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Photo Credit: Bill Heard

Construction has begun at the Wilshire/Vermont Metro Rail station on an apartment and retail development. LAUSD will build a middle school nearby.

Board Approves Sale of Land for LAUSD Middle School

By RICK JAGER

(Feb. 27, 2004) The MTA Board approved a deal, Thursday, that allows the Los Angeles Unified School District to purchase MTA-owned land above the Wilshire/Vermont Metro Red Line Station for construction of a middle school.

Under the agreement, MTA will sell to LAUSD a 2.59-acre parcel of land at the subway station. The cost of the land is estimated at \$5,207,000 million, plus accrued interest. It may take up to 28 months to close escrow on the deal.

MTA owns two pieces of property totaling 6.85 acres over and near the Wilshire/Vermont station.

A 5.83-acre parcel surrounds the station portal and is bounded by Wilshire Boulevard, Vermont Avenue, Sixth Street, and Shatto Place. A separate 1.02-acre site is located at Wilshire and Shatto Place.

Commercial development

A 3.24-acre portion of the larger parcel is currently undergoing commercial development by Wilshire Vermont Housing Partners LLC (WVHP).

When completed, the commercial development will provide approximately 448 apartments, 35,000 square feet of retail space and a large street-level public plaza fronting the subway portal.

The Board also approved an agreement with WVHP that will cover the cost of reconstructing a new bus layover area on the Wilshire/Shatto parcel.

The new layover area will have six standard bus bays and five spaces for 60-foot articulated buses. The site's existing bus plaza will be eliminated to make room for the proposed middle school and the commercial development.

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