and measurable green building design, construction, operations and maintenance solutions.