



NEWS RELEASE NR 58-09

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 13, 2009

New San Bernardino Courthouse Design Approved

San Francisco—The State Public Works Board (SPWB) has approved preliminary plans for the New San Bernardino Courthouse, bringing the long-awaited project one step closer to the start of construction. The new building will house 35 courtrooms and two hearing rooms in 362,000 square feet, consolidating court operations from nine facilities and replacing six outdated and undersized buildings. The new courthouse will be located at 247 West 3rd Street, across the street from the existing courthouse. The City donated the seven-acre site for the building. The site will include 385 surface parking spaces for court visitors and staff as well as 40 secure parking spaces.

The high-rise building will have 11 stories plus a partially exposed basement level. The design, by architects Skidmore Owings and Merrill LLP, incorporates several innovative features, including ways to draw daylight into the building without heat and to collect and reuse rooftop rainwater. The building's features will qualify it to receive LEED Silver certification by the U.S. Green Building Council.

SPWB approval marks completion of design development and enables the project to move into working drawings. Rudolph & Sletten Inc., the construction-manager-at-risk for the courthouse, is scheduled to solicit bids for construction in fall 2010 and will perform outreach to ensure that local suppliers and local qualified subcontractors have the opportunity to participate. Construction is scheduled to begin in January 2011 and complete in early 2013. The \$341.9 million project, managed by the Administrative Office of the Courts, is funded from within the judicial branch by a portion of fees, assessments, and penalties, rather than drawing on the state's General Fund.

The Superior Court of San Bernardino County invites local residents to a design open house to learn more about the new courthouse:

Thursday, October 29, 4 p.m. to 6 p.m.
Central Courthouse Jury Assembly Room
351 N. Arrowhead Avenue
San Bernardino, CA 92415

Project information, including architect's renderings, can be found on the California Courts Web site:
http://www.courtinfo.ca.gov/programs/occm/projects_sanbernardino.htm

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