

# Los Angeles Times

## Lakers moving ahead on planned training center in El Segundo



General Manager Mitch Kupchak could be getting a new office as the Lakers look to build a new training facility in El Segundo by 2017. (Wally Skaljic / Los Angeles Times)

By **MIKE BRESNAHAN** *contact the reporter*

The Lakers took an expected, but important, step in the development of their new training facility, receiving preliminary approval from the El Segundo City Council last week to keep moving ahead with their plans.

A final vote will be taken in June. The team hopes to break ground in October and finish its planned \$80-million complex in the summer of 2017. The facility will be located on a five-acre parcel within a quarter mile of the Lakers' current location. The team will no longer share a building with the Kings and a trio of ice-skating rinks sometimes open to the public.

Since 2000, the Lakers have been at the place currently known as Toyota Sports Center, built for about \$24 million by Anschutz Entertainment Group.

There is only one basketball court at the center and the team long ago outgrew its office space. Several departments, including marketing, ticketing and community relations, are located at a different building down the street.

The Clippers' relatively new training facility is only five miles away in Playa Vista and represents everything the Lakers want — two basketball courts, plenty of executive offices and enviable video and weight rooms in 42,500 square feet.

The Lakers' minor league affiliate, the L.A. D-Fenders, will also be based out of their new complex. The D-Fenders currently play home games at Toyota Center.