



NEWS RELEASE

McCarthy Building Companies breaks ground on South Mountain Community College Science Complex

New 19,000-square-foot building will be added with renovation work also planned

McCarthy Building Companies broke ground on construction of the \$13.6 million Science Complex project at South Mountain Community College, which includes the addition of a new 19,000-square-foot Physical and Life Science building.

The project, located at 7050 S. 24th St. in Phoenix, features approximately 32,000 square feet of expansion and renovation to the campus' existing Life Science and Physical Science buildings. That includes the renovation of approximately 13,400 square feet of existing space. The project will feature a variety of new and updated science laboratories, lab support space, a cadaver lab, faculty offices and informal learning spaces. The campus also currently houses a botanical garden that will be relocated to the entrance of the new Science Complex.

As part of the renovation, the current walkway between the existing Physical Science and Life Science buildings will be enclosed. This fusion of the two buildings and the new addition will create the new South Mountain Community College Science Complex with the goal of attracting and preparing future STEM students.

"This project represents the culmination of years of planning by the leadership team at South Mountain Community College with a goal of making the college a destination for those who are passionate about science," said Bryan Kuster, senior vice president of McCarthy Building Companies' Southwest Region Education Building Group. "Our laboratory construction team is working with our project partners to build a modern teaching facility that will deliver an on-time and on-budget project with minimal disruption to campus operations throughout the course of the project."

The project is scheduled for completion in June 2022 in time for the fall 2022 semester. Gensler is the design architect on the project. Major subcontractors include Urban Energy Solutions Inc., S&H Steel, Wholesale Floors, SKF Tile & Stone, Gothic Landscape, Marks Valley Grading and Kinkaid Civil Construction.

“With an emphasis on student success, the design concept puts "science on display" nearly doubling the size of space available to physical and life science programs,” said Martha dePlazaola Abbott, managing principal at Gensler Phoenix. “The design creates forward-thinking spaces that foster the critical mentorship and collaboration that occurs before and after classes helping to prepare students for careers in these growing fields.”

McCarthy also worked closely with South Mountain Community College on the launch of its Construction Trades Institute in fall 2020, which offers students a one-semester certificate in framing and carpentry, electrical or plumbing trades. The collaboration aims to increase the number of skilled craft professionals seeking work in construction within our state. According to Build Your Future Arizona, a project of the Greater Phoenix Chamber Foundation, 228,000 craft professionals will be needed in Arizona by December 2024 and craft professionals will make an average of \$4,803 more annually than recent college graduates.

About McCarthy Building Companies

[McCarthy Building Companies, Inc.](#) is the oldest privately held national construction company in the country – with more than 150 years spent collaborating with partners to solve complex building challenges on behalf of its clients. With an unrelenting focus on safety and a comprehensive quality program that spans all phases of every project, McCarthy utilizes industry-leading design phase and construction techniques combined with value-add technology to maximize outcomes. Repeatedly honored as a Best Place to Work and Healthiest Employer, McCarthy is ranked the 9th largest domestic builder (*Engineering News-Record*, May 2020). With approximately 3,700 salaried employees and craft professionals, the firm has offices in St. Louis, Atlanta; Collinsville, Ill.; Kansas City, Kan.; Omaha, Neb.; Phoenix; Las Vegas; Denver; Dallas, Houston; and San Diego, Newport Beach, Los Angeles; San Francisco, San Jose and Sacramento, Calif. McCarthy is [100 percent employee owned](#). More information about the company is available online at www.mccarthy.com or by following the company on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [LinkedIn](#) and [Instagram](#).