

February 11, 2014

Senator Fred Girod
Representative Tina Kotek
Co-Chairs Joint Committee on Capital Construction
Oregon State Legislature

The Association of Oregon Counties requests your support in funding of Jefferson County's application for Oregon Courthouse Capital Construction Improvement Funds (OCCCIF).

AOC appreciates the recognition of the legislature that state courts are a shared responsibility between the state and counties. We recognize that there is a significant backlog of courthouse projects pending and that we don't have the capacity to deal with the entire problem at once or with singular resources. The Association has established a process to identify the county court facilities most in need of improvement and ready to proceed.

The Association understands that Jefferson County's courthouse has significant structural defects that present actual threats to human health and safety. The county has undergone a through process to analyze their options and determined that a new courthouse on land the county owns is the best option. Jefferson County has the resources to meet its match responsibilities. They have a timeline for the project and are committed to working with the Legislature, Oregon Judicial Department and the Department of Administrative Services to complete this project.

This appears to be an excellent opportunity to leverage state and local funds to achieve an important public service objective. We appreciate your consideration of this request.



Mike W. McArthur
Executive Director
Association of Oregon counties

Cc:
Senator Ted Ferrioli
Representative John Huffman