

# Integrating a Rich History and a Modern Design



PHOTO COURTESY OF IPD, INC.

## The six-level, 1,430-space garage creates an innovative blend of history and design celebrating Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Located in the Willowbrook area of south Los Angeles, the Martin Luther King Jr. Community Hospital Parking Structure A serves patients, visitors, and medical staff.

The project includes a newly aligned entry roadway, pedestrian walkways, and landscaping components featuring an outdoor media and gathering space.

The 42-acre campus includes an outpatient clinic, public-health center, urgent care, recuperative-care center, and medical offices.

As one of the busiest health-care facilities in the county, the newly reopened hospital has brought 1,400 jobs to the area.

### A Blend of Design

The designers intended to create a garage that complements the new architectural vernacular developed on the site as well as a comprehensive campus identity for the future.

Design elements include full-height slate-tile walls in the lobby areas and glass-backed elevators.

Exposed concrete areas on the facade are smoothly stacked and painted with strategic reveals.

Perforated, ribbed metal screen panels on the facade and a steel-and-glass canopy with backlit sign at the primary vehicular entrance articulate the exterior.

Other features include a split-faced, green slate-tile glazed panel with a Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. supergraphic, as well as a full-scale art installation covering one side of the building.

### Incorporating the Community

Civic art elements are incorporated throughout the lawn area. A local artist was hired to create a mural on the south facade facing the public street.

The mural comprises thousands of painted, bent metal panels.

When seen up close, the small, colorful panels may be read as individual brushstrokes, while from afar the piece is seen as a mosaic-like composition.

Perhaps the most significant aspects of the site design are acknowledgment of the importance of community and the need to provide a place for that community.

### A Nod to History

The “center green” is north of the structure and features colorful accent pavement embedded with recycled glass. The color of the glass gradates along the timeline, from red in 1965 to blue representing the current commitment to the hospital.

The historic past and significance of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. are captured through themes of reflection and inspirational quotes moving along the walkway. ■

## FACILITY FACTS



**LOCATION**  
LOS ANGELES, CA



**PARKING SPACES**  
1,430



**LEVELS**  
6



**OPENED**  
2018



**ARCHITECT OF RECORD**  
INTERNATIONAL PARKING DESIGN, INC.



**DESIGN BUILDER**  
McCARTHY BUILDING COMPANIES



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