

Santa Barbara Courthouse Legacy Foundation



Our mission is to fund conservation, preservation, and restoration projects so current and future generations can enjoy the Santa Barbara Courthouse.

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MAY 21 2013

MAYOR & COUNCIL
 SANTA BARBARA

Mayor and City Council
 City Hall,
 Santa Barbara, CA 93101

Ref: Request for funding for restoration of the Courthouse Mural Room

May 21st, 2013

Dear Mayor and City Council;

In 2012 the Courthouse Legacy Foundation funded and commissioned the writing of a Historic Structure Report for the Courthouse. This report identified the restoration of the Mural Room as our top priority. We have begun a fund raising campaign to accomplish this program. The estimated cost of the project based on three estimates and including a substantial contingency is \$700,000. We are anticipating that the project will take five months to complete. Because of that length of time and the County's scheduling of events for the Mural Room we will not be able to begin the work until Jan. 2015.

While some are disappointed in the distant horizon of the start date we find it useful, as it gives us 15 months to raise the necessary funds to complete the work. We plan to send out RFP in September 2014 and award the lowest qualified proposal in October 2014. Consequently, it is critical that we have the necessary funds in the bank by that time.

When we approach contributors they are always interested in what is the City and County's involvement in caring for our Courthouse, our downtown's most significant work of architecture. The fact that we have already raised over \$300,000 this year is strong evidence of the private sector's support for the restoration, and we feel that the City should also be a partner in this endeavor. Therefore, we are requesting a contribution of \$10,000. The Courthouse Legacy Foundation will leverage that amount by 70 times to achieve our goal of \$700,000.

In your upcoming budget deliberations please remember that over 65,000 tourists and visitors frequent the Courthouse every year. It is a very important community asset, and we all need to be involved in its stewardship. We believe that a healthy public/private partnership is the right way to assure the continued conservation of our Courthouse.

Best regards;

Bill Mahan, AIAE, President, Courthouse Legacy Foundation