



PRESS ADVISORY

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
RELEASE DATE: March 8, 2006

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Tech trenching sets stage for LRC construction

Rio Hondo Facilities Plans Will Strengthen Student Access Through Technology

Whittier – Construction crews at Rio Hondo College will be moving some dirt this Spring Break as they begin trenching for new internet and network cabling, which will enhance the College's technological capacity and make way for improved software programs that will increase student access to the College.

New fiber optic cabling will be installed and new conduits are being placed in the trench, enhancing and adding to the existing underground conduits, in order to serve the PE Complex and the Child Development Center. The trenching will begin at Central Drive and run concurrent to Campus Drive, concluding at West Drive. The work will be completed by the time students return to campus from Spring Break on Monday, April 3, 2006.

"This is clearly a foundational stage of the construction process," said Gary Mendez, President of the Rio Hondo Board of Trustees. "But, it is very exciting to think that after all of the studies and preparation, we are now beginning to see our hard work and planning coming to fruition."

As several projects within Rio Hondo's Facilities Program move out of the planning phase and into the construction phase, the amount of visible bond-related activity on the campus is set to take off. Ground breaking for the Learning Resource Center is currently projected for this fall.

"This is an exciting time," said Dr. Rose Marie Joyce, President of Rio Hondo College. "These steps are the first of many that will change the face of this College."

The Board of Trustees is seeing the hard work and planning that was put into the Facilities Master Plan over the last several years move from a vision for the College to a certainty for the future.

“Accessibility and student service are the highest priority for the Board of Trustees,” said Mendez. “The tools are now being put in place to make Rio Hondo College the educational center for this community by providing unparalleled resources to our students, faculty, and staff. This Board is thoroughly mindful of our construction budget. We want to plan and build smarter so that we can maximize the impact of each dollar spent.”

Located in Whittier, California, Rio Hondo College is a collaborative center of lifelong learning which provides innovative, challenging, and quality educational offering - including programs and courses leading to transfer and vocational degrees and certificates - for its diverse students and community. For information on the College or its programs, please call 562-692-0921 or visit www.riohondo.edu .

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