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Contact: Philip Carrizosa, 415-865-8044

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## **Site Finalized for New Yuba City Courthouse**

SAN FRANCISCO—The State Public Works Board (SPWB) today approved the acquisition of a site in Yuba City for the new courthouse for the Superior Court of Sutter County. The site is approximately 3.8 acres at 1077 Civic Center Boulevard within a larger county-owned parcel. Adjacent to City Hall and the County Jail, the site has been set aside for the new courthouse for many years, and the jail already has a partially built tunnel to the proposed location of the new courthouse.

“This is an important step in bringing our courthouse out of the 19th century and into the 21st century,” said Presiding Judge Christopher Chandler of the Superior Court of Sutter County. “Our county Board of Supervisors has shown great foresight in maintaining the lot north of the jail for a new courthouse for many years and has worked closely with us to make this vision a reality. We’re very pleased that the plan can now move forward.”

The state Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC), which is managing the project, will acquire the land from the county by way of an equity exchange in which the county will receive the court’s equity in the Courthouse East building, with the AOC paying the county \$335,000 for the added value of land developed as parking. SPWB approval clears the way for close of escrow on the property, expected by mid-May, as well as for architectural design.

The proposed project will house seven courtrooms and will consolidate operations from three inadequate facilities—the historic Sutter County Courthouse (Courthouse West), the Annex, or Courthouse East, and a leased facility that serves as the Family Law Center. The

The AOC is proceeding with the architectural design, for which it has engaged the northern California architecture firm of RossDrulisCusenbery. Architectural design is expected to proceed through late 2012, with construction scheduled to start in early 2013. The courthouse project is scheduled for completion in fall 2014.

The new courthouse project was ranked as an “immediate need” in the judicial branch’s capital-outlay plan and is among the branch’s highest-priority infrastructure projects. It is one of 41 projects funded by Senate Bill 1407, which finances critically needed courthouse construction, renovation, and repair through a portion of judicial branch fees, penalties, and assessments, without reliance on the state’s General Fund.

More information about the project is on the California Courts website at [www.courts.ca.gov/2803.htm](http://www.courts.ca.gov/2803.htm).

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