

LAX

Bradley Renovations Take Off

Airports begins largest City building project in history.

On Feb. 22, a City and community representatives broke ground on the most expensive building project in City history, the \$1.545 billion expansion of the Tom Bradley International Terminal (TBIT) at LAX.

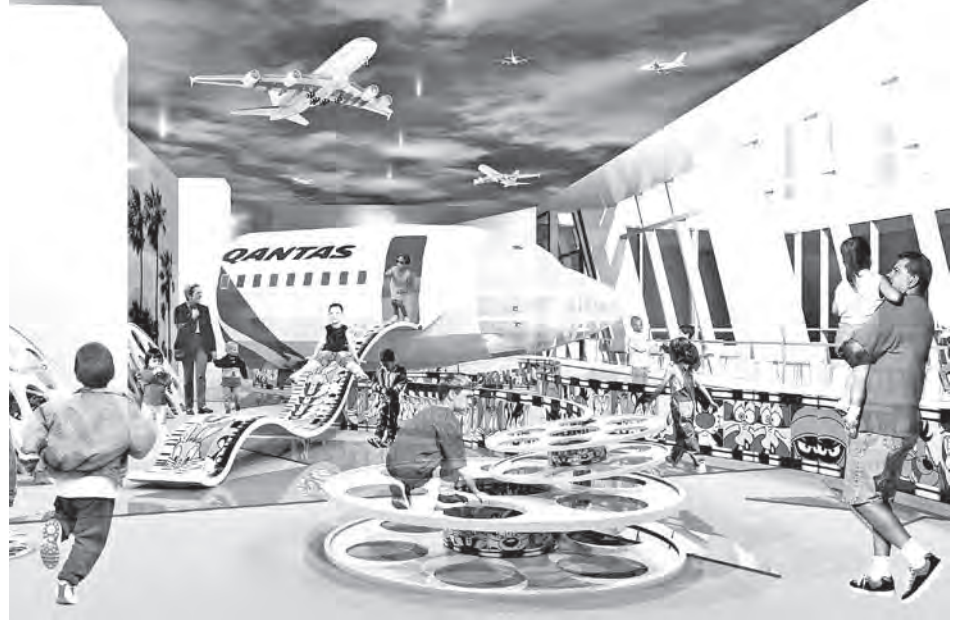
Mayor Antonio R. Villaraigosa was joined by Councilmembers Janice Hahn, Club Member, Bill Rosendahl and Tom LaBonge, Club Member; airport commissioners; and other officials in the ceremony. The \$1.545-billion total cost Bradley West Project will create a new international terminal offering travelers much better airport amenities. The project also will position LAX to continue its leading role as an international gateway ready to serve customers and aircraft in the 21st century.

The \$1.26 billion construction project will create 4,000 jobs over the next four years.

"Today marks another milestone in our effort to modernize the hub of Southern California's

air transportation system and restore it to the premier international gateway the airlines and our customers need and the City of Angels deserves," Mayor Villaraigosa said. "By modernizing the Tom Bradley International Terminal at LAX, we will provide better service for passengers from around the world. Tourism and international trade are major contributors to Los Angeles' economy that generate jobs and contribute to the City's ability to retain its position in the ever-increasing competitive global marketplace. Improving the experience for travelers at LAX will put thousands of people to work now and for years to come."

The Bradley West Project is one element of the overall LAX Master Plan. Modernization had been stalled prior to Mayor Villaraigosa's election in 2005, and the last major capital investment was construction of the current Tom Bradley International Terminal in 1984. Mayor



An artist's rendering of a children's play area in the new Bradley International Terminal at LAX.

Villaraigosa brokered a settlement in 2006 of a lawsuit filed by seven public agencies and community groups against the LAX Master Plan. The settlement, approved by the mayor and City Council, has enabled Los Angeles World Airports (LAWA) to proceed with its current modernization efforts, including Bradley West.

"Tourism has become the number one industry in Los Angeles, but we must do every-

thing we can to ensure that visitors continue to come here," Councilwoman Janice Hahn said. "Building this new terminal will help us attract airlines and travelers from all over the world, giving them the first-class airport experience they expect from a world-class city like L.A." Hahn, a Club Member, chairs the City Council

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Newsbriefs

DEPTS. CUT, LAYOFFS LOOMING:

Two departments have been eliminated, and two departments combined, to save money during this current, severe budget crisis. The two moves were made by Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa in late February.

Also, at press time, the mayor's office and City Council were contemplating laying off up to 4,000 jobs, and widespread salary reductions were also being discussed.

The City's budget shortfall is expected to be \$212 million this year.

On Feb. 19, the mayor announced the elimination of Environmental Affairs and Human Services. With this action, 27 positions will be eliminated from EAD and 29 positions from HSD for a total of 56 positions and \$3.2 million in on-going salary savings.

