

Notice of Exemption

TO:
Office of Planning and Research
1400 Tenth Street, Room 121
Sacramento, CA 95814

FROM:
Administrative Office of the Courts
455 Golden Gate Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94102-3688

Project Title: New Santa Barbara Criminal Courthouse

The proposed project includes the construction of a new Santa Barbara Criminal Courthouse and related parking for the Superior Court of California, County of Santa Barbara (Superior Court). The proposed courthouse will be approximately 98,000 building gross square feet (BGSF) and will include eight courtrooms and space to support courthouse operations. Secure parking, a sally port and in-custody holding will be located on the basement level. Other parking facilities include surface parking and a parking structure.

The proposed project includes the acquisition and/or the demolition and removal of existing structures on the following sites:

1. 118 East Figueroa Street, APN 029-211-002, including the demolition and removal of the existing Figueroa Division of the Superior Court, which is approximately 37,000 BGSF;
2. The portable trailer located behind the Figueroa Division, APN 029-211-002, including the demolition and removal of the 2,100 BGSF trailer, currently located immediately behind the Figueroa Division;
3. 1015 Santa Barbara Street, APN 029-211-009, including the acquisition, demolition and removal of an existing 340 square foot retail building;
4. 1021 Santa Barbara Street, APN 029-211-008, including the acquisition of this parcel;
5. 1025 Santa Barbara Street, APN 029-211-007 and 006, including the acquisition, demolition and removal of an existing 15,000 square foot retail building;
6. 1028 Santa Barbara Street, APN 029-212-023, including the acquisition and repaving of the lot for surface parking; and
7. 1016 Santa Barbara Street, APN 029-212-019, including the acquisition and repaving of the lot.

The new courthouse will be up to three-stories high (with a maximum height of approximately 60-feet in some sections of the building) and will include public access (pedestrian) off of Figueroa Street, via a public plaza. The Figueroa Street building facade will be single-story with the building height stepping back toward Carrillo Street to accommodate the courtrooms and required circulation elements.

A new split-level parking structure will replace and supplement the existing surface parking currently located on 1016 Santa Barbara Street and 230 Garden Street, as well as the surface parking located behind the county probation building. The parking structure will also support the new courthouse and alleviate the demand for on-street parking. It will be one-story high (up to 15 feet) off of Santa Barbara Street and two-stories high off of Garden Street (up to 30 feet). Additional surface parking will be located at 1028 Santa Barbara Street.

Project Location – Specific:

The proposed courthouse would be constructed on the following parcels within the City of Santa Barbara:

1. 118 East Figueroa (APN 029-211-002, 1 acre);
2. 1015 Santa Barbara Street (APN 029-211-009, .17 acres);
3. 1021 Santa Barbara Street (APN 029-211-008, .16 acres);
4. 1025 Santa Barbara Street (APN 029-211-007, .12 acres);
5. 1025 Santa Barbara Street (APN 029-211-006, .27 acres); and
6. 123 East Carrillo Street (APN 029-211-025, .97 acres) which currently houses the county probation building and related parking. The proposed project would use only part of the parcel currently being used

for surface parking. The parking would be replaced by the parking structure being built off of Garden Street. The existing county probation building would remain on-site.

The proposed parking structure would be constructed on the following parcels:

1. 230 Garden Street (APN 029-212-09 and 11, 1.1 acres); and
2. 1016 Santa Barbara Street (APN 029-212-22, .12 acres).

The parking structure will be located on the 230 Garden Street parcel. Vehicular access to the parking structure will be off of Garden Street as well as via a driveway off of Santa Barbara Street.

The proposed surface parking will be constructed at 1028 Santa Barbara Street (APN 029-212-023, .1 acres).

County: Santa Barbara County

City: Santa Barbara, CA

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Administrative Office of the Courts

Exempt Status:

- Ministerial (Sec. 21080 (b) (I); 15268);
- Declared Emergency (sec 21080(b) (3); 15269(a));
- Emergency Project (sec 21080(b) (4); 15269(b) (c));
- Categorical Exemption Class 2, Public Resources Code §15302 - Replacement or Reconstruction & Class 32 Public Resources Code §15332 In-fill Development Project
- Statutory Exemptions. State code number:

Reasons why project is exempt:

This project is exempt per a Class 2 exemption because the project consists of the replacement of existing structures and facilities where the new structure will be located on the same site as the structure replaced and will have substantially the same purpose and capacity as the structures replaced.

This project is exempt per a Class 32 exemption due to the following reasons:

1. The project is consistent with the applicable general plan designation and all applicable general plan policies as well as with applicable zoning designation and regulations;
2. The project is located within the city limits of the City of Santa Barbara, will occupy no more than five acres, and is surrounded by urban uses;
3. The project has no value as habitat for endangered, rare or threatened species;
4. Approval of the project will not result in any significant effects since:
 - a. Changes in traffic patterns will not have a significant impact on existing conditions;
 - b. Noise from construction work will have a short duration and will not exceed standards of the Santa Barbara General Plan;
 - c. Air quality impacts of the construction-related traffic will be minor, so that the project will not obstruct implementation of an applicable air quality plan nor produce a substantial contribution to air quality violations; and
 - d. Water quality effects will be minor since construction operations will comply with requirements of the Regional Water Quality Control Board's Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan.
5. The project site is already served by all required utilities and public services.

Lead Agency Contact Person: Laura Sainz

Area Code/Telephone Number: 916-263-7992

Signature: L F Sainz **Date:** April 12, 2011 **Title:** Environmental Program Manager

■ Signed by Lead Agency

Date received for filing at OPR:

