



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

NOBEL ATHLETIC AREA AND NORTH UNIVERSITY COMMUNITY LIBRARY FACT SHEET

Project Size:

16,020 SF Library

10,200 SF Recreation/Gymnasium

Location:

On Nobel Drive, between Judicial Drive and Shoreline Dr., less than ½ mile from the Northbound 805-Nobel Drive off-ramp.

Address:

8810 & 8820 Judicial Drive

The Nobel Athletic Area and Library project consists of a 30-acre municipal park with athletic fields, a Recreation/Gymnasium Building and a Branch Library for the City of San Diego.

While the basic design of the \$17 million project followed the pre-programmed functional/ space requirements of the City, early on an overall theme was created "to celebrate the natural environment of the site and the technology of the local business community" in both the architecture and the park. The intent was to encourage contemplation and learning in the local environment by using specific natural geological elements. The local industry's high technology was reflected in pre-engineered and manufactured components of the architecture, including incorporating an energy efficient building envelope and building systems. In keeping with the overall "environment and technology" theme, the City developed sustainable design objectives to attain the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED)[®] Silver Certification for the project.

Equally important was incorporating design features that minimize risk, maximize pedestrian safety, and ensure full compliance with all appropriate Americans with Disabilities (ADA) accessibility requirements. In addition, an emphasis was placed on long-term maintenance of the facilities with attention to security, safety, and monitoring issues. All of these items were taken into consideration while conforming to the original budget and the discretionary approvals, including the General Development Plan approved by the Planning Commission, City Council, and Community Planning/Outreach Groups.

Unique Features of Project

- Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Silver Certification - High commitment to sustainable design. (See more under LEED Silver Sustainable Design.)
- Joint-use project between the Library and the Park and Recreation Department – The unique combination of a Library and a recreation building in the middle of a 30 acre multi-use recreational area, the first and only of its kind in the City of San Diego.
- Multi-faceted park- Extensive input was obtained from the community throughout the project and as a result, the park contains a little something for everyone (see park features).
- Design-Build delivery format - Schematic plans were designed to 50% and then turned over to the Design-Build firm to finalize the design and build the project. The contractor and architect worked hand in hand throughout the process to provide a quality product for the City.

Park Features:

- 3 Multi-purpose athletic fields and overlays
- Outdoor multi-use hardcourt
- Children play areas
- Dog “off-leash” areas
- Picnic tables and bench seating areas
- Overhead shade areas
- Courtyards, pedestrian promenade
- 3 parking lots with more than 320 spaces
- Accessible walkways and ramps
- Lockable gates at vehicular entries
- Drinking fountains, trash receptacles and bike rack areas
- Lighting - parking lot, walkways, and ballfield lighting
- 1-mile long walking loop w/exercise stations

Recreation Building/Gymnasium features:

- 10,200 square foot building
- Multi-purpose activity gymnasium
- Multi purpose meeting rooms
- Exterior courtyard seating
- Adjoining kitchen
- Staff offices
- Original public art installation

Library Building features:

- 16,020 square foot building
- Meeting and seminar/study rooms
- Children's book area & storytelling area
- Computer Lab
- Central circulation counter and self check-out book system
- Secured outdoor courtyard area
- Original public art installation

LEED Silver Sustainable Design

The Nobel Athletic Area and Library project was designed to incorporate elements of sustainable design and meet a Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Silver Certification rating. The project used several target elements listed in the LEED project checklist. The primary design component is an energy efficient mechanical system. The energy performance is optimized beyond the requirements of Title 24. Photovoltaic modules were also incorporated on the roof and roofing materials with high solar reflectance. High emissivity "cool roofs" were used to reduce peak HVAC loads and energy consumption.

The overall design used materials with recycled content, materials that are local and/or regional, certified wood products and materials that do not emit unhealthy toxins. The buildings were designed to have effective day lighting and views. The site is irrigated with reclaimed water, promoting water efficiency. C.E. Wylie, the design build contractor, created an effective waste management program and monitored the construction Indoor Air Quality (IAQ) management plan to increase LEED target efficiencies.

Final Thoughts

The City and the design build team recognized the unique potential of the Nobel Athletic Area and Library project from the very beginning - a public library and recreation building within a 30-acre multi-purpose community park, the first and only of its kind in the City of San Diego. Working together as a single, cohesive team, the group was proactive in resolving problems and maintained honest, clear communication throughout the process. The team worked to effectively balance all of the design/permit requirements, while being responsive to the needs of the client departments and the community. The City and Design Build team shared the responsibility and vision to deliver a successful project. We can all feel a great sense of pride knowing that the Nobel Athletic Area and Library will be enjoyed by the community for many years to come.