

1963	1970	1971	1977	1984	1990	2000	2002	2010	2011
<p>14 JUN 1963 James McNeely, an architect from Paul Rudolph's office, and Peter Barbone, an architect from Middletown, present preliminary plans for a new Government Center to the Orange County Board of Supervisors.</p> <p>14 MAR 1964 Orange County Board of Supervisors defeats \$4.4 million plan for Orange County Government Center by a 19-16 vote (two thirds vote needed).</p> <p>09 APR 1965 Orange County Board of Supervisors approves \$4.6 million plan for Government Center by a 32-4 vote.</p> <p>03 FEB 1966 Warwick Chamber of Commerce adopts resolution objecting to the Government Center design.</p> <p>11 FEB 1966 Orange County Board of Supervisors approves Paul Rudolph's Government Center design (in association with Peter Barbone) by a vote of 31-4.</p> <p>12 AUG 1967 Government Center construction begins.</p> <p>02 JAN 1970 First meeting of Orange County Legislature</p> <p>16 OCT 1970 Government Center construction is substantially completed. At dedication ceremony, architect Paul Rudolph tells the 750 people in attendance, "You have a building here that should last 100 years."</p>	<p>09 MAR 1971 Orange County Executive Louis V. Mills asks Public Works Department to draft plans for expanding Government Center parking lot.</p> <p>10 AUG 1972 Executive Mills and County Clerk Charles N. Winters confirm that more space is needed in Government Center.</p> <p>22 JAN 1973 Acknowledging that many people are confused when they enter the Government Center, County Executive Mills issues a written guide to the building.</p> <p>06 SEP 1974 Public Works Commissioner Louis Cascino announces that his department has started repairs on Government Center roof to fix numerous leaks.</p> <p>02 JUN 1975 Lawsuit filed by Corbeau-Newman, general contractor for Government Center, is settled. Of \$239,000 settlement, architect Paul Rudolph is asked by Orange County Legislature to contribute \$39,000.</p> <p>28 APR 1977 County Executive Mills issues a memorandum to Legislature's Finance Committee stating concern about Government Center's poor appearance and lack of funds for building's maintenance.</p>	<p>23 APR 1984 Orange County Legislature's Physical Services Committee approves a \$1.7 million capital improvement budget including funds to replace Government Center roof.</p> <p>24 JAN 1990 Special committee of Orange County Legislature meets to discuss solutions to Government Center's lack of office space. Committee agrees to consider adding a new courtroom wing.</p> <p>07 APR 1990 Orange County Legislature selects an architecture firm to perform feasibility study of Government Center's potential for expansion.</p> <p>27 AUG 1991 Orange County Legislature approves an appropriation of \$600,000 for further emergency repair work to Government Center.</p> <p>1997 New York State's Court Facilities Capital Review Board declares Government Center's main judicial building, which contains adult courts and local supreme courts, unfit for occupation.</p> <p>2000 A courthouse addition, designed by Ehrenkrantz Eckstut & Kuhn, is completed at north end of Government Center. This new wing contains Criminal and Family Courts as well as County Sheriff cellblocks. The Civil Courts, Probation, and District Attorney's offices are expanded within the existing Government Center.</p>	<p>07 MAR 2002 During a State of the County address, County Executive Edward Diana announces his intentions to replace the Government Center with a new facility.</p> <p>13 APR 2006 Democratic members of Orange County Legislature announce opposition to a new Government Center, arguing it will divert tax dollars from more pressing problems.</p> <p>21 SEP 2010 Presenting to the Orange County Legislature's Physical Services Committee, Executive Diana announces he is dropping plans for \$114.4 million Government Center and will hire an architect to recommend options for replacing all or part of the existing complex.</p> <p>18 DEC 2010 Paul Rudolph Foundation submits to the New York State Historic Preservation Office a request to evaluate whether the Orange County Government Center is eligible for listing on the State and National Registers of Historic Places.</p>	<p>23 AUG 2011 New York State Historic Preservation Office notifies Executive Diana that Orange County Government Center meets the criteria for listing on the State and National Registers of Historic Places.</p> <p>28 AUG 2011 Hurricane Irene strikes Goshen</p> <p>07 SEP 2011 Tropical Storm Lee strikes Goshen.</p> <p>08 SEP 2011 Executive Diana closes Government Center until further notice due to damage caused by heavy rains in the area.</p> <p>15 SEP 2011 Executive Diana presents Orange County Legislature with an independent study commissioned to suggest options for the future of the Government Center.</p> <p>28 SEP 2011 Executive Diana conducts media tour of Government Center to demonstrate that building is not fit for occupancy in its current condition. At the start of tour, Executive Diana states, "As far as I'm concerned, we'll never occupy it again."</p> <p>01 OCT 2011 Executive Diana submits report to Legislature with three construction options for new Government Center. The options range from \$136.4 million for a new building to \$67.2 million to renovate existing building.</p>					

