



**NEWS RELEASE** OC 19-10  
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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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## **Progress Continues on Riverside Midcounty Region Courthouse in Banning**

San Francisco—The first phase of architectural design for the Riverside Midcounty Region Courthouse in Banning is nearly complete, representing another milestone in the project, which is proceeding on schedule and under budget. The Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) has submitted preliminary plans for the new six-courtroom courthouse for approval by the California State Public Works Board (SPWB), which is expected to take action in summer 2010. Preliminary plan approval enables the project team to proceed to working drawings, the final phase of architectural design.

The Midcounty/Banning region is a fast-growing community, and the current Banning Courthouse is significantly overcrowded. For example, jurors must wait in hallways and sit on stairsteps while they wait to be called into the basement courtroom. The new courthouse will provide expanded space for the court, enabling improvements in operations and service.

Here is a timeline of completed and upcoming milestones:

**Budget Act of 2007:** Initial funding authorization

**November 23, 2009:** Close of escrow for acquisition of the 4.86-acre site on Ramsey Street, between Martin and East Williams Streets, from the City of Banning

**End of May 2010:** Installation of a full-scale courtroom mockup in Banning to test sight lines, ergonomics, and traffic flow. The media will be invited to view the mockup.

**Summer 2010:** SWPB approval of preliminary plans

**Budget Act of 2010:** Expected funding authorization for construction. This project is funded by the State Court Facilities Construction Fund, which comes from court user fees and does not rely on the state's General Fund.

**Spring 2011:** Current schedule for subcontractor bidding phase. The construction manager at risk, Gilbane Inc., will solicit for subcontractors and suppliers on this project, which has a construction budget of \$54.8 million.

**Summer 2011:** Expected groundbreaking and start of construction

**Fall 2013:** Completion of construction

More information: [www.courtinfo.ca.gov/programs/occm/projects\\_riverside.htm](http://www.courtinfo.ca.gov/programs/occm/projects_riverside.htm)

(more)

A short video providing an example of a similar courtroom mockup conducted in San Bernardino is available at [www.courtinfo.ca.gov/programs/occm/projects\\_sanbernardino.htm](http://www.courtinfo.ca.gov/programs/occm/projects_sanbernardino.htm).

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