



County of Santa Cruz

COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE

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SUSAN A. MAURIELLO, J.D., COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

September 20, 2001

Agenda: September 25, 2001

Board of Supervisors
County of Santa Cruz
701 Ocean Street
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

REPLACEMENT OF THE MODULAR COURT BUILDINGS AND WATSONVILLE COURT FACILITY PLANNING

Dear Members of the Board:

During the recent Budget Hearings we provided your Board with a report on the status of court facility planning for the replacement of the modular court buildings at the County Government Center. As discussed in that report and as further detailed in a status report on August 21, 2001 we have been working with the Superior Court, the City of Watsonville and various agencies to refine the development and financing issues related to this project. As we informed your Board on August 21, 2001 we are focusing on the site at 200 Main Street in downtown Watsonville across from the Watsonville City Hall as the primary location for a replacement court facility. This site is currently planned as the location for the new Watsonville Public Library and various City offices with an adjacent parking structure. We believe the courts would be an excellent addition to this building.

The process that is currently underway involves a number of steps and significant coordination with the City of Watsonville. Meetings are being held on two levels. One, we are meeting with our architect, Peter Kasavan, the Courts and the other justice agencies to develop the programming needs and the required adjacencies to ensure that all County and Court needs are addressed, including security and public access. This programming and subsequent conceptual design will provide the basis for a preliminary cost estimate for the court facility and support offices. Secondly, we are meeting jointly with the City of Watsonville and their architectural and construction professionals to determine the design requirements for addressing the various occupants needs in this multi-use building. From this information, the City's construction management firm will develop an overall cost estimate for the building.

Meetings that have been held to date with the City have been very positive and we are working diligently and cooperatively on these planning phases. At a recent meeting with the City held on September 19, 2001 it was estimated that the program planning, conceptual design, building coordination and a preliminary cost estimate could be completed by early November, 2001 which would provide us with the basis to complete a preliminary financing analysis for the courts addition. Once that work *is* completed we would report to your Board and recommend the next steps in this process.

It is therefore Recommended that your Board:

- 1) Accept and file this report on the replacement of the modular court facilities and the Watsonville Courts facility planning; and,
- 2) Direct the County Administrative Office to report back to your Board with a further report on this matter on or before November 20, 2001.

Very truly yours,



Susan A. Mauriello
County Administrative Officer

cc. Superior Court
Carlos Palacios, City Manager, City of Watsonville
Jan Davison, Director, City of Watsonville Housing and Econ. Develop. Director
District Attorney
Public Defender
Probation
General Services
Peter Kasavan, Architect

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