



Superior Court
State of California
County of Lake
255 N. Forbes Street
Lakeport, California 95453
707-263-2374

MARY E. SMITH

COURT EXECUTIVE/CLERK
JURY COMMISSIONER

NEW LAKEPORT COURTHOUSE

Frequently Asked Question's (FAQ's)

Summer 2010

How is the new courthouse funded?

The courthouse will be funded without impact to the state's General Fund. The funds will come from statewide increases in court user fees, authorized by Senate Bill 1407, which passed in 2008. This bill approved the issuance of up to \$5 billion in lease revenue bonds to fund this project and 40 others throughout the state, to be repaid by court fees, penalties, and assessments.

Why is the county spending money on a new courthouse when there are so many other local needs?

The project is funded and managed by the state and not the County. The courts are a separate branch of government, now independent of the County administrative structure. We share the same building, the County collects court-imposed fees and fines, and we work together in many areas, but we are separate branches of government.

Why do we need a new courthouse?

The court occupies the 4th floor of the existing Lakeport Courthouse, which poorly serves the growing needs of the Superior Court. The current courthouse is severely overcrowded, lacks sufficient parking, and lacks adequate security features, causing unnecessary risk to the staff and public who use the building.

Additionally, as anyone who has been summoned for jury duty is very aware, there is no place to wait prior to being sent into a courtroom for the formal jury selection process. The new courthouse will have a jury assembly room with ample seating, vending, and restroom facilities.

What will happen to the current courthouse when the new courthouse is complete?

The court will vacate the fourth floor, but County offices will remain in the existing courthouse building in downtown Lakeport. County departments will eventually be able to utilize the vacated space on the fourth floor to help address the County's space needs.

How will this project help our local economy?

These projects provide valuable economic stimulus in local communities—the Lakeport project is estimated to create more than 1,700 direct and indirect jobs as it progresses through design, construction, and completion. The construction manager for the project will perform local outreach to ensure that qualified local subcontractors and suppliers have the opportunity to bid on construction work when that phase nears. Construction is scheduled for fall of 2012 – summer of 2014.

Other Information:

www.courtinfo.ca.gov/programs/occm/projects_lake_lakeport.htm

Judicial Branch Site Selection Policy:

www.courtinfo.ca.gov/programs/occm/documents/site_selection_acquisition_policy.pdf

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Project Advisory Group

Mark Brannigan, Director Community Development & Utilities, City of Lakeport

Bill Brunetti, member of the public

Margaret Silveira, City Manager, City of Lakeport

Kelly Cox, Administrative Officer, County of Lake

Kim Clymire, Public Services Director, County of Lake

Anthony Farrington, Supervisor District 4, County of Lake

Melissa Fulton, CEO, Lakeport Chamber of Commerce

Jon Hopkins, District Attorney, County of Lake

Richard Knoll, Redevelopment Director, City of Lakeport

Chris Macedo, Chief Bailiff, Sherriff's Department, County of Lake

Hon. Richard C. Martin, Presiding Judge

Rodney Mitchell, Sheriff, County of Lake

Anne Ording, Project Manager, Administrative Office of the Courts

Mary E. Smith, Court Executive Officer