



Building A Better Long Beach

June 15, 2009

REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY BOARD MEMBERS
 City of Long Beach
 California

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve and authorize the Executive Director to execute a Memorandum of Understanding with the Judicial Council of California for the development of a regional courthouse in downtown Long Beach. (Central, Downtown and West Beach – Districts 1, 2)

DISCUSSION

On February 2, 2009, the Redevelopment Agency (Agency) approved a Letter of Intent (LOI) with the Judicial Council of California, acting through the Administrative Office of the Courts (State), for the development of a new regional courthouse in downtown Long Beach (Courthouse). The terms and conditions in the LOI are the framework for a Property Exchange Agreement (Agreement) that is currently under negotiation and will be presented to the Agency for consideration in the upcoming weeks. One such term from the LOI that is being incorporated into the Agreement relates to the Agency's jurisdiction over the development of the Courthouse.

In order to effectuate the Agreement and clarify roles and responsibilities, the two parties have negotiated a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) that states the project will not be subject to the Agency's design review process. However, the MOU states that the State shall consider in good faith the Agency's comments with respect to design review with the goal of effecting mutually agreeable density, height, and aesthetics of the Courthouse development.

Agency staff is confident the State will abide by these terms, as evidenced in the Agency staff's participation in design meetings to date. The approval of the MOU will also allow staff to finalize negotiations of the Agreement within the next few weeks.

SUGGESTED ACTION:

Adopt recommendation.

Respectfully submitted,

CRAIG BECK
 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

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