



for the adaptive reuse of the Old County Jail from qualified interested parties prior to the initiation of an EIR.

DISCUSSION:

The Old Monterey County Jail located at 142 W. Alisal Street, Salinas was constructed in 1930 with additions and modifications conducted during the 1950s and 1960s. The facility ceased functioning as a jail in 1977 with the opening of the Monterey County Adult Rehabilitation Facility at the Natividad Campus which is located five miles from the Old Monterey County Jail, Salinas Courthouse, and County Administration Building located on the Government Center Campus. Following transfer of all County jail functions to the Natividad Campus, the facility was used briefly as a repository for County documents and was then closed.

The Old Monterey County Jail is historically significant as the site of the incarceration of Cesar Chavez in 1970. In December of 1970, Cesar Chavez was arrested and incarcerated in the Old Monterey County Jail due to his involvement with the Salinas Valley Lettuce Boycott. His imprisonment in the Old Monterey County Jail represents the confluence of Monterey County’s agricultural, immigrant, and labor histories. It is for this reason that the Old Monterey County Jail is listed in the National Register of Historical Places under Criterion B (association with the lives of persons significant in United States history). The building is not on the National Register for its architectural style.

The County has conducted fifteen separate condition assessment and historical reports/studies in the past nineteen years. There have been at least six (6) separate projects to stabilize the building in the past fourteen years along with two (2) major projects in the past nine (9) years to mothball the facility. With the imminent completion of the East/West Wing Courthouse renovation project in the summer of 2018, the master plan for the Government Center Campus at 168 W. Alisal Street, Salinas, and its initial EIR recommendations must be addressed and brought to conclusion. Staff recommends final implementation of the Master Plan to include determination of the role, function, and use of the Old Monterey County Jail facility.

FINANCING:

The previous 2014/2015 feasibility study and County committee reviews for the adaptive reuse of the Old Monterey County Jail analyzed nine (9) options with associated project costs for each option. No funding for either an EIR or a project have been identified at this time. Therefore, there is no current impact to the General Fund for seeking an RFP for the adaptive reuse of the Old Monterey County Jail. Staff costs associated with developing an RFP are included in the FY 2017-18 Adopted Budget for the RMA.

OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT:

The RMA will work with RMA-Real Properties and the Office of Economic Development to develop the RFP.

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS STRATEGIC INITIATIVES:

The recommended action supports the following Board of Supervisors’ Strategic Initiative below:

- Economic Development
- Administration
- Health & Human Services
- Infrastructure
- Public Safety

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Approved by: Carl P. Holm, ACIP, RMA Director

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Attachment:

Attachment A - Nine options from the 2014/2015 Adaptive Reuse Study