

DRAFT

May XX, 2021

The Honorable Alex Padilla
112 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

RE: Humboldt County Courthouse Entrance and Restroom Modification Project

Dear Senator Padilla:

On behalf of the Humboldt County Board of Supervisors, I'm writing to urge you to support our County's request for \$1,500,000 in Congressionally Directed Funding for the Courthouse Entrance and Restroom Modification Project.

The objective of this project is to design and construct improvements to the Humboldt County Courthouse in an effort to remediate barriers to access as defined under Title II of the *Americans with Disabilities Act* (ADA). Pursuant to the proposed project, the current non-accessible 4th Street parking lot and 4th Street entrance to the Humboldt County Courthouse in Eureka will be demolished and replaced with a new lot and three ADA accessible parking stalls. In addition, the County will replace the existing non-compliant concrete path of travel linking the 4th Street entrance to the public right of way and site arrival points to ensure proper site grades that meet the requirements outlined in the ADA.

In addition, the 4th Street security vestibule will have the existing non-accessible doors replaced with fully ADA-compliant powered sliding doors. Sixteen public restrooms in the building will be completely remodeled with eleven of them to be constructed in a fully ADA-compliant manner. The floors on the 3rd and 4th floor elevator vestibule will be leveled and replaced to ensure full compliance with the ADA and accessible High/Low hydration station drinking fountains will be installed in multiple locations in the building.

Humboldt County's Courthouse serves as the County seat where the main County administrative, judicial and law enforcement functions are carried out. Providing appropriate levels of accessibility for the public will allow residents to do business with the County and courts, regardless of their ability.

Again, Humboldt County strongly supports this project and we urge you to seek fiscal year 2022 appropriations to help fund this important work.

Sincerely,

Virginia Bass, Chair
Humboldt County Board of Supervisors

Requesting Entity Staff Contact Information – Phone Number and Email:

County of Humboldt
County Administrative Office- ADA Compliance Team
Travis I Smith, CAO Project Manager
825 5th Street, Room 112
Eureka, CA 95501
707-445-7266
ada@co.humboldt.ca.us

Title of Project:

Humboldt County Courthouse Entrance and Restroom Modification Project

Departmental Priority:

Very High

1. Project Name:

Humboldt County Courthouse Entrance and Restroom Modification Project

2. Amount of Federal Funding Requested for the Project

\$1.5 M

3. Total Cost of Project and breakdown of funding sources (Detail all local, state and/or private funds. Are these funds secured, expected, or you are still seeking?).

The project is estimated at \$1.5 M to be funded by the county General Fund.

4. Possible Congressional Subcommittee:

We'll figure this out

5. General Project Description:

The overall project objective is to design and construct improvements to the Humboldt County Courthouse in an effort to remediate barriers to access as defined under Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). The project will demolish the current non-accessible 4th Street parking lot and 4th Street entrance to the Humboldt County Courthouse and will construct three ADA accessible parking stalls and replace the existing non-compliant concrete path of travel linking the 4th Street entrance to the public right of way, and site arrival points which will be demolished and reconstructed to ensure proper site grades that meet the requirements outlined in the ADA complete with decorative security bollards designed to prevent vehicles from driving into the security vestibule at the Courthouse 4th Street entrance. The aging moisture barrier between the asphalt overlay on the 4th Street parking lot and the basement below is original to the building, which was constructed in 1958, and will be replaced as part of the project. The 4th Street security vestibule will have the existing non-accessible doors replaced with fully ADA compliant powered sliding doors. Sixteen public restrooms in the building will be completely remodeled with eleven of them to be constructed in a fully ADA compliant manner. The floors on the 3rd and 4th floor elevator vestibule will be leveled and replaced to ensure full compliance with the ADA and accessible High/Low hydration station drinking fountains will be installed in multiple locations in the building.

6. Project Justification (Need for the project).

This project is one of many that the County of Humboldt has undertaken that reflect the county's continued effort to make all county facilities compliant with the ADA and equitably offer all programs, services and activities to all members of the public regardless of their ability. The County of Humboldt anticipates spending well over \$49 Million based on estimates provided in 2019 to address ADA access barriers in county facilities over the course of the next 20 years.

7. Justification for why the project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds and is a public benefit.

The Humboldt County Courthouse serves as the county seat where the main county administrative, judicial and law enforcement functions are carried out. Providing appropriate levels of accessibility for the public will allow residents to do business with the county and courts, regardless of their ability. The County of Humboldt is a rural county that, as of 2010, has an approximate population of 133,000 and encompasses approximately 4,052 square miles.

8. Explanation of how federal funds will be spent (for example on equipment, construction, labor, etc.)

The secured funds will be used solely on design and construction expenditures.

9. List of Any Stakeholder Groups or Elected Officials Who Support the Request

Agency: Humboldt County ADA Compliance Team

Project: Humboldt County Courthouse Entrance and Restroom ADA Modification Project

Budget Breakdown:

Revenue Source		Project Budget	Comments
Local	\$145,500	Design and Construction Mangement Services	
Local	\$392,265	Construction of 4th Street Entrance and Parkinglot	Project is in design- Figure based on preliminary estimates
Local	\$1,500,000	Construction of Restrooms and Interior ADA Modificaions	Project is in design- Figure based on preliminary estimates
Total	\$2,037,765		