

## **Pasadena Star-News**

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### **Larry Wilson: Mod TOD a hit**

That TOD - transit-oriented development - getting its finishing touches above the Del Mar Station of the Gold Line is to my taste really, really good looking - the best new commercial architecture in Pasadena in some years.

Perhaps that's because local Stefanos Polyzoides' firm designed it. For all I know his architectural partner and wife Liz Moule was the pencil on this. But it's truly wonderful, the tower on the southeast corner of Del Mar and Arroyo Parkway looming like some outsize Timbuktu above the street and the light-rail tracks. And I mean that in a good way: the Mediterranean-muddy stucco of that part of the multi-faceted building really does recall the eerily beautiful earthen buildings of that African city, and the deep-blue tiles with which the tower is accented are counterpoint like the African sky.

There are supposed to be 347 rental units - 21 of them "affordable" - on the 4.2-acre site, which used to be the old Santa Fe station. Also 20,000 square feet of retail and underground parking for 1,200 cars. I dig the weird pastiche of totally differently designed green-boarded aspects of the building a little north on the parkway and a sudden color shift to red brick on the stucco to the west that fronts Raymond Avenue.