

# The Daily Transcript

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## Gafcon to oversee bond programs at Southwestern College

### Daily Transcript Staff Report

Southwestern Community College District has selected the construction management firm Gafcon, Inc. to provide bond program management services for the next five years.

Gafcon will manage the implementation of Propositions R and Z, approved by voters in 2008 and 2016, to finance \$789 million in capital improvements at the school district's campuses in Chula Vista, National City, San Ysidro and Otay Mesa.

At Southwestern Community College District's main campus in Chula Vista, new projects funded by bond measures have ranged from a physical education facility finished last year to a newly completed performing art center with an amphitheater.

Southwestern's board of trustees unanimously approved the agreement with Gafcon on April 13. The contract includes managing all aspects of planning and executing the comprehensive capital improvements, including development of a program management plan, and both preconstruction and construction phases.

Gafcon was selected from among five responsive firms after a rigorous review process involving proposals, interviews, and committee discussions.

"The Gafcon team brings valuable program management experience with other school district bond programs," said Kelly Hall, Southwestern's assistant superintendent/vice president for business and financial affairs, in a statement. "Being located in San Diego contributes to Gafcon's ability to deliver services efficiently and cost-effectively.

"We are pleased to partner with a firm that will add value to our students and our community; they have a proven track record of supporting bond programs to deliver complex, publicly funded projects on time and within budget."

With offices in San Diego, Los Angeles and Orange County, Gafcon has 34 years of experience supporting K-12 and community college construction bond programs for clients including the Grossmont-Cuyamaca Community College District, San Diego Community College District, Carlsbad Unified School District, San Diego Unified School District, and the Grossmont Unified High School District.

"We are honored to bring our bond program management expertise to Southwestern Community College District to deliver capital improvements that will benefit students, faculty and staff," Gafcon CEO Yehudi Gaffen said in a statement. "As a civic-minded partner, we embrace our role in advancing their vision for higher education and equity in the vibrant and diverse community of South Bay."

Gafcon, Inc. provides comprehensive services in construction, development, program and project management, as well as development and construction consulting support.

The firm has received numerous awards applauding its application of technology in its business practices, namely Gold and Silver Constructech Vision Awards.