

U.S. EMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA HONDURAS

GROUNDBREAKING FACT SHEET

MARCH 2019



Architect SHoP Architects

General Contractor BL Harbert International

Total Project Budget \$529M

GENERAL INFORMATION

- The multi-building complex is being constructed on a nine-acre site along one of Tegucigalpa's main thoroughfares near the city center -- Avenida Los Próceres. The site is in close proximity to the existing Embassy and other diplomatic facilities and government buildings.
- The new complex will include a seven-story chancery as well as other support facilities for the Embassy community. This new project will provide a sustainable, resilient, safe, and secure platform for U.S. diplomacy in Honduras.
- The construction contract was awarded in fall 2018 and completion is anticipated in 2022.

DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION

- The design of the new facility underscores the important diplomatic relationship between the United States and Honduras and provides a first impression for many of the United States.
- The new campus design is organized into three distinct eco-zones, reminiscent of the three primary natural landscape zones of Honduras: pine woodlands, savannas, and tropical forests. Characteristic plantings found in each of these zones are represented throughout the gardens, courts, plazas, and terraces, while local Honduran stone paving and site walls connect and unify the campus.
- The glazed terracotta walls of the chancery building are inspired by Honduran craft traditions, while the support buildings are to be clad in golden-toned stones with dark accents, copper metal, and wood paneling. Interior public spaces will also incorporate light-toned limestone, dark stones, and warm rich woods.
- The new chancery will feature a multimedia center to enhance outreach and U.S. public diplomacy efforts. This multimedia center, called the "American Center," will become an inviting location for press conferences, meetings, and presentations.

- Consular visitors to the campus will be invited through a separate consular pavilion and gardens with integrated site lighting, artwork, and plantings.
- A gallery space inside the chancery will combine event space, dining, and informal lounge areas.
- Through this project, an estimated \$26.5 million will be invested in the local economy, and the project will employ an estimated 750 Honduran workers at the peak of construction activities. Many of those workers will learn new skills that will help distinguish them from other construction workers in the local labor market.

SUSTAINABILITY

- The project targets Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED®) Silver Certification.
- Notable green features include solar photovoltaic (PV) electrical and hot water arrays, stormwater retention and infiltration, water-efficient drip irrigation systems, wastewater treatment and re-use of effluent for irrigation.
- Other sustainable features include an automated building controls system, radiant floor slab cooling, water conserving plumbing fixtures, and building-envelope reduction through low heat-gain windows and strategic shading design.
- The site design maximizes the use of locally sourced low-water use plants and trees, as well as preserving an existing mature local "heritage" Guanacaste tree located in the southeast area of the campus.

ART

- The permanent art collection, curated by the Office of Art in Embassies, will encompass art in a variety of media, including painting, photography, textile and sculpture, by both U.S. and Honduran artists. The collection will seek to create a dialogue of shared values between the people of our two countries. Highlights will include site-specific commissions that reflect an understanding of the diversity and richness of U.S. and Honduran cultural heritage.



Exterior



Consular

CONTACT INFORMATION

Vince Murphy
Press Officer
MurphyCV@state.gov

Christine Foushee
OBO Director of External Affairs
FousheeCT@state.gov

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