# New San Luis Obispo Courthouse Project Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration

San Luis Obispo, California

Thursday, June 5, 2025



### **Our Team**



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> Janell Ramirez Senior Analyst Judicial Council

#### CALIFORNIA COURTS

THE JUDICIAL BRANCH OF CALIFORNIA

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**Debra Lilly** Environmental Consultant Montrose Environmental

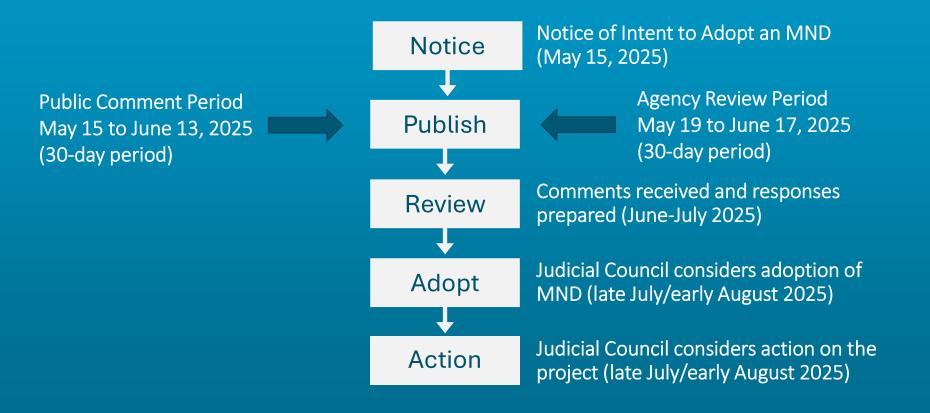
### **Meeting Agenda**

- 1. CEQA Purpose and Process
- 2. Overview of the Proposed Project
- 3. Overview of the IS/MND
- 4. How to Submit Comments and Questions

Basic Purposes of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) (California Code of Regulations Section 15002)

- Disclose environmental impacts of the project to decision makers and the public
- Identify feasible mitigation measures to reduce significant effects
- Invite public input on the project and the environmental analysis

#### **Environmental Review Process & Timeline**

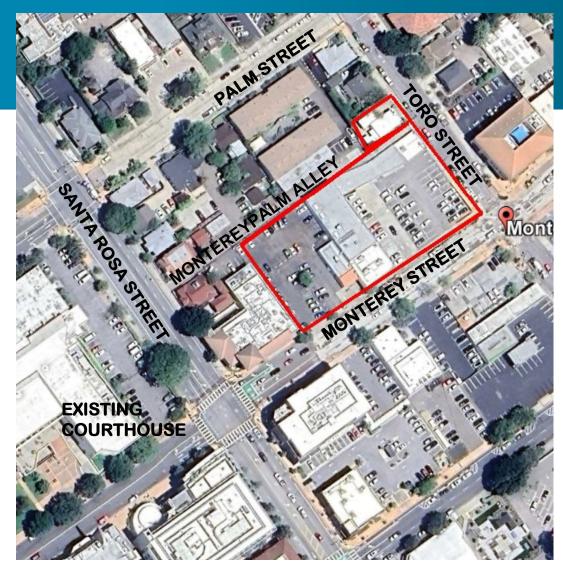


## **Project Objectives**

- 1. Relocate the existing inadequate and obsolete 12-courtroom facility, improving the public's access to justice and enhancing public services
- 2. Relieve the current space shortfall and increase security at the Superior Court buildings
- 3. Consolidate court operations in San Luis Obispo from three buildings to one location
- 4. Decommission use of a seismically deficient building (designated by FEMA as Very-High-Risk) from service as a courthouse

## **Project Location**

- San Luis Obispo County
- City of San Luis Obispo
- State to purchase up to two parcels (approx. 1.43 acres) for Project site
- Existing site use: SLO County Parks and Recreation Department and Public Works (1144 Monterey Street)
- Located 1 block from existing Courthouse building

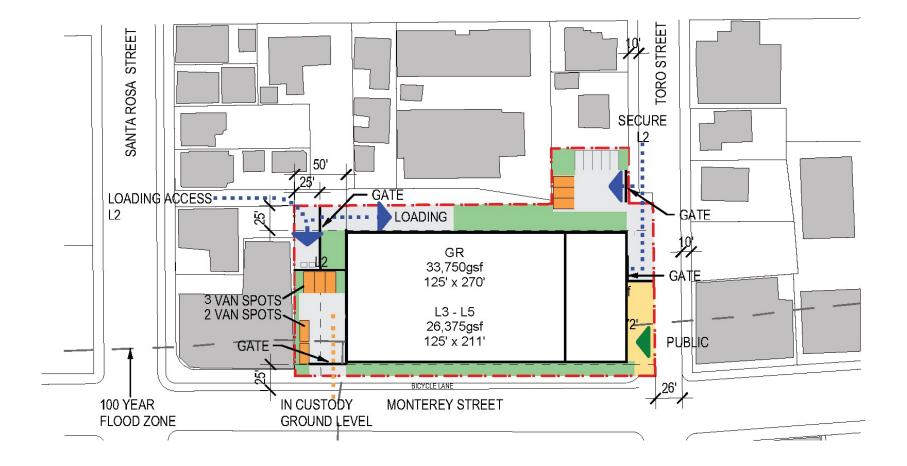


## **Project Description**

- Proposed acquisition of property(ies) at 1144 Monterey Street and 969 Toro Street
- Demolition of an existing 15,780-square-foot County building and residential structure
- Closure of westerly lane of Toro Street and a portion of Montereypalm Alley
- Construction of 5-story, approximately 145,000-square-foot courthouse:
  - 12 courtrooms
  - Judges' chambers, courtroom support
  - Court operations and Clerk's office
  - Family Court services
  - Self Help area

