

Los Medanos College Brentwood Center
Frequently Asked Questions
(updated January 23, 2017)

What is a center and how is it different than a college?

The Los Medanos College Brentwood Center is a State Chancellor's Office approved Off-Site Educational Center, which serves as an extension of Los Medanos College. Off-Site Educational Centers create opportunities for California Community Colleges to increase access to quality higher education programs without the additional costs associated with creating a new comprehensive college/institution. There are 113 California Community Colleges and over 60 approved Off-Site Educational Centers.

Off-Site Educational Centers most often offer a broad sampling of curriculum that lead to the completion of an Associate Degree and/or Certificate of Achievement. The Los Medanos College Center will focus largely on curriculum that offers the ability to complete an Associate Degree and promotes transfer to four-year institutions. A smaller offering of Career Technical Education certificates will be available at the center.

Off-Site Educational Centers are comprised of instructional, student support, and administration facilities. They do not include facilities such as gymnasiums, tennis courts, stadiums, performing art centers, dormitories, etc.

How is Phase I of the new Brentwood Center being funded?

Due to funding limitations, Los Medanos College has divided the development of the new Brentwood Center into two phases. Phase I will consist of approximately 55,000 square feet and will be a one-story building on the North parcel of our property located at 1351 Vineyards Parkway. The future Phase II has yet to be funded, or designed, and will be located on the South parcel closest to Vineyards Parkway. Phase II will likely be a smaller building comprised of approximately 25,000 to 35,000 square feet with appropriate additional parking.

Phase I of the new Brentwood Center is being funded by the local Bond Measure E, which was passed by Contra Costa County voters in 2014. We thank you for your continued support of Los Medanos College and the Contra Costa Community College District.

What are the demographics of the current Brentwood Center?

The demographics of the Brentwood Center largely mirror the overall demographics of Los Medanos College. Our most recent comprehensive publication of demographic information was completed for our [Fall 2014 Accreditation Report](#). Please refer to page 13 for detailed information about number of students, gender, age group, and race/ethnicity.

How tall is the building?

The proposed one story building roof heights range from 17 to 32 feet. The grand entrance from the South side is 32 feet in height. The peak of the gabled roof on the North side is 30 feet. Please refer to the [Building Roof Height](#) information page on our website for detailed information.

How tall are the parking lot light poles?

The proposed parking lot light poles are 20 feet in height. This height matches the existing Trilogy street light pole height of 20 feet. While the final selection of the light pole fixtures have not been finalized, it is likely they will be LED based. Please refer to the [Parking Lot Light Fixture](#) information page on our website for detailed information.

What is the distance from the end of the parking lot to the North Trilogy Wall?

The distance from the rear of the North parking lot to the Trilogy North Wall range from 35 to 100 feet. Please refer to the [Site Plan with Rear Wall Distance](#) information page on our website for detailed information.

Will the new center have solar panels installed?

We currently do not have plans to install either roof top or parking lot solar panel arrays at the new Brentwood Center. California Building Code requires that the building be built “solar ready.” This enables the center to explore the option of solar panels in the future, if deemed necessary. The Contra Costa Community College District approaches solar panels as a district initiative. There are more viable locations for new and additional solar panels at each of our three college main campus locations.

Where will the mechanical room/building be located and will you be able to see it?

The primary mechanical room is located on the East side of the North building and is contained within the building. There are smaller mechanical and electrical distribution rooms located in each of the other buildings.

What size trees will be planted?

The majority of new trees planted will be 5 and 10 gallon in size. A smaller number of larger 25 gallon sized trees will be planted in key areas. The landscaping plan for the new center has not yet been finalized, however, will include approximately 100 new trees throughout the property. The landscaping plan does call for the planting of as many native and drought tolerant species as possible.

Will the metal roof be painted?

The roof material will be a standing metal seam roof. It will be painted, however, the final color template for the building and roof have not been finalized.

What curriculum is offered at the Brentwood Center?

Courses in the following disciplines are currently offered at the Brentwood Center: Administration of Justice, Anthropology, Art, Astronomy, Biology, Business, Child Development, Computer Science, Counseling, Drama, Economic, English, Fire Sciences, History, Humanities, Journalism, Math, Music, Nutrition, Philosophy, Physics, Physical Science, Political Science, Psychology, Sign Language, Sociology, Spanish, and Speech Communications.

The new center facilities will enable the college to offer a broader array of courses in the subjects listed above, as well as new subjects not currently offered, such as Chemistry.

Will there be access to the campus from the Marsh Creek Trail?

The long term plan is to have access to the center from the Marsh Creek Trail. To gain access, several public agencies, including East Bay Regional Parks and California State Parks, must grant easements to the College’s property. The College is working with Trilogy/Shea Homes to gain approval for these easements.

How will students access the campus? Will they take Fairview or Marsh Creek Road from HWY 4?

The majority of students will find the most convenient access from exiting onto Marsh Creek Road from HWY 4. The City of Brentwood is currently in the process of building an overpass at Balfour Road and HWY 4. By the time the new center opens in 2020, the new overpass will be completed.

Will the center be gated when classes are not in session?

We do plan to install barriers at both the entrance and exit. These barriers will give us the ability to close off access to the parking lot when the center is closed.

Will there be food services offered at the Center?

There will be food and coffee available in our bookstore at the new center.