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Glendale baseball stadium groundbreaking Monday

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Glendale plans to break ground for its Major League Baseball spring training facility at 10 a.m. Monday.

The Chicago White Sox and Los Angeles Dodgers expect to start calling the two-team facility home in spring 2009, if all goes according to plan.

Dignitaries expected to participate in Monday's ceremony include Gov. Janet Napolitano; team owners Jerry Reinsdorf (Chicago White Sox) and Frank McCourt (Los Angeles Dodgers); Dodger notables Vin Scully, Jaime Jarrin and Tommy Lasorda; and elected officials from Glendale and Phoenix.

In addition, HKS Architects Inc. plans to unveil its renderings of the facility. The firm, which has offices in 20 major cities, began design work this summer.

Representatives of the Arizona Sports and Tourism Authority also plan to attend. It is providing \$54 million in funding to construct the baseball complex.

Glendale owns the 151 acres for the site, which stretches across both Glendale and Phoenix city boundaries. It is located at 107th Avenue between Camelback Road and Glendale Avenue.

The entire project is proposed to include the training facility, as well as a restaurant/retail development, hotel and an 18-hole golf course.

Rightpath Limited, a Phoenix-based company, this summer purchased from Glendale the 85 contiguous acres on which it is developing the commercial venues.

Stanley Consultants Inc. was awarded the nearly \$3.5 million contract to design the off-site infrastructure, such as roadways, sewers and water, that such a large-scale project requires.

The two baseball teams, using lease agreements for nearly 20 years, will operate and maintain the ballpark.