



# Hartford Federal Courthouse Draft EIS Public Hearing Handout

The U.S. General Services Administration (GSA) published a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) that analyzes the potential impacts from the proposed acquisition of a site in Hartford, CT, and the subsequent design, construction, and operation of a new federal courthouse (the Project). The new courthouse would be owned and managed by GSA and occupied by the U.S. District Court for the District of Connecticut (the Court) and related agencies.

The Draft EIS is available at <https://www.gsa.gov/hartfordcourthouse> (see QR code at the bottom of the next page). We invite you to read the EIS and provide comments. Hard copies are available for review at the Hartford Public Library, Albany Branch located at 1250 Albany Ave, Hartford, CT 06112; Hartford Public Library, Park Street Branch located at 603 Park St, Hartford, CT 06106; and Hartford City Hall located at 550 Main St, Room 001, Hartford, CT 06103.

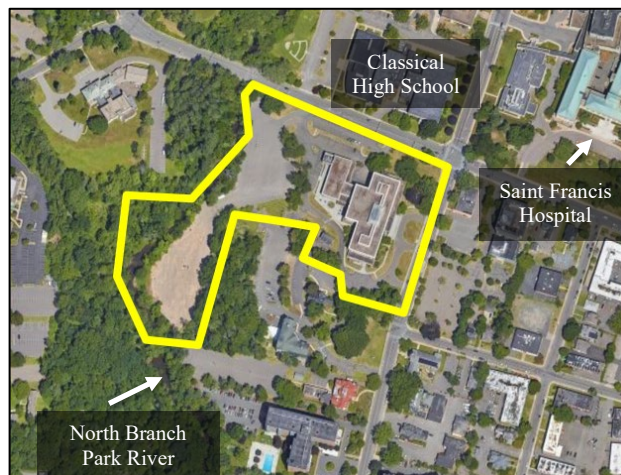
## Project Background

The Court currently operates at three facilities: the Richard C. Lee U.S. Courthouse in New Haven (its headquarters location), the Brien McMahon Federal Building and U.S. Courthouse in Bridgeport, and the Abraham A. Ribicoff Federal Building and Courthouse in Hartford (Ribicoff Federal Building and Courthouse). The Ribicoff Federal Building and Courthouse, constructed in 1963, does not have the capacity to accommodate the Court's functions and operations, including deficiencies in judicial, juror, and detainee circulation and overall facility security. The Court's long-term facilities planning efforts and GSA's feasibility studies concluded that relocating the Court's headquarters to Hartford would provide efficiencies in judicial operations across the state. The results from these studies led to GSA's proposal to locate the Court and related agencies at a new courthouse in Hartford, CT.

## Summary of Alternatives

The Draft EIS analyzes the potential impacts of two action alternatives and a "no action" alternative. Both action alternatives would include the acquisition of a site in Hartford, CT, and the design, construction, and operation of a new federal courthouse.

**Alternative 1 – Woodland Site:** A state office building with a vacant ancillary building and a parking lot consisting of 10.19 acres and located at 61 Woodland St. The Woodland Site is in Hartford's Asylum Hill neighborhood and includes a portion of the North Branch Park River along its western boundary.





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**Alternative 2 – Allyn Site:** A surface parking lot consisting of 2.19 acres and located at 154 Allyn St. The Allyn Site is in Hartford’s downtown area.



**No Action Alternative:** This alternative assumes that site acquisition and the subsequent design, construction, and operation of a new courthouse would not occur. The Court would continue to operate across the state at its current facilities in New Haven, Bridgeport, and Hartford.

## Resource Areas Analyzed

The Draft EIS analyzes the following resource areas: Land Use; Utilities, Traffic and Transportation; Air Quality; Climate Change; Solid and Hazardous Waste and Materials; Socioeconomics; Environmental Justice and Protection of Children’s Health and Safety; Cultural Resources; Geology, Topography, and Soils; Water Resources; and Visual Resources.

## Submitting Comments

Comments on the Draft EIS must be submitted to GSA by **Monday, December 16, 2024**, using one of the following methods:

- Fill out a comment form or dictate your comment to the stenographer at the public hearing.
- Email comments to: **HartfordCourthouse@gsa.gov** with subject line “Hartford Courthouse EIS”.
- Mail comments to:  
General Services Administration  
Attn: Robert Herman, Project Manager  
Abraham A. Ribicoff U.S. Courthouse  
450 Main St., Suite 435  
Hartford, CT 06103
- Place comments in the drop box at the main entrance of the Ribicoff Courthouse at 450 Main St.

