



NEWS RELEASE NR 44-09
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AOC Releases Final Environmental Impact Report for Proposed New Stockton Courthouse

SAN FRANCISCO—The Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) today published the final Environmental Impact Report for the proposed new Stockton courthouse. The [Final EIR](#) adds additional information from approximately 100 letters and messages from Stockton residents and includes the AOC's responses to the comments.

The new facility will house 30 courtrooms located in downtown Stockton. The estimated total cost for the 282,763-square-foot courthouse is \$259.9 million. The proposed site, Hunter Square Plaza, which is adjacent to the current courthouse, will be donated by the City of Stockton to the State. Public access to court services will be markedly improved in the new courthouse. This project, ranked in the "immediate need" priority group of the Trial Court Capitol-Outlay Plan, is one of the highest priority capital outlay projects for the judicial branch.

The current courthouse, built in 1963 with 22 courtrooms, suffers from inadequate security and overcrowding, and it is structurally and functionally deficient. The current facility cannot adequately serve the growing demand for court services. The county is projected to have 1.7 million residents by 2050, a 201 percent increase from 2000.

The Final EIR and [project feasibility report](#) are posted on the California Courts Website at www.courtinfo.ca.gov/programs/occm/projects_sanjoaquin.htm. The AOC is dedicated to building quality, cost-conscious courthouses that are appropriate for the region and meet the specific needs of the community.

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The Judicial Council is the policymaking body of the California courts, the largest court system in the nation. Under the leadership of the Chief Justice and in accordance with the California Constitution, the council is responsible for ensuring the consistent, independent, impartial, and accessible administration of justice. The Administrative Office of the Courts carries out the official actions of the council and promotes leadership and excellence in court administration.