



City of West Hollywood

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Groundbreaking Ceremony for the City of West Hollywood
25th Anniversary Capital Project set for
Monday, June 1, 2009 at West Hollywood Park**
City to Break Ground on the Largest Capital Project in its History

WEST HOLLYWOOD - The City of West Hollywood is set to embark on its 25th Anniversary Capital Project, the largest capital project in the City's history. The West Hollywood City Council will host a Groundbreaking Ceremony for the 25th Anniversary Capital Project on Monday, June 1, 2009 from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at West Hollywood Park, 647 N. San Vicente Boulevard. Civic leaders scheduled to participate in the event include members of the West Hollywood City Council; L.A. County Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky; Los Angeles County Librarian Margaret Donnellan Todd; and Christopher Bonbright, chair of the West Hollywood Library Fund.

“We have been looking forward to this day for a long time, and are thrilled to take this important step toward kicking off the Capital Project and building the new West Hollywood Library,” said West Hollywood Mayor Abbe Land, who has played a key role in the planning and development of the Capital Project. “The new library will truly be a place where everyone can come together in an environment that fosters learning and community. We are so grateful to be able to help build a library that reflects the values of our City and will serve this community for decades to come,” Mayor Land continued.

In celebration of 25 years of Cityhood, the City of West Hollywood has embarked upon a new Capital Project to develop premiere public facilities, parks and open space: the “25th Anniversary Capital Project.” One of the major components of the Capital Project is the implementation of Phase I of the West Hollywood Park Master Plan (which includes the development of a new West Hollywood Library.)

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Phase I of the West Hollywood Park Master Plan includes:

- A 2.5 acre increase in parkland and green space
- New tennis courts
- More than 400 parking spaces in two municipal garages

The new West Hollywood Library will create the centerpiece of the West Hollywood community. It is designed to showcase the City's rich intellectual, literary and cultural diversity and provide a landmark facility for the community's passionate commitment to lifelong learning. The Library will include materials that spotlight West Hollywood's vibrant diversity and will feature a Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender (LGBT) Collection; International Languages Collection; Decorative Arts and Design area; a vast collection of large-print materials for Seniors and people who are visually-impaired and a West Hollywood Room which will feature archival materials showcasing the City's history.

The new West Hollywood Library is designed to achieve a Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Silver rating and be a certified "Green Building." Green sustainable options under consideration for the Library include a photovoltaic system (solar power technology that uses solar cells to convert energy from the sun into electricity); low-emitting materials for paints, coatings and carpeting; optimized-energy performance systems (lighting, heating and ventilation) and the use of Green housekeeping products.

The cost to construct Phase I of the West Hollywood Park Master Plan, which includes building the new West Hollywood Library; Public Meeting Rooms/City Government Access Television (CATV) facilities; and San Vicente Coffee Bar; Parking Structures; and expanding 2.5 acres of park and green space at West Hollywood Park, is \$64 million. The 25th Anniversary Capital Project will primarily be funded through reserves set aside from the City's General Fund and Parking Fund; the issuance of bonds;

other governmental funding including Los Angeles County Park Funds; private donor contributions and other public and private grants. The debt service on the bonds will be paid from the City's Parking Fund revenue; current revenue set asides and new incremental revenue growth. There will be no new taxes enacted to subsidize the cost of the project. Additionally, the West Hollywood Library Fund has begun a fundraising campaign to raise \$10 million in private contributions to help finance the new West Hollywood Library component of the project.

The West Hollywood Library Fund is a nonprofit organization, governed by a board of community residents and business leaders, raising private support for the new West Hollywood Library. The West Hollywood Library Fund will not only contribute to the construction costs of the new West Hollywood Library, but will also establish an endowment to support dynamic learning opportunities and enable continued free access to library resources.

“West Hollywood has long been a place known for the strength and devotion of its community. Thanks to the tireless efforts of so many people led by the City Council, West Hollywood will finally become a City with a physical heart,” said Christopher Bonbright, chair of the West Hollywood Library Fund. “The new West Hollywood Library will be a place where we can all come to be together in a world class, state-of-the-art facility, and every member of the community can come to learn, enjoy and grow,” he continued.

For more information, contact Christopher Worland, 25th Anniversary Capital Project Community Liaison, at (323) 848-6511 or visit www.weho.org/capitalproject

For more information, or to support the West Hollywood Library Fund, please visit www.weholibraryfund.org

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