

The Superior Court of California County of San Joaquin

September 23, 2011

Hon. Brad Hill, Presiding Justice Court of Appeal, Fifth District 2424 Ventura Street Fresno, CA 93721

Members of the Court Facilities Working Group

Dear Justice Hill and Members of the Court Facilities Working Group:

This letter is in response to your request of the courts that have facility projects funded by SB1407 and the need of the Court Facilities Working Group to address the very complex issue of how to move forward on the SB1407 projects. This letter specifically addresses the only project, the Superior Court of California, County of San Joaquin has funded by SB1407, our Renovation and Addition to the Juvenile Justice Center (JJC Project).

According to the August 22, 2011 report prepared by OCCM, there are six (6) distinct phases of a project: 1) Review Project Scope; 2) Site Selection; 3) Site Acquisition; 4) Preliminary Plans; 5) Working Drawings; and 6) Construction. Our JJC project has already completed the first three phases, almost effortlessly. It is one of the 12 projects in the Preliminary Plans phase. The AOC, court and county have all worked extremely collaboratively to get through these first three phases rather quickly. Our architects have been working on the fourth phase, Preliminary Plans and we anticipate those plans to be completed in the current fiscal year. What remains are phases 5-working drawings and 6-construction.

Staff from OCCM, judges, court staff, county staff and our architects have all committed a tremendous amount of time, effort and resources into this project thus far. To stop this project when we are so close to completion does not seem to be the most efficient use of anyone's resources. Although our project is considered to be a small project, that does not lessen its importance. This project was categorized in the "Immediate Need" category and continues to be an immediate need for our court. This court continues to struggle with its resources and how to make the most efficient use of those dwindling resources. The additional courtroom this project provides our court at JJC will allow us the opportunity to utilize our courtroom resources much more efficiently. This courtroom will be needed not only when the AB159 judges are funded and appointed, but also as a courtroom that can be utilized due to the closure of our courthouse in Tracy. The completion of this courtroom will allow it to be used to accommodate some of the cases that are now being transferred from Tracy to our Stockton courthouse. Our JJC project is located in French Camp, which is in between Tracy and Stockton and geographically closer to Tracy than Stockton. Furthermore, at great expense to the court, the sheriff and probation now currently must transport direct file juveniles from the Juvenile Justice Center where the new

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Letter to Justice Hill Re: JJC Project

courtroom is being built, to our main court in Stockton, 20 minutes away. The juveniles are then held during the day in holding cells that were not designed for juvenile defendants. In addition to the issues of transporting them, the holding cells in the main courthouse were not designed for sight and sound separation for juveniles.

One other important fact I wanted to point out was regarding the land the additional courtroom will be built on. The land is owned by the county. The county is allowing the courtroom to be built on this land without a charge to the project. In other words, no funds were used for the land acquisition phase of this project. I point this out because the Project Profile (attached) does not indicate that this project includes an "Economic Opportunity (e.g. Donated Site)". The specific details have been outlined in an amended Joint Occupancy Agreement between the AOC and the county.

On behalf of our Presiding Judge Robin Appel and I, thank you for allowing our court an opportunity to be heard regarding our JJC project. Should you or the working group have additional questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely.

Rosa Junqueiro

Court Executive Officer

C: Robin Appel, Presiding Judge Charlotte Orcutt, Presiding Judge, Juvenile

Attachment



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Project Profile – SB 1407 Capital Projects

San Joaquin County

\$3.9 million

Renovation and Addition to Juvenile Justice Center

1 Courtroom – 4,063 Gross Square Feet

Courthouse Site is:

Owned

Current Phase:

Preliminary Plans are scheduled to be completed in FY 11-12 (Q2)

FY 11-12 Issues:

1) Confirm project to complete Preliminary Plans (current phase)

2) Fund or postpone Working Drawings

A. Financial Status

| 1 | Total Project Budget\$3 | 3,877,000 |
|---|--|-----------|
| 2 | Total Funds Committed (Not Expended - June 30, 2011)\$ | 218,000 |
| 3 | Total Funds Spent to Date (June 30, 2011)\$ | 24,000 |

B. Project Features

| 1. | Results of Application of Prioritization Methodology | | | Immediate Need | |
|----|--|--------------------------|---------|----------------|--|
| | | Security | 5.0 of | 5.0 | |
| | | Overcrowding | .4.0 of | 5.0 | |
| | | Physical Condition | .5.0 of | 5.0 | |
| | | Access to Court Services | .1.5 of | <u>5.0</u> | |

| 2. | New Judgeships Provided in Project | .1 (Last 50) |
|----|--|--------------|
| 3. | Economic Opportunity (e.g. Donated Site) | None |

C. Key Issues

1. None

For more information: http://www.courts.ca.gov/documents/sanjoaquin_juvenile_pfr.pdf