

## Jefferson County Courthouse Project

Requesting \$2,500,000 - Total Project \$14,900,000 - Project Completion August 2016

Chief Justice Thomas Balmer's FY 15-17 budget request includes \$2.5 million for the completion of the Jefferson County Courthouse Project. Jefferson County received \$4.0 million during the 2014 Legislative Session. Construction is scheduled to begin in April 2015 and will be completed in August 2016. The \$2.5 million is needed to offset the shortfall funding (requested \$5.5 million) and cover an unforeseen spike in construction costs in Central Oregon.

The project is 30,800 square feet that includes three courtrooms. It is a modern courthouse with three separate security zones (public, in-custody defendants, and court staff/juries). The design includes the capacity for the expansion to a fourth courtroom when needed (estimate 15-20 years).



*"We appreciate the work and expense that the county has invested to create plans for a suitable and sufficient courthouse in Jefferson County, one that includes best practices for the efficient organization and layout of courthouse functions, attention to security needs, and includes future expansion capabilities in the design."* Oregon Judicial Department letter of Chief Justice Balmer's approval of the project [Nov. 24, 2014]

State Funding	\$6,500,000 (includes the \$2.5 million request)
County Funding	\$8,400,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$14,900,000</b>

The existing Courthouse was built in 1961. It is located in the Willow Creek floodway. The courthouse has undergone two shoring/remodels (1984 and 2002) in attempts to fix structural deficiencies. In 2008, Walker Structural Engineering, LLC identified "severely insufficient" structural conditions of the building to withstand a seismic event. Particularly, the bracing of the concrete walls to the roof trusses are inadequately spaced and are "minimally connected at the top and bottom."

### MARCH 2015 UPDATE:

Sold bonds in January 2015 (\$8.9 million).

### Other Data:

<u>Jefferson County Circuit Court all Fines/Fees (CY 2013):</u>	\$883,135
<u>County Population (2014):</u>	22,205
<u>Jefferson County Property Tax Rate:</u>	\$3.56/\$1,000 (10 <sup>th</sup> highest in Oregon)
<u>Assessed Valuation per capita (FY 13-14):</u>	\$65,932 (6 <sup>th</sup> lowest in Oregon)

# 2015-17 Chief Justice's Recommended Budget

## PROGRAMS – ADMINISTRATION AND CENTRAL SUPPORT

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### *Policy Option Package–304: Oregon Courthouse Capital Construction and Improvement Fund (OCCCIF) Program*

**Companion Package:** No

#### **Purpose**

This package will provide the limitation necessary for funds to be distributed to counties for the state match portion for courthouse replacement projects paid for out the OCCCIF. Package only provides limitation for bond fund distribution, does not include limitation for county matching fund deposits into the OCCCIF that are returned to the counties.

#### **How Achieved**

During the 2013 Legislative Session, the OCCCIF was created to provide State funding for part of the cost of replacing dangerous county courthouses. Counties will be provided up to 50% state matching funds (based upon co-location requirements) from bond sales for approved and appropriate project expenses. The following are the planned courthouse replacements and associated Article XI-Q bonding:

- Multnomah County - \$24.6 million
- Jefferson County - \$2.5 million
- Crook/Hood River/Lane/Tillamook Counties Requested - \$7.8 million

Package #304 requests limitation associated with bond fund distribution, and does not include any request of limitation for county matching funds that may be required to be deposited in the OCCCIF for bond fund disbursements (limitation required to return the deposited county money from the OCCCIF).

#### **Staffing Impact**

None

#### **Revenue Source**

\$34,900,000 – Other Funds