



ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE
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**NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT A MITIGATED
NEGATIVE DECLARATION AND
NOTICE OF PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD:
September 29, 2010 Through October 28, 2010**

New Hanford Courthouse for Kings County

The purpose of this notice is to inform interested parties that the Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC), the staff agency of the Judicial Council of California, is considering adoption of a mitigated negative declaration for compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) for a new courthouse in Hanford, CA (see figure on the following page). The AOC proposes to acquire a parcel in Hanford from the County of Kings. The AOC will construct a new courthouse facility and operate the facility for use by the Superior Court of California, County of Kings (Superior Court). The new courthouse will provide improved security for public visitors, judges, and courthouse staff; improve access to judicial facilities for residents of Hanford and other parts of Kings County; provide courthouse facilities that meet current building standards for public use; and provide new judicial facilities to improve judicial efficiency and serve additional judges. After completion of the new courthouse, the Superior Court will vacate several facilities in Kings County Government Complex in Hanford and the courthouse in Lemoore. The AOC has prepared a Draft Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration to comply with requirements of CEQA; the Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration disclose and evaluate the project's environmental impacts.

WHY THIS NOTICE?

The purpose of this notice is to provide you with the opportunity to learn more about the proposed project and to provide comments to the AOC concerning the proposed project. The deadline for submitting comments is October 28, 2010.

HOW DO YOU PARTICIPATE?

The AOC encourages your participation. You may submit comments concerning the Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration to:

Mr. Jerome Ripperda
Administrative Office of the Courts
Office of Court Construction and Management
2860 Gateway Oaks, Suite 400
Sacramento, CA 95833-3509
E-mail: Jerry.Ripperda@jud.ca.gov or FAX: 916-263-8140.

All mailed comments must be postmarked by October 28, 2010. The deadline for e-mailed comments or faxed comments is 5 PM on October 28, 2010.

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The AOC will hold a public meeting at the location listed below on October 20, 2010 from 3:30 PM to 5:00 PM to discuss the CEQA documents and receive public comments:

Administration Building Multi-Purpose Room
Kings County Government Center
1400 W. Lacey Blvd.
Hanford, CA

WHERE DO I GET MORE INFORMATION?

You may request a copy of the document by sending a request for the document to Mr. Ripperda at the address listed above. Alternatively, you may download a copy of the document from the following website:

http://www.courtinfo.ca.gov/programs/occm/projects_hanford.htm.

In addition, a copy of the CEQA documents will be available for review in the government document repository of the following locations:

Kings County Library Hanford
401 N. Douty Street
Hanford, CA 93230-3908
Phone: (559) 582-0261

The full administrative record for the project is available at: Administrative Office of the Courts, Office of Court Construction and Management, 455 Golden Gate Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94102-3668. Please call 415-865-4017 for an appointment.

CONTACT

If you have questions about the project or wish to discuss the project, please contact Mr. Jerome Ripperda at 916-263-8865 or by e-mail at the address listed above.

