



## Board Report

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**File #:** BC 18-117, **Version:** 1

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- a. Consider options for the former site of the County modular buildings 1, 2, 3, and 6 located behind the Superior Court at 240 Church Street (southwest corner of Gabilan and Church Streets); and
- b. Provide direction to staff as to how to fund the proposed options

### RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the Budget Committee:

- a. Identify a preferred option for the former site of the County modular buildings; and
- b. Provide direction to staff as to how to fund the proposed options.

### SUMMARY:

Modular buildings 1, 2, 3 and 6 were demolished and removed in September 2018 as part of the Monterey County Government Center East/West Wing Renovation Project. Board referral 2018.22 seeks to provide immediate direction to staff for short- and long-term plans for the property located behind the Superior Court at 240 Church Street (southwest corner of Gabilan and Church Streets). Questions have been presented on whether to create park and open space, expand parking, or something else. Staff has developed three options for the former site of the County modular buildings 1, 2, 3, and 6, including conceptual sketches and rough order of magnitude project estimates.

### DISCUSSION:

Immediately following their removal, woodchip mulch was placed throughout the open space as a temporary cover and the construction fencing removed. Mulch was selected as an inexpensive and low maintenance short-term measure, short of leaving it as dirt, while the Board of Supervisors weighs options for a long term permanent development of this site. Options for the Board to consider include:

- Option 1. Provide landscaped open space and buffer areas next to paved off-street parking in approximately equal parts (Attachment A).
- Option 2. Maximize off-street parking and circulation behind the government center and convert Alisal off-street parking to open space (Attachment B).
- Option 3. Return the entire area where the modular buildings stood back to landscaped open space (Attachment C).

All options require full design and engineering. These options include components like grading (exporting and importing soils), new electrical service (lighting), irrigation, landscaping and hardscape. Staff has developed rough-order-of-magnitude (ROM) project estimates for these options as an aid for comparing their fiscal impacts (Attachment D). The option selected by the Board of Supervisors will be further refined by staff prior to commissioning design work. Should the selected option include a parking component, staff will define eligible uses.

The EIR for the government center identifies the corner of W. Gabilan and Church as green space. A condition requested by the City of Salinas was to return this area to open space. Subsequently, the City of Salinas adopted, and the Board of Supervisors accepted, the Vibrancy Plan that identifies Gabilan and Church Streets on the Government Center campus as the best location for a shared parking facility. The long-term vision for

the County campus that staff previously shared with Board of Supervisors is a parking garage at the southwest corner of Gabilan and Church Streets and replace visitor parking from Capital/Alisal with open space to satisfy the open space condition of the government campus EIR. This would require a subsequent environmental assessment.

City and County staff have continued to coordinate efforts toward

The requirement for increased parking in this area is particularly critical when you consider other projects that affect parking in this area:

- Transportation Authority of Monterey County (TAMC) is preparing the train station for redevelopment, which will affect the County's leased parking at that location for jurors and staff.
- A temporary warming shelter at 111 W. Alisal has been extended to April 2020, so that parking lot is not available while the modular is located there.
- City of Salinas completed a parking study that recommends changing on-street parking around Govt center from 4 hrs. to 90 min.
- City of Salinas is considering converting surface parking lots to affordable housing.

All of these are contributing factors for more space allocated for parking

**OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT:**

Concurrence from the City of Salinas is expected as part of the development of final decision.

**FINANCING:**

No funding sources are identified for any Option at this time. Staff will return to the Budget Committee, Capital Improvement Committee and Board of Supervisors with a more refined scope and cost estimates once an Option is selected.

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**Attachments:**

Attachment A - Option 1 Concept

Attachment B - Option 2 Concept

Attachment C - Option 3 Concept

Attachment D - Rough-Order-of-Magnitude Project Estimates

Attachment E - Location Map