

October 25, 1993
93-574S.nr.ssj

Introduced by: Sims

Proposed No.: 93-574

MOTION NO. 9156

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A MOTION approving a Project Program Plan and authorizing remodel of the 2nd and 9th floors of the courthouse pursuant to this plan.

WHEREAS, the King County council appropriated funds in 1991 to remodel the 12th and 6th floors of the courthouse, and

WHEREAS, this funding was provided to move the law library to the 12th floor and expand and remodel space on the 6th floor for the Prosecuting Attorney's office, and

WHEREAS, additional funds were reserved in contingency in 1992, pending council approval of a scope of work for the 12th floor remodel project and legislative decision providing authorization for additional judicial positions;

WHEREAS, the Metro/King County merger and expansion has made it necessary for the county council to relocate to the 10th and 12th floors, thereby displacing a portion of the chambers of one courtroom on the 10th floor, and

WHEREAS, the superior court has requested replacement of the 10th floor courtroom, secure courtrooms for high profile, high risk trials, and reconfiguration of existing courthouse space;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT MOVED by the Council of King County:

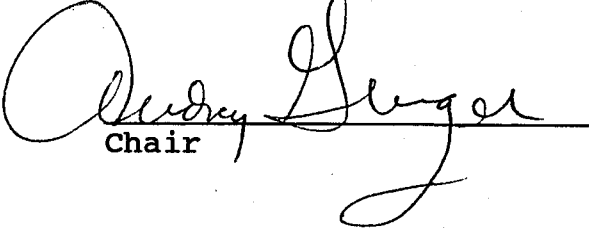
A. The council hereby approves the Project Program Plan contained in Attachment A, and

1 B. The executive is hereby authorized to proceed with
2 design and construction of secure courtrooms on the 9th floor
3 of the courthouse and courtrooms and administrative space on
4 the 2nd floor of the courthouse as provided for in the Project
5 Program Plan.

6 PASSED this 25th day of October, 1923

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KING COUNTY COUNCIL
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON


Chair

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11 ATTEST:

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13 Clerk of the Council

14 Attachment A: Project Program Plan

9156

PROJECT PROGRAM PLAN

October 19, 1993

Secure Courtrooms on CH 9 Temporary Courtrooms on CH 2

0.0 Introduction and Summary

The Metro/King County merger and consequent expansion of the County council from 9 to 13 members necessitated the relocation of the Council to the 10th and 12th floors of the Courthouse. The capital project to accommodate this relocation and expansion affects multiple floors in the Courthouse, with impacts on space for several other agencies whose space needs are also considered as part of the project. These events provide an opportunity to address Superior Court's space needs and security concerns as well.

In order to establish secure court space, a secure wing will be provided on the east wing of the 9th floor. 9th floor Courtrooms will be remodeled to provide a high profile courtroom with adjacent court administrative space. Video arraignment will be conducted in a high security courtroom with secure holding space. This relocation of the arraignment function will allow better use of the current arraignment court on the 12th floor for other high volume, in-custody calendars, such as criminal pleas and accelerated sentencing.

The schedule for court allocation and relocation is as follows:

1. The chambers for the expanded Council will displace one courtroom on the 10th floor. This space will be programmed for other uses by the Superior Court.
2. The remodel of 9th floor space will combine two small courtrooms into one large courtroom. This action displaces a second courtroom
3. The arraignment function will be reassigned to the 9th floor and the 12th floor will be reprogrammed for other high volume in custody calendars.

Space for these three courtrooms will be temporarily supplied by remodeling the second floor space currently occupied by Computer and Communications Services (CCS). This space will revert to general government use following completion of the Regional Justice Center and the final relocation and consolidation of the Courts, in accordance with the County Space Master Plan.

1.0 Background

1.1 Programs to be accommodated

One of the ninth floor courtrooms will accommodate video arraignment of in-custody defendants, and arraignment for out-of-custody defendants. The second, larger courtroom will accommodate high profile, high security trials with larger audience capacity. Both of these courtrooms will also be available for general purpose trial use, if necessary.

1.2 Facilities presently occupied

The Superior Court occupies space on Courthouse floors B, 2,3,7,8,9,10 and 12. The space affected by this program plan is on floors 2, 9, 10 and 12.

The 2nd floor space currently includes general service Courtrooms and the Ex Parte court. Administrative functions on the second floor affected by this program include the Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) program. Remodeled space will also be used by the CASA program to allow it to expand to meet space standards. Following CASA's relocation, the Ombudsman's office will expand into CASA's old space.

The 9th floor space that will be affected by this program plan includes 1 regular sized and 2 small sized general service courtrooms.

The 10th floor space that will be affected by this program plan includes 1 small special courtroom, with no jury room or jury box, limited access and small chambers and bailiff area.

The 12th floor space that will be affected by this program plan includes a semi-secure, specialized small courtroom with no jury box or jury room, small chambers and inadequate administrative space. It was originally designed as an in-custody arraignment courtroom.

2.0 Program Plan Objectives

The primary aim of this program plan is to provide Superior Court with adequate space to accommodate the mission of the Court. This includes sufficient space for Court activities, including Court hearings and deliberations, administrative and support functions and other court business. It also includes an area that is secure and safe for high profile, high security trials, and for conducting video arraignments of in-custody defendants.

3.0 Facility Requirements

For meeting the program objectives of secure courtrooms and video arraignment, the southeast wing of the courthouse 9th floor will be remodeled. This will include sealing off the wing to establish a secure perimeter, with an electronic screening station at the entrance to the secure wing monitored by security personnel. The conversion of the 2 small courtrooms into one high profile courtroom will allow large audiences and the press to attend high-profile, high security trials. The current standard size courtroom will be modified to handle video arraignments of in-custody defendants. Current court administrative areas will be converted into hardened, secure holding space to house in-custody defendants within the secure perimeter. Space will also be developed to handle the administrative functions of the chief criminal court, including the arraignment calendar, again within the secure perimeter.

With cooperation and consent of the Superior Court, the temporary courtrooms on the second floor will be constructed along the lines of outlying district courts, that is, without some of the traditional finishings customary to permanent Superior Courts. This will allow cost savings and ease of conversion to general government space when these courtrooms are no longer needed on the second floor.

4.0 Alternatives to Meet Program Plan Objectives and Facilities Requirements

The recommended alternative as described in this Project Program Plan is the only one capable of fulfilling the program requirements. The reasons for this exclusivity center around the lack of available space within the courthouse and lack of suitable buildings proximate to the courthouse. Additional alternatives will not become viable until the completion of the Regional Justice Center.

The recommended solution will be fully described in section 5.0

A SITE MASTER PLAN IS NOT REQUIRED FOR THIS PROJECT

5.0 Itemization of Work to be Accomplished for Recommended Solution

See design drawings. (To be initiated)

6.0 Budget and Schedule

Upon Council approval of this Project Program Plan, funds previously set aside for Criminal Justice Projects will be allocated to this project. The initial estimate is approximately \$1,093,289.

Preliminary budget

The estimated budget for this project is approximately \$1,093,289. The breakdown is as follows:

Area	Cost	Totals
Three 2nd floor Courtrooms	\$254,845	\$764,536
9th floor Secure Courts	\$258,558	\$258,558
Video Arraignment	\$70,195	\$70,195
		\$1,093,289

Schedule

To be initiated

7.0 Appendices