



News Headlines

January 16, 2007 – BTG to Develop \$60 Mil Project for First United Methodist Church

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Full Story:

BTG Advisors, a real estate consulting firm, has been retained by First United Methodist Church of Los Angeles to facilitate the development of an approximately 200k sf, \$60 mil mixed-use project in downtown Los Angeles that will serve as the next home for its congregation.

First United Methodist Church, which has been housed in several locations during its 156-year history in downtown Los Angeles, will build the new facility in joint venture with a development partner on church-owned land at Olympic Blvd and Flower St, adjacent to downtown's South Park area. Plans call for a vibrant mixed-use development that may include affordable and market-rate housing, office space, a sky chapel and sanctuary that could be used by other local groups and congregations. The facilities will be developed following LEED certified standards for high-performance, sustainable buildings, also known as "green buildings."

"The new facility is badly needed, not only as a place of religious and community service, but as a catalyst to enliven the neighborhood and provide necessary housing," says Rev. Sandie Richards, pastor and executive director of the Los Angeles United Methodist Urban Foundation.

BTG Advisors will advise and represent the church through its RFQ and RFP process and selection of a joint venture development partner. BTG Advisors will also provide strategic and financial planning through the completion of the project.

"We are seeking partnerships with developers who understand the Church's mission and will work closely with them for mutual benefit," adds BTG Advisors CEO Richard Gentilucci.

BTG Advisors, which provides real estate owners, including non-profit organizations, with a broad range of consulting services, was founded by Gentilucci in 2005. Gentilucci is the former Managing Director of Shamrock Capital Advisors, an affiliate of Burbank-based Shamrock Holdings of California Inc, the investment arm of the Roy E. Disney family. BTG's clients include St. John's Health Center, Children's Hospital of Los Angeles and Shamrock Holdings, Inc.