



**MEDIA ADVISORY** OC 40-11  
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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
May 10, 2011

## **Public Meeting and Invitation to Comment on Environmental Impact Report Being Prepared for Proposed New Courthouse in Ukiah**

**What:** A public meeting hosted by the state of California's Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) to solicit information about the environmental impact report (EIR) being prepared for the proposed new Ukiah courthouse. Two potential courthouse sites are currently under consideration.

This meeting is a necessary step in the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) process. At the meeting, the public and other interested parties will have an opportunity to hear an overview of the proposed project and provide comments on the scope and content of the EIR as well as issues and alternatives that should be addressed in the report.

The review period extends through 5 p.m. on May 25, 2011, so those unable to attend the meeting may also review the document and submit written comments. The AOC's notice of preparation for the EIR and other project information and instructions for submitting comments are available on the California Courts website at [www.courts.ca.gov/2816.htm](http://www.courts.ca.gov/2816.htm). Click the Background tab for environmental information.

**When:** Tuesday, May 17, 2011, 5:00–6:30 p.m.

**Where:** City Council Chambers, City Hall, 300 Seminary Avenue, Ukiah

**Who:** The AOC's Office of Court Construction and Management will present project information, and interested parties may ask questions, provide verbal comments, or submit written comments regarding the scope of the EIR.

**Why:** The proposed project will replace two unsafe, overcrowded, and physically deficient court facilities: the old Mendocino Courthouse and the Willits branch, which was closed at the end of 2009. The project will be funded by Senate Bill 1407, which finances critically needed courthouse construction, renovation, and repair through a portion of judicial branch fees, fines, and penalties, with no impact on the state's General Fund. The AOC plans to complete construction of the new courthouse in 2015. More information on the project is available at: [www.courts.ca.gov/2816.htm](http://www.courts.ca.gov/2816.htm)

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