- Administration and IT
- Jury services
- Sheriff area
- Central in-custody holding area
- Building support areas
- 17 secure parking spaces, with public parking garages and transit center nearby

#### **Conceptual Courthouse Layout**



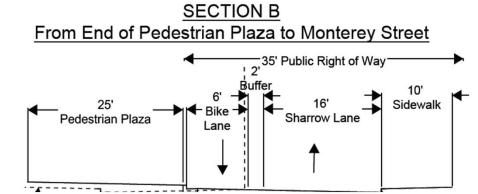
#### **Street Circulation**



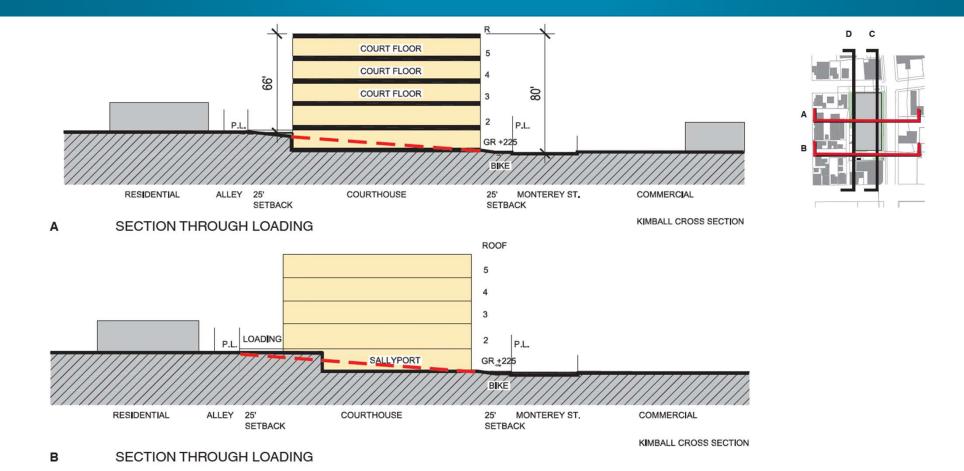
Left: Looking north on Toro Street from Monterey Street

Below: Looking west on Monterey Street from Toro Street





### **Conceptual Courthouse Layout**

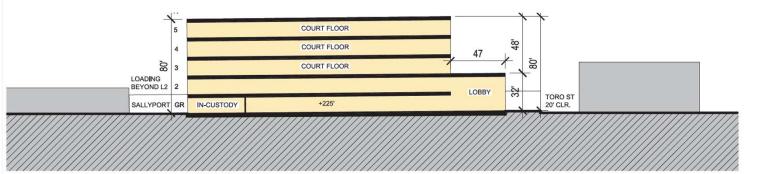


## **Conceptual Courthouse Layout**

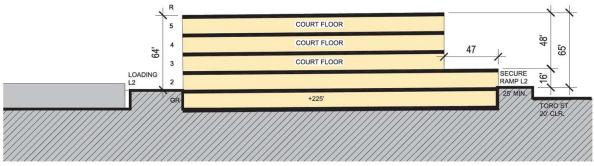
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## **Chapters of the IS/MND**

- Chapter 1, Introduction
- Chapter 2, Project Description
- Chapter 3, Environmental Checklist
- Chapter 4, References
- Chapter 5, Report Preparation
- Appendices

#### **Resource Areas Analyzed in the IS/MND**

- Aesthetics
- Agricultural Resources
- Air Quality
- Biological Resources
- Cultural Resources
- Energy
- Geology, Soils, and Seismicity
- Greenhouse Gas Emissions
- Hazards and Hazardous Materials
- Hydrology and Water Quality
  White = less than significant or no impact

- Land Use and Planning
- Mineral Resources
- Noise and Vibration
- Population and Housing
- Public Services
- Recreation
- Transportation
- Tribal Cultural Resources
- Utilities and Service Systems
- Wildfire

Blue = less than significant with mitigation

## **Project Information Is Available**

At the following locations:

• San Luis Obispo Public Library:

995 Palm Street, San Luis Obispo, CA 93401

• Project website:

https://courts.ca.gov/facilities/san-luis-obispo-county-new-san-luisobispo-courthouse

• At Judicial Council office:

455 Golden Gate Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94102

## **Your Input**

- 1. Ask questions about the CEQA process
- 2. Provide comments on the adequacy of the IS/MND (as defined by CEQA Guidelines Section 15151)
- 3. Provide comments on the completeness of the IS/MND

#### Provide your input by June 13, 2025 (end of 30-day Public Review period)

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Input can also be provided today – preferably in writing or until June 13 by comment card or email