



WESTCHESTER TOWN CENTER News

FALL 2014

IMPORTANT INFORMATION



Information about the LAWA Specific Plan Amendment Study (SPAS) and the proposed move of the airport's northernmost runway can be found at laxspas.org



To contact the Office of L.A. City Councilman Mike Bonin, who represents the Westchester Town Center BID area, please call (310) 568-8772 or visit cd11.lacity.org



To contact the Westchester Streetscape Improvement Association please call (310) 225-7630 or visit

westchesterstreetscape.org

YOU ARE INVITED ...

The public is invited to attend WTC BID Board meetings, which are held at 10 am on the third Thursday of each month at Drollinger Properties, 8929 S. Sepulveda Blvd., Suite 130 in Westchester.

Westchester – You Are Beautiful

New mural in Westchester Village highlights talents of local artist while reminding our community that everyone is beautiful.

A new mural entitled, "You are Beautiful" celebrates and commemorates the historic LAX-centric neighborhood just north of the airport. The local nonprofit organization Do Art Foundation coordinated this project, adding to its fast-growing repertoire of murals in Los Angeles County.

Artist Aly Kourouma has turned 100-ft wall bordering the parking lot facing inwards to the Plaza near CVS into a spectacular representation of the community's diversity.

Drollinger Properties has a long and storied history in the community. Ella Drollinger built Westchester's first commercial building in 1947, and her son, Howard, carried on the family's tradition, earning the moniker "Mr. Westchester," as he and his wife, Jewel, revitalized and redeveloped Westchester's Central Business District. The mural was created to thank and honor the Westchester community. The main concept for the installation of this artwork is to inspire each passerby and impart a positive sentiment – "You Are Beautiful" – to visitors of the plaza.

The mural pays respect to some of the people who made Westchester what it is today as well as the artist's rendering and reflection of the community's current residents.

"I was drawn to this project because of the property owner Karen Dial's desire to pay tribute to her family and the people that founded this neighborhood by using the medium of public art," said Kourouma. "Karen and Drollinger Properties realize the power of art as a tool to bring the different components of a community together."

Dial said the mural is a perfect representation of the community in which she grew up.

"We are part of the enormous City of Los Angeles, but Westchester is like a little village, an oasis in the sea of L.A.," she said. "People know their neighbors. They come together to make our community better and they work hard to help each other. This mural is a great way to remind everyone that they are beautiful – inside and out."



What Is the Westchester Town Center BID?

The mission of the WTC BID is to: proactively enhance the vitality of the business district, its stakeholders, and the community by providing an inviting environment; streetscape landscaping and beautification; marketing and promotions; new business attraction; and policy advocacy.

It is a property based District formed by a vote of the commercial property owners that assess themselves for its costs of operation. Some 129 properties are included, and it is one of about 45 other business improvement districts in the City of Los Angeles. The WTC BID is managed by a non-profit corporation pursuant to its adopted Management District Plan and contract with the City. Its Board of Directors meets monthly and invites stakeholder participation.

Westchester Town Center BID Board of Directors

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Rendering of the curbside portion of the \$508-million Terminal 1 Modernization Program

BID Supports Modernization, Not Expansion of LAX

Southwest Airlines helped kick-off construction of the \$508-million Terminal 1 Modernization Program at Los Angeles International Airport with a recent groundbreaking ceremony featuring Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti and a host of city and airport dignitaries.

The modernization of the aging terminal, built in the early 1980s, is expected to transform the entire passenger experience from the curb to the gate, and will include a new 12-lane security screening checkpoint; a fully automated checked-baggage inspection and sortation system; a new and expanded dining and retail collection featuring activated gate hold rooms with lounge-style seating; refurbished arrival/baggage claim area; replacement of the passenger boarding bridges; renovations to airline support office space; modernized aircraft parking/apron pavement and hydrant fueling system; improvements to the building facade; and relocation of the main terminal entrances to the west end of the building to ease traffic congestion.

Construction is expected to be completed in 2018 and will be phased to minimize inconvenience to customers, employees, and guests.

“The Terminal 1 improvement project will bring a better passenger experience and 1,500 construction jobs to LAX,” said Mayor Eric Garcetti. “As part of our \$7 billion investment in LAX, we’re remodeling every terminal and

creating 40,000 jobs. Because Los Angeles deserves a world-class airport.”

That is absolutely true. By reorganizing the interior uses of the building and shifting the ticketing lobby and main entrances to the west, passenger drop off and pick up areas are anticipated to improve, as well as congestion in front of Terminal 1 reduced. Once inside the terminal, passengers will enjoy a brightened Southwest Airlines ticketing lobby with sleek design features and additional windows for more natural light. New, more-efficient security screening systems and added lanes are anticipated to shorten federal passenger security screening lines.

These are precisely the type of projects the airport should continue to pursue. By improving the passenger experience and modernizing the airport’s terminals, concessions and curb areas, LAX can improve its operations and the community.

The Westchester Town Center continues to oppose the proposed movement of the runway northward into our community. With no legitimate safety or operational reason to move the runway, the airport will waste millions, perhaps billions, of dollars that could better be spent on modernization or an aging facility.

Modernization – YES!
Expansion – NO!