01 MAR 2012

During a State of the County address, Executive Diana unveils a revised proposal for new County Government Center with an estimated cost of \$75 million.

23 MAR 2012

Orange County Legislature's Physical Services Committee approves Executive Diana's proposal by a vote of 5-4.

03 MAY 2012

Orange County Legislature does not approve Executive Diana's proposal by a vote of 11-10 in favor (two thirds vote needed).

04 MAY 2012

Local newspaper receives copy of FEMA's Government Center inspection report following Hurricane Irene and Tropical Storm Lee. In report, inspectors conclude that most of building damage was not caused by the storms, but by poor building maintenance.

05 MAY 2012

Orange County Legislature creates special committee to investigate if Executive Diana withheld FEMA's Government Center inspection report while law makers debated his \$75 million plan to demolish and replace the complex.

30 JUL 2012

Three architects testify to Orange County Legislature's investigating committee that Government Center can be saved by repairing the building's roof.

17 DEC 2012

Orange County Legislature unanimously approves hiring three firms to collaborate on \$75,000 report to decide whether to renovate or replace the Government Center complex.

06 FEB 2013

Orange County Legislature approves \$10 million bond to renovate Government Center by a vote of 15-6.

24 JUN 2013

Orange County Legislature selects a team of architects and engineers to develop options for renovating and replacing sections of Government Center complex.

25 NOV 2013

Team of consultants hired to design and oversee construction of Government Center present two proposals to Orange County Legislature's Physical Services Committee. One proposal keeps intact all three sections of the complex while the other suggests demolishing one section.

09 DEC 2013

Orange County Legislature's Physical Service's Committee approves \$67 million plan to overhaul Government Center by a vote of 5-2. The committee selects design that preserves only two of the three Government Center's structures. The committee does not vote on \$63 alternative that would leave all three structures intact.

12 DEC 2013

Orange County Legislature approves \$67 million renovation of Government Center by a vote of 18-2. The approved plan preserves only two of the three Government Center structures, replacing the third with a new structure.

21 APR 2014

Orange County Legislature's Physical Services and Ways and Means Committees approve \$67 million in bonding to renovate and expand Government Center.

01 MAY 2014

Orange County Legislature approves \$74 million in bonding to renovate and expand Government Center by a vote of 18-3. Before the vote, Gene Kaufman, principal in Gwathmey Siegel Kaufman & Associates, offers to purchase the existing complex and design a new one next to it.

05 JUN 2014

Philip Clark, CEO of Clark Patterson Lee, the lead firm in new Government Center design process, reports that officials from FEMA and State Historic Preservation Office expressed concerns that renovation plans include demolishing one building and modifying the other two. A state or federal review might delay or block the proposed renovation.

10 JUN 2014

In a memo to County Executive Steve Neuhas, Philip Clark suggests two options for Government Center: proceed with current renovation and risk a potentially lengthy design review, or build a new Government Center and sell the existing complex.

28 JUN 2014

Orange County announces that it will solicit proposals from firms to design and manage construction of a new Government Center. The request for proposals will be necessary if County Legislature votes to sell existing complex.

14 JUL 2014

During a meeting with state officials, County Legislators learn that state and federal objections to the Government Center renovation and expansion may be bypassed by avoiding state or federal permits and by reallocating FEMA funding to other projects.

25 JUL 2014

Orange County asks FEMA to confirm that Government Center renovation and expansion can avoid a federal review if \$2.7 million in FEMA funding for Government Center repairs is reallocated to other projects.

15 AUG 2014

Gene Kaufman offers \$4.5 million in cash to purchase Government Center instead of his original offer to purchase it through a fee reduction to design a new complex.

20 AUG 2014

Orange County Legislature's Rules Committee votes to place Government Center out to bid for sale at minimum price of \$4.5 million.