

## Costa Verde Expansion in University City Could Include Boutique Hotel

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The Costa Verde Center in University City. Courtesy Regency Centers

The owner of the Costa Verde Center said Wednesday it is planning a \$230 million expansion of the University City shopping center that could include a boutique hotel and connection to the new trolley station.

The center is located on at the corner of Nobel Drive and Genesee Avenue, across from Westfield UTC, which is currently undergoing a major renovation.

Regency Centers said it is seeking input from the community about further development of the center, which was built in 1989. Under consideration are 30 new shops and restaurants, a 200-room boutique hotel, housing, improved parking, a rooftop garden and direct connection to the future Blue Line trolley station.

“The new Costa Verde Center will be designed to complement the current neighborhood,” said project manager David Malmuth. “While large-scale construction is underway at the regional shopping center across the street, very little neighborhood-focused retail has been added to the community. Our goal is to fill this gap by working closely with our neighbors to deliver more of what they love.”

Regency hopes to start construction on the project’s first phase in 2019 with a goal of opening in 2020.

The company operates 10 centers in San Diego County, including The HUB in Hillcrest, Balboa Mesa in Clairemont Mesa and 4S Commons Town Center in 4S Ranch.