

Posted on 2/1/2010

Groundbreaking: Mar Vista High School, Sweetwater Union High School District

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: Gilbane Building Co. and joint venture partner SGI Construction Management are serving as the program managers for the planning, scheduling and construction oversight of projects within the \$644 million Sweetwater Union High School District Bond Program. Gilbane is also providing construction management services for the first series of projects that features new construction and renovation to nine of the district's middle and high school campuses. Funding for the bond program is provided by Proposition O, a \$644 million bond, which was approved by voters in 2006. Its purpose is to improve learning and safety at every Sweetwater Union High School District campus by repairing and earthquake retrofitting classrooms and restrooms; installing and upgrading fire safety systems, security fencing and safety lighting; upgrading science labs and computer technology; and improving handicap accessibility. Mar Vista High School, located at 505 Elm Ave. in Imperial Beach, will receive a new 4,452-square-foot building that will include a food sales area and provide a meeting place for the Associated Student Body. Furthermore, the student services building will be upgraded into a 9,836-square-foot space, allowing faculty and staff a better opportunity to service the students' needs in a much improved environment. Lastly, Mar Vista's annex classroom building will be modernized to total 2,200 square feet.

INTERESTING FACETS: All projects will obtain a minimum of LEED Gold certification; it's the largest green building program of a school district in the state of California; it enhances the outdoor environment for the students to congregate by creating an area to eat, entertain and socialize.

PROGRAM MANAGER: Gilbane Building Co. and joint venture partner SGI Construction Management.

Financing: Proposition O bond program and local taxpayers dollars.

Designers: LPA.

General contractor: The Augustine Co.

Major subcontractors: Brady, Airflow, La Jolla Electric, Frame.

Start date: August 2009; groundbreaking ceremony, January 2010.

Completion date: First quarter 2011.

Building cost: N/A.

Estimated Project Budget: \$11.6 million.

Square footage: 16,488.

Tenants signed to date: N/A.