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Propositions S and N projects honored for design and engineering excellence

West City Campus saluted in geotechnical category by American Society of Civil Engineers; City College P Building honored by American Institute of Architecture with Design Visionary Award

SAN DIEGO – Taxpayer-approved projects built as part of the San Diego Community College District’s $1.555 billion Propositions S and N construction continue to be honored for excellence in design, engineering and sustainability, successfully competing for such distinctions with projects from throughout San Diego, and with higher education institutions such as the University of California and California State University system.

The $18 million West City Campus, officially opened this month as San Diego Continuing Education’s Campus of Excellence for Hospitality and Consumer Science, was honored Saturday evening with an Award of Merit by the San Diego section of the American Society of Civil Engineers at its 20th Annual Awards Dinner.

The $11.4 million renovation of the P Building at San Diego City College, designed by gkkworks architects, was honored with the Design Visionary Award May 10 by the American Institute of Architects at its Annual Design Awards gala. The Design Visionary Award recognizes projects designed but not yet completed, and which demonstrate exemplary design intent.
"We are gratified that projects approved by San Diego taxpayers are being recognized for their excellence in design and engineering," said David Umstot, Vice Chancellor of Facilities Management, San Diego Community College District. “This demonstrates our ongoing commitment to provide students and staff with clean, healthy, safe and well-designed environments to support teaching and learning.”

**Award of Merit, West City Campus, ASCE San Diego**

In honoring the [West City Campus project](#), and project engineer Geotechnics, Inc., the ASCE awards committee acknowledged that the “redevelopment and expansion of this existing community college campus was complicated by problematic liquefiable soils at the site. A cost effective solution was developed using ground modification techniques featuring vibro-densification and stone columns.” The plan was subsequently approved by the Division of the State Architect, and several hundred stone columns installed. *(See drawings illustrating steps for stone column installation below.)*

Additional project partners for the West City Campus include:

- Architect: RJC Architects
- Construction Manager: Project Management Advisors, Inc.
- General Contractor: Soltek Pacific Construction Company
- Program Manager: Gafcon, Inc.
- Mechanical: MA Engineers
- Electrical: BSE Engineering
- LEED Consultants: Brummitt Energy Associates (BEA)
- Civil/Structural: Flores Lund Consultants (FLC)
- Ground Improvement Subcontractor: Condon Johnson
- Surveying, etc.: RBF Consulting, Inc

**Design Visionary Award, P Building Renovation at City College, AIA San Diego**

The P Building project involves the complete renovation of existing two-story concrete gymnasium building to include interior & exterior demolition, new interior partitions, new curtain wall system, new ceilings, new mechanical and electrical systems & fixtures, new plumbing systems and fixtures, new roofing system, and architectural finishes. Exterior work includes ADA accessibility and parking upgrades. New facility includes work-out rooms, locker rooms, classrooms, and staff offices. The facility is expected to obtain Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design *(LEED)* certification in keeping with the District’s Green Building Policy.

The project was one seen by the jury as “very challenging,” according to Kevin Henrion, gkkworks principal. “The jury was particularly impressed by the fact that we took a rather drab existing concrete building and developed a new use and design within the existing framework.”
The gkkworks project team includes Edmund Einy, AIA; Kevin Henrion, AIA; Scott Brady, Jeff Fuller and Dave Koepcke. Other project partners include:

- Construction Manager: O’Connor Construction
- General Contractor: Jaynes Corp.
- Program Manager: Gafcon, Inc.
- Mechanical: Fundament and Associates, Inc.
- Electrical: FBA Engineering
- Landscape Architect: Wimmer Yamada and Caughey

The AIA event recognized several other firms on the District’s list of approved design teams, including Joseph Wong Design Associates, Architects Hanna Gabriel Wells, Roesling Nakamura Terada Architects, and Zagrodnik + Thomas Architects.

Construction of two other award-winning Propositions S and N project designs, the Miramar College Arts & Humanities and Business & Mathematics Buildings, both designed by NTD Architects, began construction earlier this month.

The $1.555 billion Propositions S and N construction bond program is providing for new instructional facilities, major renovations and campus wide infrastructure projects at City, Mesa and Miramar Colleges, and six Continuing Education campuses. For additional information, please visit www.sdccdprops-n.com.

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