"The only way to break the cycle of endemic budget shortfalls is with a long-term strategy to maximize efficiency and revenue," Mayor Villaraigosa said. "In the face of continued budget shortfalls, our job now is to find ways to deliver City services cheaper, smarter, and more efficiently."

According to statements, the mayor will maintain an environmental focus by creating the Mayor's Office of Energy, Environment and Sustainability. This newly created office will drive environmental sustainability throughout the City and provide oversight, coordination, and accountability of all City departments.

The Mayor's Environmental Advisory Council will also be created, according to the statement. This "Green Ribbon" panel will be comprised of the City's key environmental, academic, community and business leaders who will provide their expertise on the most effective programs to improve the environmental quality of life for all Angelenos.

Several key functions and staff members of the EAD will be transferred to Public Works/Sanitation, Transportation, Building and Safety, and the DWP.

Human Services and the 29 positions within HSD will also be eliminated. The Commission on Children, Youth and Families will be integrated into Community Development (CDD) to create a new streamlined commission to oversee City's anti-poverty policy and programs. Several other functions and staff of HSD will be



Officials pose for the ceremonial groundbreaking for the massive renovation project at the Bradley International Terminal, LAX.

Committee that oversees the airport. "In these tough economic times, the modernization of Bradley West is essential to stimulating our economy, creating good new jobs, and nurturing our vital tourism industry."

Councilman Bill Rosendahl, who represents the LAX area, said, "When Mayor Villaraigosa and I brokered the LAX Legal Settlement Agreement, this is exactly what we envisioned;

that the airport would work hand-in-hand with its neighbors to bring about real progress on modernizing LAX. This groundbreaking is a great victory for that process, for the LAX community, and for our city. It signals that consensus and cooperation are alive and well at LAX."

"This is a great, long-overdue project to expand the international gateway to Los Angeles," said Councilman Tom LaBonge. "The

late, great Mayor Tom Bradley will be smiling down on this ceremony from the skies."

Los Angeles World Airports Executive Director Gina Marie Lindsey said, "Today's groundbreaking commemorates the years of planning and the significant work ahead to build international facilities worthy of the LAX name." She added, "A world of international travelers and the airlines that serve them have now come a giant step closer to the delivery of one of America's premier international gateways."

Project Description

Flat-seam stainless steel will stretch over column-free structures, creating a cohesive theme and world-class identity that complements the parabolic arches of the scene-setting LAX Theme Building.

The Bradley West Project is composed of approximately 1.25 million square feet of new

building area, including food/beverage and retail concessions, new premium lounge space, enlarged Federal Inspection/Customs and Border Protection facilities and other passenger amenities. In addition, the new concourses will contain 15 new boarding gates and enlarged passenger seating/holdroom areas sized to accommodate new-generation aircraft such as the Airbus A380 super-jumbo jet and the Boeing B787 Dreamliner. The new improvements are scheduled for completion in December 2012.

Funding for the Bradley West Project comes from LAX's operating revenues, fees from airlines, passenger facility charges and airport revenue bond proceeds. No monies from the City's general fund will be used.

The Bradley West Project will build upon the current \$723.5-million renovation of the 30-year-old terminal, which is within budget and scheduled for on-time completion this spring.

Bradley Renovations

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transferred to CDD, including the domestic violence shelter operations program. The Young Women from Adversity to Resiliency (YWAR) and related grant-funded staff will be transferred to the Mayor's GRYD Office.

On Feb. 4, the Mayor instructed City Department Heads to immediately begin the process of eliminating 1,000 filled General Fund positions and to the extent possible, transfer personnel from these positions to Special Fund vacancies.

In response to the City's credit rating being downgraded, the Council moved to approve the elimination of an additional 3,000 positions.

In other Dept. news, on Feb. 22, the mayor announced the consolidation of Community Development and Neighborhood Empowerment. If approved by the City Council, the newly consolidated department -- Community Development/Neighborhood Empowerment -- will eliminate 27 positions, approximately save \$2 million annually, and reduce the total number of City departments and general managers.

"The consolidation effort will not only create cost savings, but will serve to take the bureaucracy out of community empowerment," Mayor Villaraigosa said. "This consolidation is an opportunity to create the volunteer opportunities that engage communities and foster participation in our neighborhoods."

The mayor ordered the consolidation of Neighborhood Empowerment and Community Development as a means to maintain the necessary support for the City's 90 Neighborhood Councils while minimizing general fund cost. The consolidation has allowed the City to rethink certain functions, automate others, and provide the Neighborhood Councils with a more efficient entity that works to better address the needs of the communities they serve, according to a statement.

As part of the consolidation, the mayor nominated current Community Development General Manager Richard Benbow to head the new Community Development and Neighborhood Empowerment Dept. As a consequence, current General Manager of the Neighborhood Empowerment, BongHwan Kim, will step down.

What do you think about the City's belt tightening? Write a letter to the editor of Alive! talkback@cityemployeesclub.com



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