



## TRIAL COURT FACILITY MODIFICATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

### MINUTES OF OPEN MEETING

March 2, 2026

12:03–12:58 p.m.

Judicial Council of California – Videocast for Public Access

---

**Advisory Body Members Present:** Hon. Donald Cole Byrd, Chair  
Hon. William F. Highberger, Vice-Chair  
Hon. John B. Ellis  
Hon. Jennifer K. Rockwell  
Hon. Vanessa W. Vallarta  
Mr. Jarrod Orr  
Ms. Anabel Z. Romero  
Ms. Nocona Soboleski

**Advisory Body Members Absent:** Hon. Brad R. Hill  
Hon. Eric J. Wersching  
Mr. David H. Yamasaki

**Others Present:** The following Judicial Council staff/others were present:

Mr. Michael M. Roddy, Court Executive Officer, Superior Court of San Diego County  
Ms. Erika Sperbeck, Chief Administrative Officer, Executive Office  
Mr. Tamer Ahmed, Director, Facilities Services  
Mr. Jagan Singh, Deputy Director, Facilities Services  
Mr. Harry O'Hagin, Principal Manager, Facilities Services  
Ms. Maria Atayde-Scholz, Principal Manager, Facilities Services  
Ms. Peggy Symons, Principal Manager, Facilities Services  
Mr. Jeff Anderson, Manager, Facilities Services  
Mr. Robert Carlson, Manager, Facilities Services  
Ms. Jennifer Chappelle, Manager, Facilities Services  
Mr. Jack Collins, Manager, Facilities Services  
Ms. Nanci Connelly, Manager, Facilities Services  
Ms. Satyendra Jenamani, Manager, Facilities Services  
Mr. Andre Navarro, Manager, Facilities Services  
Mr. Paul Terry, Manager, Facilities Services  
Ms. Donna Jorgensen, Supervisor, Facilities Services  
Ms. Jennifer Merrill, Supervisor, Facilities Services  
Mr. Yassen Roussev, Supervisor, Facilities Services  
Mr. Steve Shelley, Supervisor, Facilities Services  
Mr. Robert Stetson, Supervisor, Facilities Services  
Mr. Paul Treanor, Supervisor, Facilities Services  
Mr. Guillermo Urena, Supervisor, Facilities Services  
Mr. Doug Walthour, Supervisor, Facilities Services  
Ms. Karyn Chung, Facilities Analyst, Facilities Services  
Mr. Edward Gonzalez, Security Coordinator, Facilities Services  
Ms. Akilah Robinson, Associate Analyst, Facilities Services  
Ms. Kristin Kerr, Supervising Attorney, Legal Services  
Ms. Erin Stagg, Attorney II, Legal Services  
Ms. Nirlip Syan, Attorney II, Legal Services

---

**OPEN MEETING**

---

**Call to Order and Roll Call**

In the chair's temporary absence, the vice-chair called the open session of the meeting to order at 12:03 p.m., roll was taken, and opening remarks were made.

**Approval of Minutes**

The advisory body approved the open session minutes of its meeting on January 30, 2026.

*(Motion: Romero; Second: Ellis)*

---

**PUBLIC WRITTEN COMMENTS**

---

No public comments were received.

---

**DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

---

The committee received the following update:

**1. Court-Funded Facilities Request Update:**

- In response to a question raised at the January 2026 TCFMAC meeting, the following statements were made regarding superior court authority to lease facilities to support staff training:
  - Courts do not have delegated authority to independently execute leases for staff-related activities, and the Judicial Council is responsibility for all leasing activities including short-term (even single-day needs) and long-term lease agreements.
  - The Superior Court of Nevada County's one-day facility lease for staff training was processed as a court-funded facilities request.

**2. Judicial Council Facilities Program:**

- A Senate Subcommittee No. 5 hearing on facilities was held on February 26, 2026, to discuss the Judicial Council's facilities program:
  - Branch leadership presented information in support of the Governor's budget while highlighting ongoing facilities program challenges, such as:
    1. Seismic vulnerability of courthouses statewide, with reference to a 2017 Los Angeles Times article identifying more than 100 courthouses as seismically unsafe; and
    2. Courthouse replacement timeline concerns, such that it would take approximately 160 years to replace the state's courthouse inventory and by which time even the relatively new courthouse in Long Beach (completed in 2013) would require replacement.

---

**ACTION ITEMS (ITEMS 1-4)**

---

**Action Item 1: List A – Emergency Facility Modification Funding (Priority 1)**

The committee approved 156 projects for a total of \$4,325,165 to be paid from facility modification (FM) program funds previously encumbered for Priority 1 projects.

*(Motion: Highberger; Second: Ellis)*

**Action Item 2: List B – Facility Modifications Under \$100K (Priority 2)**

The committee approved 81 projects for a total of \$980,865 to be paid from FM program funds previously encumbered for Priority 2 projects under \$100K.

*(Motion: Highberger; Second: Romero)*

**Action Item 3: List C – Facility Modification Cost Increases Over \$50K**

The committee approved cost increases over \$50K for two projects for a total of \$504,558 to be paid from FM program funds. *(Motion: Rockwell; Second: Vallarta)*

**Action Item 4: List D – Facility Modifications Over \$100K (Priority 2)**

The committee approved seven Priority 2 FMs over \$100K for a total cost to the FM program budget of \$1,687,738. *(Motion: Vallarta; Second: Soboleski)*

---

**DISCUSSION ITEMS (ITEMS 1-2) (NO ACTION REQUIRED)**

---

**Discussion Item 1 – List E – Court-Funded Facilities Requests (CFRs)**

The committee received an update on CFR projects approved by the Facilities Services Director since the last meeting and any CFR projects cancelled.

**Discussion Item 2 – Facilities Maintenance Performance Report**

The committee reviewed the report on facilities maintenance performance.

---

**A D J O U R N M E N T**

---

There being no further business, the open session of the meeting was adjourned at 12:58 p.m., and the advisory committee moved to the closed session of the meeting.

Approved by the advisory body on April 6, 2026.