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March 14 Groundbreaking Will Kick Off Indio Campus Expansion

College of the Desert will break ground on Monday, March 14, 2022, on the long-awaited expansion of the Indio campus to accommodate growing demand in the eastern Coachella Valley.

In a ceremony beginning at 9:30 a.m., College and community leaders will turn the ceremonial first shovels of dirt for a three-story, instructional building and pavilion. The addition will double the size of the campus, which was established in 2014.

The 67,000-square-foot building will feature classrooms, a café, offices, science labs, a student success services center, and open study and collaboration areas. The new facilities are expected to open in Fall 2023.

"This is an important step in our ongoing commitment to supporting student success and making higher education accessible to residents across the entire Coachella Valley," said Rubén AríAztlán Pérez, chair of the Board of Trustees. "These new facilities will allow the College to serve an additional 5,000 students and that is nothing short of remarkable."

College of the Desert will also construct a 17,000-square-foot Child Development Center on recently acquired property across the street from the Indio campus. The new building will include toddler and preschool classrooms, an outdoor play yard and shade structures, as well as observation and support spaces required for a modern facility.

The existing instructional facility on campus will also be modified. The approximately \$113 million cost of that work and the new facilities are paid for through Measure CC bond funds, approved by voters in 2016.

"We are grateful for the public's support on College of the Desert's efforts to enhance student experiences and provide innovative learning opportunities," said Superintendent/President Martha Garcia, Ed.D. "This will be a valuable asset for the College as well as the Coachella Valley."

The Indio campus is located at 45524 Oasis Street. For additional information, please visit collegeofthedesert.edu.