



MEDIA ADVISORY OC 45-10
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Public Meeting and Invitation to Comment on Proposed New San Diego Central Courthouse

What: A public meeting hosted by the state of California's Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) will present information about the new San Diego Central courthouse proposed for the 1.4-acre site bounded by West "C" Street, Union Street, West "B" Street, and State Street. Some parties refer to the preferred site as the "Stahlman Block."

This meeting is a necessary step in the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) process. At the meeting, the public and other interested parties will have an opportunity hear an overview of the proposed project and provide comments on the AOC's draft environmental impact report (EIR).

The review period extends through 5 p.m. on September 22, 2010, so those unable to attend the meeting may also review the document and comment. The AOC's draft EIR and other project information, as well as instructions for submitting comments, are available on the California Courts Web site: www.courtinfo.ca.gov/programs/occm/projects_sandiego.htm

When: Wednesday, September 8, 2010, 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Where: Downtown Information Center, 193 Horton Plaza (above CVS Pharmacy), San Diego

Who: The AOC's Office of Court Construction and Management will present project information and a brief overview of the draft environmental impact report, and interested parties may ask questions or provide verbal comments or submit written comments.

Why: The proposed project would replace the County Courthouse, the Family Courthouse, and the Madge Bradley Courthouse in downtown San Diego. These buildings have been found to be unsafe, overcrowded, and inadequate for modern court operations. The project also includes a tunnel between the new courthouse and the Central Jail and a bridge between the new courthouse and the Hall of Justice. After completion of the new courthouse, the AOC intends to demolish the County Courthouse and Old Jail sometime in the future. The project, with an estimated total cost of \$633.9 million, will be funded by Senate Bill 1407, which finances critically needed courthouse construction, renovation, and repair through a portion of judicial branch fees, fines, and penalties, with no impact on the state's General Fund.

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