

**Annex Background Information**  
**Non-Disclosure Agreements (NDAs) / Confidentiality Statements**

- Built in 1952—before ADA standards and modern security needs, the Capitol Annex housed the Governor, 115 of California's 120 lawmakers, and was among the state's most-visited public buildings, welcoming millions of visitors, including foreign dignitaries and tens of thousands of school children each year.
- The construction of the New Capitol Annex will not only address vital health, life safety, accessibility, but also security deficiencies.
- Based on the visibility of the State Capitol, security of the building and safety of visitors is of utmost importance. For this reason, confidentiality agreements were signed by all individuals who have knowledge of the design and construction of the building.
- It is common practice to sign a confidentiality, or non-records or non-disclosure statement of some sort for public works projects and have the project operate under an NDA. Projects have NDAs because some information should be limited for the protection of staff, building occupants, and the public. For example, courthouses, airports, and other high profile government buildings often do not release sensitive building information.
- Confidentiality of information is also common place for contracts entered into by the Legislature so private entities are not benefitting from the work procured for the public's benefit.
- Legislative leadership does not support using NDAs for bill drafting or negotiating legislation. The legislative process should be open and deliberative, with engagement by legislators and the public.
- Joint Rules Committee is eager to showcase the project once litigation is resolved. Before litigation, Joint Rules Committee held several hearings, which may be reviewed at <https://annex.assembly.ca.gov/resources-publications/hearings>.
- Construction of buildings are costly and the Capitol Annex is no exception. However, the project is employing hundreds of construction workers and other professionals, which helps the California economy. This does not include the other entities assisting with this large public works project. According to the Economic Policy Institute, for every 100 people hired on a construction project, 226 total indirect jobs are created. For every \$1 spent, an average of more than \$3 are contributed to the economy.
- Questions may be directed at: <https://annex.assembly.ca.gov/content/contact-us>.