BuildLACCD

Bond Program Biweekly Report

ending October 23, 2026

Valley-side Colleges

Valley Academic & Cultural Center Attains Major Sustainability Achievement



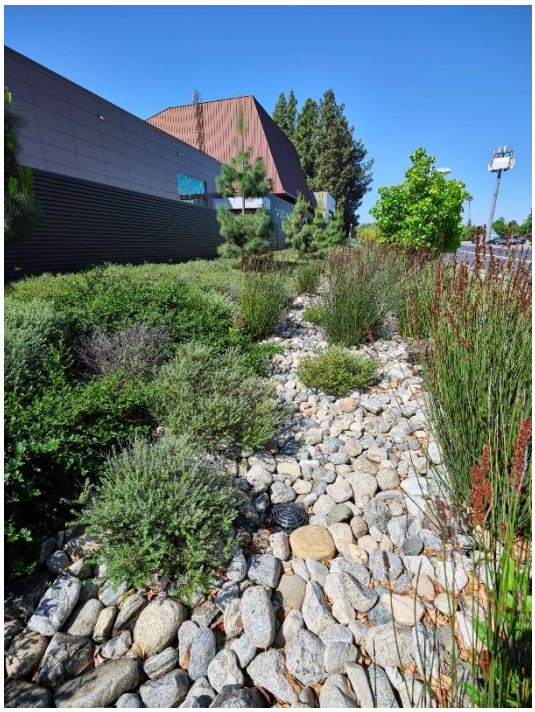
Los Angeles Valley College's Valley Academic and Cultural Center (VACC) has earned LEED Silver certification by the U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC), marking another milestone in the Los Angeles Community College District's commitment to sustainability and equitable learning spaces.

LEED Silver recognizes the project's energy performance, sustainable design features and efficiencies in the building's operations. The project received a total of 58 points out

of a possible 110 points on the LEED Scorecard, excelling in several key categories, including:

- **Construction waste materials:** 81.76% of the construction materials were diverted from landfills through recycling and reuse efforts.
- **Heat Island Reduction:** The building's roof utilizes white and light-grey roofing as well as light-grey concrete paving materials to reflect sunlight, reducing the urban heat island effect and lower cooling indoor energy use.
- **Energy Efficiency:** The building system is projected to reduce its energy use by 18.6%**,** representing an annual reduction of 2409 megawatts/hour and 17,926 Therms of natural gas use.
- **Water Conservation:** Reduces indoor and outdoor water use by 39% and 56.23% respectively**.**
- **Multi-modal Transit Options:** Located near multiple transit lines, like Metro's G Line and access to bike lanes, students have numerous options to access the new facility.





The 118,000 square foot building required an advanced, high-performing mechanical system to achieve the target efficiencies. This project incorporated the use of **high-efficiency variable refrigerant flow (VRF) and variable air volume (VAV) HVAC systems,** tied to a direct digital control system to optimize how it manages temperatures throughout.

The 4.65-acre project site features a wide range of drought-tolerant plants and shrubs, like Fox Tail Agave and Medallion sod, and is maintained by an advanced irrigation system. Indoors, the building selected low-flow and efficient water fixtures and fittings, such as automated water faucets to conserve drinking water and manage utility costs.

Since 2001, BuildLACCD has achieved **LEED certification on more than 40 buildings**.

The three-story Valley Academic and Cultural Center opened for academic use in Spring 2026, and holds classes for the **Departments of Theatre and Dance and Media Arts, which includes Broadcasting, Journalism, Theatre Arts and Media Arts among others**. Students have access to the multitude of media-related rooms, audio and video labs, the college radio station and support spaces for hands-on training in performing arts.

Program-wide Initiatives

BuildLACCD Celebrates 41 Fall Small Contractor Boot Camp Graduates



On October 15, 2026, BuildLACCD celebrated the completion of the 2026 Fall Small Contractor Boot Camp. Hosted by the **Community Economic Development** team, 41 graduates completed the 4-session program dedicated to helping small businesses succeed at LACCD.

Graduates represented specialties from cleaning solutions to solar energy systems. Program participants demonstrated exceptional dedication, with one graduate traveling over 80 miles from Murrieta, California to attend.

Over the course of the program, attendees gained insights into valuable resources like:

- Bonding
- Estimating & Scheduling

- Labor Compliance
- Certifications
- Accessing Capital
- BuildLACCD's Pre-qualified Service Provide (PQSP) Bench

Participants also heard from specific BuildLACCD departments to learn the ins and outs of doing business on bond and non-bond funded work.

Representatives from **PENTA** and **McCarthy Building Companies** also commented on their experiences working with LACCD and shared upcoming opportunities to sub-contract on their projects. Additionally, attendees also connected with seven exhibitors who specialize in assisting emerging businesses.

