



Judicial Council of California

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Title

Court Facilities: Disposition of Chico and Corning Courthouses (Action Required)

Summary

The Corning Courthouse in Tehama County and the Chico Courthouse in Butte County have been permanently closed by their respective courts and are unsuitable to the needs of the judicial branch. In each case, local county government has expressed a strong interest in acquiring the closed court facility, and the local court supports such a disposition. To eliminate the council's continuing liability and expense in holding these permanently closed court facilities and to realize the value of those assets in fair-market-value sales transactions, the Facilities Policies Working Group recommended authorizing and approving the sale of those courthouses as either nonsurplus or surplus properties, depending on how the Legislature frames the disposition of the San Pedro Courthouse, which was approved by the Judicial Council in 2015.

Recommendation

The Facilities Policies Working Group recommended that the Judicial Council, effective February 26, 2016:

1. Authorize and approve the sale of the Corning Courthouse to Tehama County and the Chico Courthouse to Butte County in fair-market-value transactions, with the final form of the legislation authorizing sale of these court facilities conforming to the final form of legislation authorizing disposition of the San Pedro Courthouse;
2. Direct council staff to take all actions necessary to obtain statutory authorization to dispose of these facilities and to draft and negotiate purchase and sale agreements with the counties; and
3. Delegate to the Administrative Director the authority to sign a real property purchase and sales agreement for each facility, contingent on legislative authorization for the sale of the properties.