

L.A. Colleges Continue Green Construction Plan

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(1/24/2007)

LOS ANGELES — As part of \$2.2 billion in ongoing community college construction projects striving for LEED certification, ground was broken for a new technology building at Los Angeles Harbor.

The \$21.3 million building will house homeland security training programs and transportation security and administration programs.

Classrooms, drafting and engineering labs, and faculty offices for architecture, engineering, business, media arts and administration of justice programs will occupy the 60,000-square-foot building.

The U.S. Justice Department will provide training and equipment for the Federal Transportation Security Administration's flight crew program, teaching self-defense techniques for crisis situations on airplanes. This program will operate in conjunction with the college's homeland security training program.

The building will also feature new studios and enhanced production rooms for the college's television station.

The SmithGroup of Los Angeles designed the building and Taisei Construction is the general contractor. The technology building is slated for completion in mid-2008.

Funding for the project comes from voter-approved bonds, Propositions A and AA, that are being used for new construction and renovations at the nine community colleges in the Los Angeles district.