



MEDIA ADVISORY OC 60-10
Contact: Teresa Ruano, 415-865-7447

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
December 17, 2010

Construction Opportunity on New Hollister Courthouse Extended as Project Nears Construction

SAN FRANCISCO—Local construction firms and suppliers vying to participate in construction work worth approximately \$30 million on the long-awaited new courthouse in downtown Hollister now have a little extra time to prequalify for the project. To ensure that local businesses have ample opportunity to participate, the project's construction-manager-at-risk, Kitchell Contractors, Inc, has extended the prequalification deadline until January 5, 2011, and modified some terms of the request for qualifications. The project, to construct a two-story, three-courtroom courthouse housed in 41,500 square feet at the intersection of 4th Street and Monterey, is nearing construction.

"It's satisfying to be able to report that construction is imminent as well as to reflect on the degree of collaboration that has brought us to this milestone, said Gil Solorio, Executive Officer of the Superior Court of San Benito County. "Apart from the Administrative Office of the Court's leadership, it's important for the Superior Court to recognize the ongoing local support and assistance provided by the Hollister City Council, San Benito County Board of Supervisors, San Juan Bautista City Council and the San Benito County Sheriff's Department. No less important are the individual citizens and community groups whose ideas and influence helped shape the project for the better."

Here are upcoming milestones on the project:

January 5, 2011: Prequalification closes

February 2011: Subcontractor bidding

February or March 2011: Ceremonial groundbreaking; date to be determined

Spring 2011: Start of construction; date to be determined. Before construction begins, the state must hold its sale of the lease-revenue bonds that will finance construction. The State Treasurer's Office will determine the timing of the bond sale, after which bids will be awarded and construction will begin. It's important to note that these are lease-revenue bonds, not general obligation bonds. The revenues to repay the bond come from within the judicial branch, with no impact on the state's General Fund, and the bonds do not require voter approval.

Prequalification details and a revised request for qualifications have been posted at Kitchell's project web site: hollistercourthouse.kitchell.com/default.html

More information about the project: www.courtinfo.ca.gov/programs/occm/projects_sanbenito.htm

###

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.