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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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## **Preferred Site Selected for New Yolo Courthouse** *Major Step Toward Easing Court Overcrowding*

San Francisco—The State Public Works Board has approved the selection of a site in downtown Woodland for a proposed new courthouse for the Superior Court of Yolo County. The site, which takes up a city block bounded by Main, Fifth, and Sixth Streets and Lincoln Avenue, is the preferred site for the proposed new structure, which will house at least 14 courtrooms and consolidate seven unsafe and overcrowded court facilities in a single building.

Presiding Judge Dave Rosenberg stated, “We are delighted that the Yolo project is the first among those funded under Senate Bill 1407 to receive approval for a site selection.” SB 1407 was enacted by the state Legislature last year to provide up to \$5 billion in funding for 41 new court facilities using court user fees rather than the state’s general fund. A new courthouse for the Yolo Superior Court is one of 15 projects approved to move forward in fiscal year 2009-2010 and is ranked in the “immediate need” priority category for capital outlay projects for the judicial branch of California.

Although the site just approved in downtown Woodland is designated as the preferred site, alternative sites are still under review. However, approval of the Woodland site by the State Public Works Board clears the way for the Administrative Office of the Courts to proceed with environmental work under the California Environmental Quality Act and to negotiate a final agreement with the City of Woodland. The City owns one parcel on the preferred site and is in negotiations with private parties to acquire three remaining parcels. The City plans to acquire a nearby block for a parking facility to accommodate the planned courthouse as well as other downtown uses.

The courthouse project, with a total estimated cost of \$173 million, is scheduled for completion in summer 2013. Once the new courthouse is completed, the county will take over space vacated by the court in the historic Woodland Courthouse.

More about the project can be found on the California Courts Web site:  
[www.courtinfo.ca.gov/programs/occm/projects\\_yolo.htm](http://www.courtinfo.ca.gov/programs/occm/projects_yolo.htm)

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