

## LA To Open Largest Building for Homeless

By [Gabe Whisnant](#), Jun 19, 2024



A 19-story building in the center of Los Angeles' Skid Row is set to open to help homeless people in the city.

The building, which has 278 units and features skyline views, a gym and cafe, is being touted as the largest building in the region for homeless individuals. and is called the Weingart Tower.

The \$165-million project, which will ultimately have three towers, was inaugurated Wednesday with a dedication ceremony. Residents are expected to begin moving into the first tower at the end of July.

The towers will be built around the 11-story Weingart Center for the Homeless, which serves approximately 6,000 homeless people and 253,000 meals annually, according to its website.

The 2023 Greater Los Angeles Homeless Count reported a 9% rise in homelessness on any given night in Los Angeles County, estimating 75,518 people experienced homelessness.

According to reporting by the Los Angeles Times, the project will receive permanent financing from Proposition HHH, a voter-approved measure authorizing city officials to issue up to \$1.2 billion in general obligation bonds for thousands of units of permanent supportive housing. The Weingart Center will also receive state housing funds along with \$56 million in state tax credits.

The second tower is under construction and will have 302 rooms. A third tower, which will have 104 units, is in the planning phase, according to the Times. Upon completion, the towers will house approximately 700 homeless people.

Residents will also benefit from a host of Weingart Center's on-site support services that are "specially developed to help maintain housing stability and attend to residents' health and wellness requirements," according to a flyer for Weingart Tower 1.

The flyer shows that most of the first 278 units were available to rent between 30 to 50 percent of the Area Median Income (AMI), which is \$98,200 annually, according to the Los Angeles Housing Department's 2023 figures.

Newsweek emailed the Weingart Center Wednesday afternoon for comment.

The apartments are fully furnished units with central heating and air-conditioning, fully equipped kitchens and window coverings,

according to the Weingart Center's website.

The first tower also has a floor of offices for case workers, along with conference rooms. Other amenities include a music room, a computer room and a TV lounge. There are six common balconies in the first tower, including four with dedicated dog runs.

Former Senator Kevin Murray is the president and chief executive officer of the Weingart Center Association.

"We're trying to make our little corner of the world look and feel a little better," the Times.

Wednesday's grand opening of the first tower was scheduled to be attended by a host of local, state and national leaders, including Congresswoman Maxine Waters and Los Angeles Mayor [Karen Bass](#).