



**Eugene Mayor's Office**  
Kitty Piercy

January 28, 2016

The Honorable Peter Courtney  
The Honorable Tina Kotek  
Oregon State Legislature  
900 Court Street, NE  
Salem, OR 97301

**RE: Support of state bonding for Lane County Courthouse redevelopment**

Dear Speaker Kotek and President Courtney;

I am writing to express my support for the inclusion of the Lane County Courthouse project within the 2016 Legislative Assembly bond allocation for the Oregon Courthouse Capital Construction and Improvement Fund scheduled for sale in March 2017.

Downtown Eugene is experiencing a development renaissance that is spurred by public investments. Over the past five years, approximately \$20 million in public funding has leveraged additional investment of over \$300 million. This has resulted in the development of 618 new housing units, bringing 2,000 new residents downtown, with over 25 new restaurants and retail establishments opening up during this period.

Our success includes educational facilities and lodging as well, working with Lane Community College to locate their LEED Platinum Downtown Campus on a former pit and the addition of a high end boutique hotel at the historic 5<sup>th</sup> Street Market. Lastly, we are poised to expand our High Speed Broadband district throughout the downtown area in the next 12 months, providing infrastructure for 1gigabit internet service to businesses and public agencies within the district.

Our own City Hall is in the process of being rebuilt on its former site, with a smaller more efficient footprint. The vision of a civic heart of Eugene is predicated upon accessible and connected government. Along our 'great street' of Eighth Avenue, sits the US Federal Courthouse, the Eugene City Hall, the Lane County Public Service Building, and the Lane County Courthouse. We see a new modern County Courthouse, as key to accessible government for our citizens.

I supported this project in 2014, which the Chief Justice selected for authority, but it did not make the authorization bill that the Legislature passed last year. Please include the Lane County Courthouse project within this year's projects that will receive state bonding authority, as it will continue the positive trajectory our community has created in our downtown.

Sincerely,

Kitty Piercy  
Mayor