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L.A. Valley College Marks Grand Opening of First "Green" Building in Community College Modernization Program

*New Energy Efficient Building will House the Campus' Maintenance and Operations
Facility and Sheriff's Station*

LOS ANGELES—April 24, 2006— Los Angeles Valley College, one of nine colleges in the Los Angeles Community College District (LACCD), celebrated the opening of its first environmentally sustainable building yesterday as part of a multi-million dollar, district-wide construction program. The ceremony, which included LACCD Trustee Georgia Mercer, County Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky, and City Councilmember Wendy Greuel, marked the grand opening of Los Angeles Valley College's new Maintenance and Operations/Sheriff's Station. The new structure will be LEED™ certified (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) and was funded through the \$2.2 billion Proposition A/AA bond program.

"Having an 'environmentally smart' building meets our college's present and future needs while promoting the health of our environment," said Tyree Wieder, president of L.A. Valley College. "This building brings higher performance, reduced energy costs and improved indoor air quality, all of which will greatly benefit our employees and help us achieve Valley's educational mission."

The new \$6.6 million, 28,000-square-foot, one-story complex consists of three connecting structures with an inner courtyard. It will house maintenance equipment, shipping and receiving, warehouse offices and the Sheriff's Station operations and personnel.

"This building is a milestone for L.A. Valley College's construction process," said Darroch "Rocky" Young, LACCD chancellor. "Completion of this building demonstrates that we are making great progress in renovating our community college campuses."

Green buildings benefit not only the environment, but also the building's occupants and local community. The exterior and interior of the new Maintenance and Operations building has numerous design elements that optimize energy performance and efficiency.

The Maintenance and Operations/Sheriff's Station building's interior contains low-emitting materials to improve the overall indoor air quality. The building includes many energy optimizing features including skylights which maximize natural light and rooftop photovoltaic panels generating electricity. When not in use, the power generated by the panels is redirected into the city's power grid.

The building's exterior landscaping was designed to use water efficiently and to conserve it where possible. Due to the building's green design, water is distributed to landscaping with bubbling type of heads that do not spray, reducing the water use for landscaping by 50 percent. The exterior landscaping also includes a selection of drought-tolerant native plants.

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The Proposition A and AA bond measures were passed by Los Angeles voters in 2001 and 2003 and are providing \$2.2 billion for extensive construction and renovation for each of the nine LACCD colleges. L.A. Valley College also plans to construct the new Robert M. Hertzberg Library and Academic Resource Center, and a new Allied Health and Sciences Center, which will house teaching labs and classrooms. The college is also renovating and expanding several other existing on-campus facilities.

The Los Angeles Community College District's construction and modernization projects receive funding from Propositions A and AA, two bond measures overwhelmingly approved by Los Angeles voters in 2001 and 2003. Propositions A and AA are providing more than \$2.2 billion for new construction and renovations at each of the nine community colleges. For more information on the bond program, visit the Web site at www.PropositionA.org.



Cutting the ribbon at the dedication of Valley College's Maintenance & Operations Building and Sheriff's Substation last Thursday, April 20 are (l-r): *Sheriff's Department Captain Roosevelt Blow, Chief Ronnie Williams of the Sheriff's Department, County Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky, L.A. Community College District Trustee Georgia Mercer, L.A. Valley College President Tyree Wieder, LACCD Chancellor Darroch "Rocky" Young, and L.A. City Councilmember Wendy Greuel. The building was constructed with bond monies approved by voters, and was built to LEED 'green building' standards.*

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