

Tillamook County Courthouse Project

Requesting \$7,875,000 in State Bonds - Total Project \$18,000,000
Project Completion November 2017

Chief Justice Thomas Balmer's FY 15-17 budget request includes \$7.875 million in Bonds for the Tillamook County Courthouse Project.

In 2008 an OJD study found that the Tillamook County Courthouse ranked at 45th out of 48; the fourth worst court facility in the state. The building was constructed in 1932 or 83 years ago.

Over the past decade Tillamook County has been working closely with local judges and state court staff to address serious structural deficiencies and public safety issues in the existing courthouse. Over this approximately 10-year period we have explored a variety of repairs, remodels and annexes.

We have now concluded that it would be more cost effective to construct new court facilities to be located adjacent to the county's present jail and justice facilities on Brickyard Road, just south of the City of Tillamook. The land is zoned appropriately. Public utilities are available and present on the site. When the facility was constructed almost 20 years ago, additional court space was contemplated but not constructed.

The proposed new courthouse would contain three circuit courtrooms. In addition to state court staff, the new facility is also proposed to house the District Attorney's office and state police. Preliminary estimates contemplate a 35,000 square foot facility at a cost of \$18,000,000. A timeline is being developed for completing all phases of the project including programming, schematic design, design development, construction documents, permits and bidding; culminating in construction by November 2017.

The funding proposed for this project is as follows:

State Bonds (Q11)	\$ 7,875,000
Crime Fines Funds	2,475,000
Land Value	475,000
Local Cash Match	7,650,000
Total Project Costs	\$18,000,000

For the local cash match, a Full Faith and Credit obligation is estimated to provide about \$595,000 annually. The county is developing an option for securing its debt service on this obligation. The County is also donating the land valued at \$475,000.

If the project is not funded, conditions will continue to deteriorate and it is reasonable to conclude that the courthouse will drop in ranking from 45th to last when compared to other court facilities within the state. Functional challenges will remain until a replacement facility can either be acquired or developed. Given the political needs for such a project to be successful, together with the financial ones, the current availability for OCCIF funding is likely the best opportunity the County has to correctly and safely address its courthouse needs.