



**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
AGENDA LETTER**

Agenda Number:

Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
105 E. Anapamu Street, Suite 407
Santa Barbara, CA 93101
(805) 568-2240

Department Name: CEO
Department No.: 012
For Agenda Of: 1/8/2013
Placement: Administrative
Estimated Tme: NA
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from:
Vote Required: Majority

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Department Chandra L. Wallar, County Executive Officer, 568.3400
Director(s)
Contact Info: Dennis Bozanich, Assistant to the CEO, 568-3400

SUBJECT: Letter of Support for New Santa Barbara Criminal Courts Building

County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Auditor-Controller Concurrence

As to form: N/A

Recommended Actions:

That the Board of Supervisors consider and authorize the Chair to sign, on behalf of the Board, a letter to the Judicial Council of California supporting adoption of recommendations allowing the Santa Barbara Superior Court's new criminal court building project to move forward.

Summary Text:

A new criminal court building project in Santa Barbara received a unanimous recommendation of support from the Court Facilities Working Group. The Judicial Council of California is set to consider for adoption these recommendations from the Working Group for moving ahead a variety of courthouse projects across the state, including Santa Barbara. Since funding is less than required for all court projects and the current dangerous practice of walking prisoners back and forth across the street between existing court facilities is not sustainable, the Board's letter of support would be an important contribution to the decision making process.

Background:

The new criminal court building will be located within the downtown civic core of Santa Barbara. It will provide a much needed new criminal courthouse and will also enhance the economy of our County.

The construction of a new criminal courts building in conjunction with the renovation and integration of the existing Figueroa Courthouse will improve security. It remedies a dangerous and long-standing situation where inmates are walking across our public streets every day. There is strong competition for the limited SB 1407 money available for construction projects. If authorized, the attached letter of

support would be sent to the Judicial Council of California promoting the adoption the unanimous recommendation of the Court Facilities Working Group to allow the Santa Barbara Superior Court's project to move forward.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

No fiscal impacts are associated with the letter of support or adoption of the recommendation of the Court Facilities Working Group by the Judicial Council.

Attachments:

Letter of Support to the Chief Justice and the Judicial Council

Authored by:

Dennis Bozanich, Assistant to the County Executive Officer

CC:

Gary Blair, Executive Officer, Santa Barbara Superior Court