



NEWS

From County Supervisor Paul Biane

www.sbcounty.gov/Biane

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County Office Project in Morongo Basin to Be “Green”

SAN BERNARDINO – A County office slated to be built next to the courthouse in Joshua Tree will be designed to meet a nationally recognized energy and water efficiency standard, according to a contract awarded by the Board of Supervisors on Tuesday.

The 29,400 square foot office building will provide a centralized location for general fund County Departments in the Morongo Basin. The County currently leases office space in the area.

The office will be designed to meet the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Silver Standard. The U.S. Green Building Council – a nonprofit consortium of builders, corporations, government agencies and others – developed LEED standards to provide verifiable and tested guidelines for “green” building practices worldwide.

“Even small office projects like this one can rack up huge energy and water savings over the long haul when LEED building guidelines are followed,” Second District Supervisor Paul Biane said.

In August 2007, Biane proposed a series of policies called Green County San Bernardino to lessen the County’s impact on the environment. Part of the policy calls for new County buildings and major renovation projects to meet the LEED Silver standard.

Green County San Bernardino also includes building fee waivers to promote the commercial and residential use of solar and wind power as well as energy-efficient air-

conditioners and water heaters. So far, the County has granted about 100 waivers, mostly for wind energy and rooftop solar projects.

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