The evening concluded with brief remarks from **Dr. Leigh Sata**, Vice Chancellor and Chief Facilities Executive and **Peggy Quijada de Franke**, Associate Vice Chancellor of Facilities, Planning, and Sustainability and presentation of certificates with **Edwin Van Ginkel**, BuildLACCD Program Director.





Board of Trustees Committees Re-cap – October 14, 2026

SWIFT Initiative (Speed with Wisdom: Integrated Flows for Tomorrow)



Peggy Quijada de Franke, Associate Vice Chancellor of Facilities Planning & Sustainability, presented the District's SWIFT Initiative, a new project delivery approach intended to **accelerate the completion of smaller bond-funded projects** while maintaining the accountability, oversight, and compliance standards required of the BuildLACCD Program.

The presentation explained that while the District's existing project delivery processes have successfully safeguarded public funds and supported major capital projects for more than two decades, **applying the same level of administrative rigor to smaller projects can create unnecessary delays, extended schedules, and added procedural complexity**. The SWIFT Initiative seeks to **streamline project development,**

procurement, approvals, and closeout activities by tailoring processes to project size, complexity, and risk.

Projects eligible for **SWIFT would generally include bond-funded projects with construction budgets of $5 million or less**, low-to-moderate complexity, and anticipated completion within three years. Potential project types include **EV charging infrastructure, accessibility improvements, athletic facility upgrades, water intrusion remediation, playground improvements, and other campus modernization efforts**. Projects with elevated risk, significant complexity, or unique circumstances would continue to follow the District's traditional project delivery procedures.

District staff emphasized that **SWIFT is designed to improve efficiency, not reduce accountability**. Core requirements related to **bond eligibility, procurement compliance, governance, financial controls, executive oversight, documentation, and audit readiness would remain unchanged**. Instead, the initiative focuses on **eliminating unnecessary administrative steps, standardizing documentation, increasing parallel processing opportunities, and improving coordination among project teams**.

The initiative reflects months of stakeholder engagement and process evaluation. **Next steps include incorporating FMPOC feedback, finalizing implementation procedures, identifying pilot projects, and expanding participation opportunities for Local, Small, Emerging, and Disabled Veteran-Owned (LSEDV) firms.** Ultimately,

SWIFT aims to deliver smaller projects faster while preserving the transparency, accountability, and stewardship expected of the BuildLACCD Bond Program.

Custodial Cleanliness Initiative Update – Investing in Our People





James Conway, Maintenance & Operations Standards Coordinator, presented an update on the Custodial Cleanliness Initiative, highlighting measurable improvements in campus cleanliness and outlining ongoing efforts to strengthen custodial operations through standardized procedures, training, and workforce development. The initiative, developed in partnership with Core America, focuses on establishing consistent service standards across all nine colleges while recognizing and supporting custodial staff as skilled professionals.

The presentation reported that **Districtwide cleanliness scores improved from 74.6% in 2023 to 81.8% in 2025**, representing a **7.2-point increase**, while the performance gap between colleges narrowed from **19.8% to 13.2%**, indicating greater consistency across campuses. Additionally, **seven of the District's nine colleges improved their Quality Success Percentage (QSP) scores** compared to the 2023 baseline. Core America's third-party audits identified "buildup," "soil," and "dust" as the most common deficiency categories, providing guidance on where future improvements should be focused.

Several colleges achieved notable gains, including **Los Angeles Southwest College (+15.0%)**, **East Los Angeles College (+11.0%)**, and **Los Angeles Pierce College (+10.8%)**. Districtwide, the overall cleanliness rating advanced into the **"Managed Care" category**, demonstrating significant progress in custodial performance and service delivery.

Looking ahead, staff emphasized that the next phase of the initiative centers on **investing in custodial personnel through standardized operating procedures, structured skills training, route sheets, floor plans, and improved communication tools**. These resources are intended to create a consistent districtwide approach to custodial services, improve onboarding and professional development, and provide clearer expectations for campus stakeholders.

Key milestones include **completion of draft Standard Operating Procedures by December 2026**, development of route sheets and campus floor plans by **January 2027**, and a proposed **Skills Training Program pilot launch in 2027**. Staff noted that annual quality audits will continue to monitor performance, identify improvement opportunities,

and measure the effectiveness of these initiatives. The committee was advised that **additional program updates are anticipated during the first quarter of 2027**.

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811 Wilshire Acquisition Transaction Closes

On October 20, 2026, the acquisition of 811 Wilshire Boulevard and its associated parking structure officially closed, completing the District's purchase of the Downtown Los Angeles property. The transaction transfers ownership of the existing office building and related parking structure to the Los Angeles Community College District, marking the successful completion of the major real estate acquisition effort.

For more information on all **BuildLACCD active projects**, please see the following:

- **Active Design Projects Status Report (as of September 30, 2026)**
- **Active Construction Projects Status report (as of September 30, 2026)**