



NEWS

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For Immediate Release

May 15, 2013

El Camino College to Break Ground on New STEM Center and Renovated Industry & Technology Building

El Camino College will celebrate the groundbreaking of a new STEM Center and renovated Industry & Technology Building with a ceremony scheduled for 3:30 p.m. May 20 at the northwest corner of the former Math & Computer Science Building, off of Manhattan Beach Boulevard.

The STEM Center will be a new \$2.1 million, 9,334-square-foot, state-of-the-art learning support center located in a renovated space in the lower level of the Natural Science Building

The center is designed for students studying STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math) disciplines, and will contain four group learning areas, four self-study areas, a large collaboration lounge, three meeting rooms, three classrooms, and four faculty offices. Services for students include: Internet access (both land line and Wi-Fi) and a computer lab with 21 computer stations.

In addition, the former Math & Computer Science Building (built in 1969) will be completely renovated to house Industry & Technology programs, which currently occupy a building that opened in 1959.

The renovated, \$25.4 million, 105,000-square-foot Industry & Technology Building will provide an interactive learning center for the following academic programs: Administration of Justice; Architecture; Computer Aided Design and Drafting; Cosmetology; Fashion Design; Fire Technology; Electronics and Computer Hardware Technology; Automation, Robotics, and Manufacturing; and the Observatory.

Thirteen classrooms and 24 labs supporting computers, machines, drafting, fashion, and cosmetology and associated tool rooms are also part of the design.

Energy efficiency and other sustainable features of the building include enhanced thermal insulation, insulated glass, solar shading, efficient indirect/direct controlled lighting, and custom air conditioning. Systems will connect to the campus' high efficiency Central Plant. Natural light will also be used throughout, as the space is redesigned to support classroom studies, as well as informal student interaction: spaces to study, converse, and collaborate on assignments.

The new STEM Center, renovated Industry & Technology Building, and numerous other facilities improvements on campus were made possible with funds from the 2002 Measure E facilities bond.

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