

Westfield Remodels Shopping Center

Westfield, the owner of the shopping center in Century City, is constructing what it calls *The Makeover of the Century*, a two-year, \$127 million project to erect a new state-of-the-art AMC multiplex, an expanded Gelson's, a new alfresco style food court, and additional retail stores including two-story super stores.

Originally, AMC had hoped to open its new movie theatre complex in the fall of next year. However, construction delays probably mean that the complex won't open until sometime in 2006. The theatres will feature sixteen movie screens, stadium seating, digital surround sound, high definition projectors, additional leg room, a four-story glass front atrium, and a curved grand staircase. Although the current theatres are less than twenty years old, competition from newer and more modern facilities such as those at the Grove and the Arclight were probably a factor in the decision to build the new theatres. On the day that the new theatres open, the old ones in Century City will be shut down. The new theatres will contain the same number of seats as the old ones but because of the stadium seating will occupy more space.

Westfield plans on converting the space currently occupied by AMC into additional retail outlets.

Gelson's will be reconfigured. Although only 4,000 square feet will be added, the reconfiguration of the store will make it possible to add even more square footage of shelf space to the high end super-market. To complete work on the store, Gelson's closed for approximately two weeks in October.

The shady structure in the center court has been removed in order to construct a second level of retail and a new center design. Construction has started to remove the roof overhang and to demolish the building where The Body Shop, Via Spiga, and Panda Express, and The Yogurt Shop were located.

The mall's management office has been moved to a location adjacent to the New York Deli.

The post office has closed temporarily. It will reopen in a new space in time for the 2004 holiday season.

In the meantime, a mobile post office unit is open on Santa Monica Boulevard Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. When it is open, the mobile post office locates itself next to the shopping center's management office adjacent to the New York Deli.

Tract No. 7260 residents should note that Westfield has set up a toll-free redevelopment and construction hotline at (887) 257-7000. Westfield says that it is updating the hotline on a weekly basis and plans to respond to all comments in a timely manner. In addition, management offices are open between 10 a.m. and 9 p.m. Monday through Saturday and from 11 a.m. through 6 p.m. on Saturday. The management office can be reached at (310) 553-5300. The office can also be reached at its e-mail address: centurycity@westfield.com.

Due to the construction, some stores are closed. Those that will reopen include BCBG Max Azria, Courtyard Café & Yogurt Place, Gap Kids/Baby Gap, Limited Too, Panda Express, Papryus, Swarovski, and Wetzels Pretzels.