



MEMORANDUM

Date: September 6, 2016

To: The Honorable Chair and Members
Pima County Board of Supervisors

From: C.H. Huckelberry
County Administrator 

Re: **Historic Pima County Courthouse Restoration**

As you may know, interior demolition is underway by contractor Barker-Morrissey for the Historic Pima County Courthouse. The contract for this work was awarded by the Board of Supervisors on August 2, 2016. Barker-Morrissey was able to reduce their demolition cost; hence, providing savings in the bid to the County by recycling copper wire, plumbing fixtures and various metals during the demolition process. This project will remove many of the interior panels and ceiling as well as electrical, mechanical and plumbing systems, some of which date to the original construction in 1929.

We hope to award a contract to the lowest bidder from Pima County's Historic Preservation Job Order Contract (JOC) list for the historic exterior restoration in the coming weeks. This will be followed by a contract to replace the electrical, mechanical and plumbing systems; this contract will also include provisions for specific tenant improvements for new tenants expected to occupy the building under the concept of a regional visitors center.

Below is information regarding the Historic County Courthouse:

- Located at 115 N. Church Avenue;
- It was the third Pima County courthouse;
- Designed by architect Roy Place;
- Built by general contractor Herbert Brown in 1929;
- The building was finance by a \$300,000 County bond;
- Building design: Spanish Colonial Revival style;
- Originally, the building housed the County Assessor; County Recorder; County Treasurer; Board of Supervisors; County Engineer; School Superintendent; offices for Superior Court Judges; courtrooms; jury/witness rooms; court reporters; probation officers; Clerk of the Board; Justice Courts; Sheriff; law library and County Jail;
- The "Dillinger Courtroom" remains intact and will be preserved and restored. John Dillinger and gang were captured, arraigned, and housed in the Pima County Courthouse January 25 through 29, 1934. The Pima County Sheriff allowed more than 2,000 spectators to file past the four men in their cells in the Pima County Courthouse before they were extradited to Indiana and Ohio;
- The south addition was designed by Blanton and Cole;

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- The south addition construction was completed in 1954 by M.M. Sundt Construction Company at a cost of \$460,000;
- Numerous interior renovations have occurred between 1954 and the present; and
- The former Pima County Courthouse was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1978.

Much of the costs associated with the first phase of demolition, historic exterior restoration and electrical, mechanical and plumbing system replacements are being financed with savings associated with the Public Service Center construction. As you will recall, early in the process of developing a Joint Courts Complex, the County reallocated, through the standard process, \$5 million of General Obligation Bonds that were earmarked for Historic Courthouse renovation. These funds were not needed at the time and were returned to finance the present renovation and restoration of the Historic County Courthouse.

CHH/anc

c: Tom Burke, Deputy County Administrator for Administration
Lisa Josker, Director, Facilities Management
Linda Mayro, Director, Office of Sustainability and Conservation