Parkbench Architects Designs Labora Café's Flagship Location in North Park, San Diego

The New York-based firm brings its hospitality design work to California with a new matcha and coffee cafe on University Avenue.



New York City, New York Nov 4, 2026 (Issuewire.com**)** - Parkbench Architects, an architecture firm known for its hospitality, retail and regulatory work in New York City, has completed architectural design services for Labora Cafe's flagship location in North Park, San Diego. The project is the firm's first in California and extends its practice to the West Coast.

Labora Cafe is a specialty cafe focused on ceremonial-grade matcha made from first-harvest leaves sourced from Kyoto and Kagoshima, Japan, along with Vietnamese coffee and house-made specialty foams.

The North Park cafe occupies an approximately 1,800 square foot corner space at 2899 University Avenue, next to The Observatory North Park. Parkbench Architects designed the interior to carry Labora's minimalist, modern identity into a larger space built for one of San Diego's busiest neighborhoods for coffee and nightlife.

The full project, including a photo gallery of the finished cafe, is available at parkbencharchitects.com/labora-cafe-north-park.

About Parkbench Architects

Parkbench Architects is an architecture firm headquartered in New York City that provides architectural design, permitting and Architect of Record services for restaurants, retail, residential and commercial projects. The firm is known for guiding clients through NYC Department of Buildings filings, zoning analysis and regulatory approvals. Learn more at parkbencharchitects.com.

About Labora Cafe

Labora Cafe is a San Diego lifestyle cafe serving ceremonial-grade matcha and Vietnamese coffee with no extra sugars or syrups. Labora partners with local retailers and lifestyle brands and operates locations in the Convoy District and North Park. Learn more at laboracafe.com.

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