

NEWS

From the County of San Bernardino

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Ground Breaking For New Highland Environmental Center and Library

The public is invited to attend the upcoming groundbreaking ceremony for the new Highland Library and Environmental Center May 3, 2006 at 2:00 p.m. The 30,000 sq. ft. facility will be located at 9670 Central Avenue, between 5th St. and Cypress, across from Cypress Elementary School in Highland. Light refreshments will be served.

The Center will feature a landscaped roof garden; outdoor amphitheater; extensive use of natural day lighting, multi-media presentation room, large conference room, environmental exhibit hall, environmental discovery room with live exhibits, multi-use classroom, separate children's library and a separate program room for children's programs and family literacy programs, a large computer lab, homework center, career center and a literacy lab. The building will be designed and built to meet the U.S. Green Building Council's LEED Standards for energy-efficient design and construction.

The project is a partnership between the County Library and the City of Highland which owns the property, and will be part of the 30-acre new city complex next to the Jerry Lewis Community Center. The City is also providing a \$27,000 Recycling Exhibit under a state grant. Other partners are the San Bernardino City Unified School District, which under cooperative agreement approved by the Board of Education, will co-locate Cypress Elementary School

Library in the Children's Section of new library. San Bernardino County Solid Waste Management Division is providing \$350,000 in mitigation funding to assist with solid waste reduction, the 3 Rs (Recycle, Reuse, Reduce) and other related topics.

The project is expected to be completed by summer of 2007.