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FUNDING PARTNER / OCCUPANT
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County of Santa Clara

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CONSULTANTS

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BKF Engineers
Civil Engineer

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Nick Merrick © Hedrich Blessing

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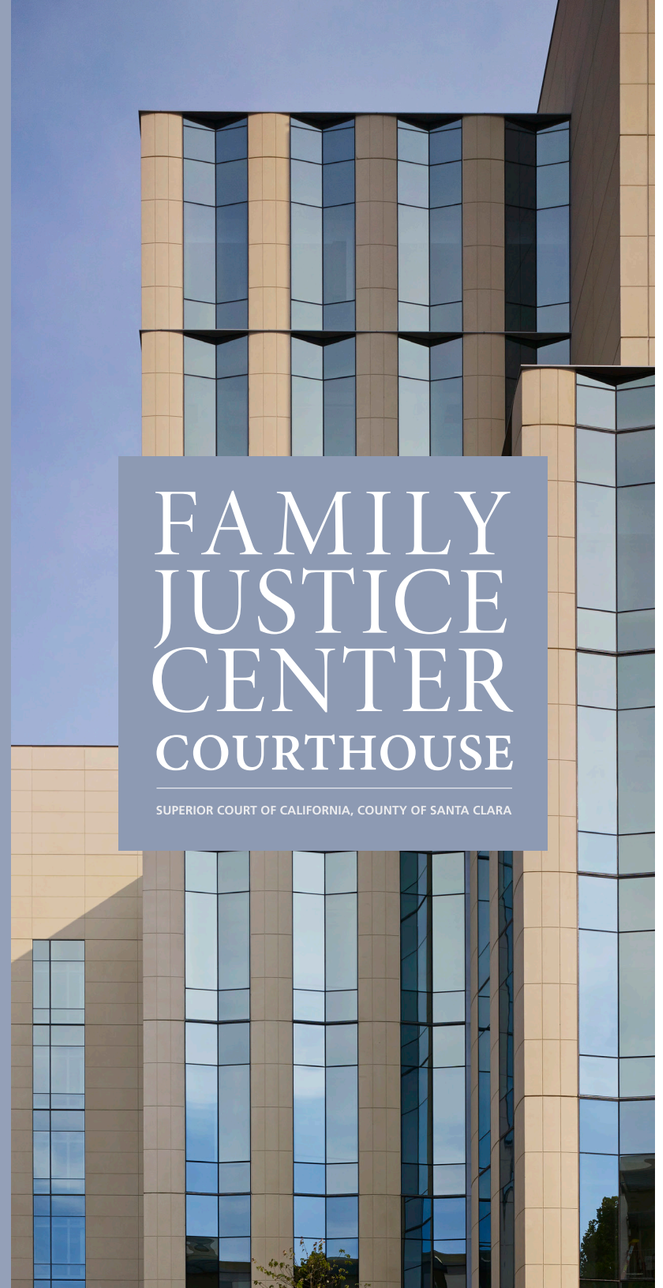

FAMILY JUSTICE CENTER COURTHOUSE

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF SANTA CLARA

BUILDING PERFORMANCE

All ventilation systems provide 100% outside air, resulting in a space with exceptional air quality and low CO_2 levels.

The Family Justice Center Courthouse integrates high-performance design strategies, and is registered with the U.S. Green Building Council's LEED® green building program with a minimum certification goal of LEED Silver®. Innovative stormwater management solutions, native landscaping, and the use of high-efficiency plumbing fixtures will reduce the use of potable water by 35%.

HVAC systems throughout the building were selected and designed to maximize energy performance and the thermal comfort of occupants. Chilled beams provide radiant cooling in office spaces, radiant floor slabs provide both heating and cooling in the public waiting areas, and a displacement ventilation system serves the courtrooms.

Lighting systems throughout the facility have been designed to reduce the connected lighting load by 15% from a code compliant design. Energy consumption has been further reduced through the integration of daylight and occupancy controls. Occupancy sensors ensure that lights are shut off when they are not needed, while daylight sensors detect available light and reduce the lighting power to maintain maximum lighting levels.

The presence of stone and concrete panels and the verticality of the façade expression give the building stature, while the asymmetrical formal composition prevents it from overwhelming its neighbors.

SUSTAINABLE STRATEGIES

DAYLIGHT AND VIEWS Strategic placement of glass in public spaces filters direct sunlight and takes advantage of daylight and views.

SUSTAINABLE LANDSCAPE A palette of local plant species minimizes the need for maintenance, irrigation, or mowing, and creates a natural habitat for local wildlife.

MATERIALS REUSE Local, renewable, and recycled building materials were used. Recycled content is found in all parts of the structural system and construction of the interiors.

HIGH-EFFICIENCY FIXTURES High-efficiency plumbing fixtures conserve water.

HIGH-PERFORMANCE BUILDING ENVELOPE The building orientation, ventilation, and envelope design work together to balance heat gain.

ENHANCED VENTILATION Chilled beams, displacement ventilation, and radiant piping were used in order to provide specific, energy-efficient solutions tailored to each space.

SUSTAINABLY SOURCED MATERIALS All concrete formwork and interior wood finishes use wood certified by the Forest Stewardship Council. This ensured the sustainable logging of trees and the use of plantation grown wood.

GREEN ROOFS Roof gardens mitigate the building temperature, increase the lifespan of the roof, create new wildlife habitat, and mitigate stormwater runoff volume.

STORMWATER DESIGN Bioswales, vegetated strips, and stormwater planters will treat runoff and remove total suspended solids.

LIGHT POLLUTION REDUCTION Efficient design of site lighting reduces night sky light pollution and limits light spill over to adjacent sites.

CONSTRUCTION WASTE MANAGEMENT An extensive plan for construction waste management was implemented to minimize noise, dust, and runoff pollution during construction.