



NEWS RELEASE

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Construction of State Government Offices Underway in San Diego

San Diego — Officials with the state Department of General Services (DGS) today turned the first shovels of dirt to start construction of a three-story, 267,000 square-foot state office building in San Diego's Mission Valley Heights area. The structure will be home to approximately 1,000 state employees who are now located in several offices throughout San Diego. DGS estimates the consolidation effort will save the state millions of dollars.

"This consolidation will deliver great value to the taxpayers," said DGS Director Peter Stamison. "It will also result in more efficient and cost-effective government by locating several agencies under one roof."

Stamison's comments came in a groundbreaking ceremony attended by DGS Real Estate Deputy Director Eugene Spindler and representatives of the Design/Build Team.

The \$39.7 million building project located north of Friars Road and east of the 163 Freeway will consolidate 12 state leases spread throughout San Diego. DGS estimates the consolidation will save several million dollars over the cost of leasing comparable office space over the next 25 years. The building will also provide excellent access to public transit systems including the San Diego Trolley.

The tenants will include the California Coastal Commission, Employment Development Department, Board of Equalization, Franchise Tax Board, Health Services, Housing and Community Development, Department of Rehabilitation, Department of Social Services, and Department of General Services.

Western Devcon is the project developer/manager. The structure was designed by Gene Cipparone Architects, Inc. Lusardi Construction will serve as Construction Manager.

Completion of the Mission Valley Heights office project is expected by April 1, 2000.