

Mari Garric Trevino
Circuit Judge



Jonathan R. Hill
Circuit Judge

**CIRCUIT COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON
FOR THE COUNTY OF TILLAMOOK**

Tillamook County Courthouse
201 Laurel Avenue
Tillamook, Oregon 97141
Trial Court Administrator (503) 842-2596 Ext. 2124
Calendering (503) 842-2596 Ext. 2110
Facsimile (503) 842-2597

April 24, 2015

Co-Chair Chip Shields and Co-Chair Jennifer Williamson
Joint Subcommittee on Public Safety
900 Court Street NE
Salem, OR 97301

Dear Co-Chairs Shields and Williamson:

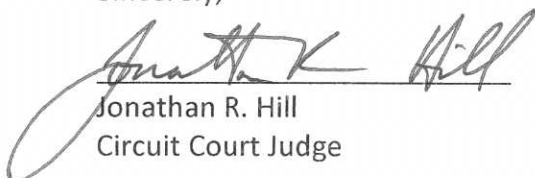
We are writing this letter in support of the Tillamook County Courthouse project and Tillamook County's request for \$7,875,000 in bonds and \$2,475,000 from the Crime Fines Fund. We are the two Circuit Court Judges that serve Tillamook County. A new courthouse building is imperative to meet the needs of our community, and provide a safe and healthy building for our staff and the public. In a 2008 OJD study, the Tillamook County Courthouse was rated the 4th worst in the state. This is not surprising. The current courthouse was designed for one courtroom, but is currently running 2 courtrooms plus a Justice Court. It has seismic and structural issues. We have to conduct 12 person jury trials in a 542 square foot courtroom which is not "suitable and sufficient". Inmates, jurors, witnesses and lawyers are all in that very tight space. It is labor intensive addressing security concerns.

We appreciate the work and expense that the county has invested to create plans for a suitable and sufficient courthouse for Tillamook County. Our new courthouse will serve the public much better using designs that incorporate the best practices for the efficient organization and layout of courthouse functions. Additionally, a new building will address security needs, where the current building does not.

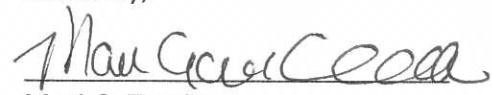
The Tillamook County Commissioners firmly support this project. The County is not a wealth county but the overwhelming need for a new building simply makes a new building a necessity. The Tillamook County Commissioners are committed to spending \$7,650,000 plus the land (\$475,000), with the State contributing \$7,875,000 in bonds and \$2,475,000 from the Crime Fines Fund. We encourage you to support this very necessary project as well.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,


Jonathan R. Hill
Circuit Court Judge

Sincerely,


Mari G. Trevino
Circuit Court Judge

