



Zigman/Shields completes new fitness center

Father Joe's Village breaks ground on 3-in-1 development

By CARLOS RICO
The Daily Transcript

SAN DIEGO — Plans were unveiled Wednesday for a \$58.72 million Father Joe's Village complex in East Village that will include a child development center, housing and a replacement for the Bishop Maher Center.

Father Joe Carroll said the original plan was to have all three components in separate buildings, but because there was only one lot to build upon — and the three services were needed now — he decided it would be easiest to build all three facilities in one structure.

"It's a matter of replacing the program we had, we needed to expand our children's services and at the same time ... in this town you have to build affordable housing," Carroll said.

The child development center will be located on the first three floors of the building, and will total 35,580 square feet of indoor and outdoor space. It is intended for homeless and impoverished children and their families and will provide childcare services, after-school programs and adult services focused on empowering them out of homelessness.

Levels 4-7 will be the new Bishop Maher Center, offering 75 units of transitional housing for 150 single men. Each floor will include a community room with a balcony, restroom and shower facilities, a laundry room and office space for staff.

Floors 8-11 will offer 64 studio apartments for individuals with an annual income of 30 percent to 40 percent of the area's median income, ranging from \$17,350 to \$23,150.

Each of the three facilities within the building will have their own entrance.

The top floor will consist of gathering space, guest rooms and a dog kennel for security dogs.

"This building exemplifies the vision of Father Joe Carroll," said Steve Frances, who is the chairman of Father Joe's Village. "For 20 years, he's made San Diego ... a place where you have a one-stop shop for those individuals and families in need."

The project also involves demolishing the current Bishop Maher Center, which is located on the 15 and Commercial Street lot. The structure

See **Development** on 28C



Courtesy photo

An illustration shows what Father Joe's Village, located at 15th and Commercial Street in the East Village, will look like when finished in December 2011. The 12-story, \$58.72 million complex will feature a child development center.

Development

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is a pre-engineered metal building that was converted into a residential facility in 1989 to provide transitional housing for single men.

Funding for this project comes from 15 sources led by the county of San Diego First 5 Commission's \$7 million contribution.

Other companies and organizations that helped with the funding include U.S. Bank, the San Diego Housing

Commission and Centre City Development Corp.

State tax credits and private donations also contributed to the funding of the project.

ROEL Construction, Joseph Wong Design Associates, and AVRP Studios are involved in the project. Chelsea Investments Corp. is the co-developer with Father Joe's Village.

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