



**MEDIA ADVISORY** OC 48-11  
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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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## **Public Meeting and Invitation to Comment on Proposed New Santa Rosa Criminal Courthouse**

**What:** A public meeting hosted by the Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) will present information about the new Santa Rosa Criminal Courthouse.

This meeting, a required step in the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) process, offers an opportunity for the public and other interested parties to hear an overview of the proposed project and comment on the AOC's draft environmental document.

The review period runs through 5 p.m. on June 24, 2011, and those unable to attend the meeting may view the information on the California Courts website at [www.courts.ca.gov/2802.htm](http://www.courts.ca.gov/2802.htm). For environmental documents and instructions for submitting comments, click the Background tab.

**When:** Thursday, June 16, 2011, 5:30 to 6:30 pm

**Where:** County Administration Center, Hall of Justice, Courtroom 15, 600 Administration Drive, Santa Rosa

**Who:** The AOC's Office of Court Construction and Management will present project information and a brief overview of the draft environmental document, a mitigated negative declaration. Interested parties may ask questions and provide verbal or written comments.

**Why:** The proposed project would replace the overcrowded Sonoma County Hall of Justice, Main Adult Detention Facility, and space occupied in the Family Court Services leased facility with a modern, secure facility of 15 courtrooms. It will consolidate in one location all criminal, traffic, juvenile dependency, and probate proceedings as well as family court mediation and probate investigative services and drug court support. It will also include features and services that the court is currently unable to provide, such as appropriately sized jury and in-custody holding rooms, attorney interview and witness waiting rooms, a children's waiting room, and entrance security screening. The project's estimated cost of \$178 million will be funded by Senate Bill 1407, which finances critically needed courthouse construction 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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*the Courts carries out the official actions of the council and promotes leadership and excellence in court administration.*