

California Capitol Annex Project FAQ's

1. How much will this cost? How will the new building be paid for?

The CSHQA report recommends reconstructing the current Annex, relocating the underground parking structure, and adding a visitor's center. Based on the space requirements the preliminary estimate for the Annex Replacement is \$506,858,000; parking structure \$6,409,000; and the visitor center \$29,964,000.

For the purposes of evaluating the replacement cost for the Capitol Annex, CSHQA evaluated existing costs of courthouses constructed within the past 10 years in California.

The building will be paid for with general funds appropriated through the budget.

For more information on the cost evaluation see the "California Capitol Annex Cost evaluation discussion sheet."

2. Why is this needed and why now? How will this benefit the people of California?

The current Annex was built in 1952 of materials intended to last for 50 years. 66 years later, the Annex has a myriad of deficiencies that negatively impact accessibility, safety, hospitality, and government efficiency. The existing Capitol Annex is approximately 325,000 gross square feet. That is 189,000 square feet too small for the demands of code compliance and accessibility in the nation's most populous state. The total square footage needed is 514,000 square feet.

The new space will improve accessibility for all Californians who visit the Capitol. It will include wider corridors, removal of bottlenecks, spaces for informal conferencing outside of path-of-travel corridors, more welcoming spaces that are compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), additional committee hearing rooms that hold more people, and modern technology to increase civic engagement in a secure and welcoming People's House.

3. Will this project be prevailing wage?

Yes.

4. When do you anticipate the project to begin?

This report fulfills the project definition phase. Once this has been reviewed, the Joint Committee on Rules will move to the design phase. A project manager and architectural firm will be hired to facilitate the project.

5. What are the next steps?

First steps will be to reach out to stakeholders, identify a temporary relocation space for the Legislature, and proceed to the Design Phase.

6. Who is CSHQA? Are we using California-based Architects/Contractors?

CSHQA, Inc., located in West Sacramento, is a full-service design firm specializing in Capitol buildings.

7. How many visitors come to the Capitol every year?

Current projections are over two (2) million entries through our doors in 2018.

8. How much will this disturb Capitol Park? How will this affect the landscaping? Will we lose trees?

The current recommendation is to remove the 1952 Annex and rebuild on its site with modest expansion to minimize the disruption to Capitol Park whenever possible. Maintaining the integrity and inviting vistas of California's legacy Capitol Park is one of our top priorities.

9. What are the sustainability goals of the project? Will there be consideration for sustainable materials & principals? Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certification?

The existing Capitol Annex did not factor in sustainable design or construction. The new Annex will be a leader in line with the Governor's call for all new state buildings to be at least LEED Silver. Ultimately, the new Capitol Annex will strive to be among the most energy efficient and sustainable Capitol buildings in the nation.

10. What are the goals to increase accessibility for people with mobility issues as well as sight and hearing impaired?

The current Annex pre-dates by decades the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and California's building standards. Much of the building does not comply with respect to sight access, building access, signage, built-in cabinets, plumbing fixtures and assisted listening systems. There are numerous upgrades required to provide an ADA compliant, barrier-free facility.

The proposal would be to turn the Capitol into a more accessible, welcoming "People's House" by raising up the new 1st Floor of the Annex to match the West Wing and eliminating the existing ADA barrier between the ground floor Annex/West Wing connections.

11. How transparent will this process be?

Our priority is to maintain the highest level of integrity and transparency throughout this process. As of February 21, 2018, we will have conducted three public Joint Committee on Rules hearings on the Annex Project. One closed session hearing was also conducted to review sensitive security information regarding the current building.

Information on authorizing statutes, outreach and investigations, resources on other Capitol restoration projects, Capitol Park preservation, and links to the full public hearings and presentations are available on our continually updated website <http://annex.assembly.ca.gov/> which has been online since Spring 2017.

12. Wasn't the Capitol remodeled in the 1970's?

Our Capitol's West Wing underwent an historic restoration from 1975-1982. The Annex, constructed in 1952, was not included in this project.

13. Will the Annex building be occupied during construction? Will the West Wing of the historic Capitol be open during construction?

CSHQA's recommendation is that the Annex building is fully vacated in order to do the level of invasive reconstruction needed to make the building safe. Ongoing partial construction creates an unsafe environment for visitors and occupants, spikes the cost of construction, and can add years to the construction timeline. The West Wing of the Capitol will remain open during construction.

14. Who do I contact if I have questions or concerns?

Questions can be e-mailed to annex@asm.ca.gov.

15. What do you envision for the Visitor Center?

We envision providing a secure, welcoming year-round visitor entry for visitors, student and tour groups. The facility should include significant educational resources supporting civic engagement and improved understanding of our state history and government.

The West Wing basement should be dedicated to visitor education and hospitality to take advantage of the restaurant, bookstore, and theater.

A new below-ground visitor center entrance with excellent wayfinding signage will draw visitors into a place to learn, share experiences, and grow interest in civic engagement. The center will connect visitors to the Capitol via ADA-compliant pathways to continue their visit into the museum areas and offices to access their representatives.