

Superior Court of California County of Mendocino 100 N. State St., Ukiah, CA 95482 www.mendocino.courts.ca.gov/

PRESS RELEASE
Contact: Kim Turner

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

September 4, 2025

THE UKIAH SKYLINE WILL SOON BE CHANGING

Construction of the new Mendocino County courthouse is approaching a major milestone, which will become visible to the Ukiah community in the coming weeks. Beginning September 9th, large trucks will begin to bring the structural steel frames for the exterior of the building to the project site at the corner of Perkins Street and Hospital Drive. The structural steel members for the courthouse were fabricated in Idaho and will be delivered to the project over a two-week span. A 265-foot crane will be erected on the job site to lift and place the prefabricated steel beams so that they can be bolted to the foundation. It is anticipated that the exterior outline of the structure will be completed by early October. Once the frames are in place, the decking for the floors and roof will be installed over the remaining weeks of October and into November. As soon as the structural steel is in place, the large crane will be removed and smaller unit will be installed on the job site for an additional two months.

The north and south parking lots have already been paved and a new road, which will be Courthouse Boulevard, has also been paved, connecting Perkins Street with Clay Street. The goal is to complete as much site work and building exterior work as possible before the rainy season begins.

Once the decking is installed, the entire courthouse structure will be "boat-wrapped" in heavy plastic so that the builder and subcontractors can focus on interior construction during the wet months.

The project has been "green-lighted" by Office of the State Fire Marshall, Department of the State Architect and numerous other regulatory agencies. This design-build project is among the first courthouses in California to be constructed using this model. The design-build approach has consistently led to faster, more cost-effective project delivery because a high degree of collaboration drives innovation and risk reduction. The design-build contractor on this project is Hensel Phelps (HP), a nationally recognized builder with an impressive list of government projects. HP works closely with Fentress Architects on courthouse design and the owner's representative Kitchell CEM for overall project management. Judicial Council of California is the courthouse owner and provides all funding and a high degree of project oversight. The Mendocino County

Superior Court is a key partner throughout design and construction and is involved in all design decisions.

Following the completion of the exterior frame of the building, Hensel Phelps will host a "Topping Out" ceremony, currently scheduled for October 15th. Steel beams will be decorated for posterity by several design-build partners, and the team will formally recognize the steel fabricators and installers as this phase comes to a close. More information will be provided about this ceremony as the date gets closer and the public will be invited to attend.

For more information contact:

Kim Turner
Court Executive Officer
100 N. State Street, Room 303
Ukiah, CA 95482
kim.turner@mendocino.courts.ca.gov

#####