

From: NELSON Ethan A
To: [JWMCC Exhibits](#)
Cc: [HOLVEY Paul \(OR\)](#); Sen.FredGirod@state.or.us; [Sen Prozanski](#); [Sen Manning](#); [Sen Beyer](#); [Rep Nathanson](#); [Rep Barnhart](#); [Rep Fahey](#); Rep.JohnLively@state.or.us; [Elizabeth Howe \(elizabeth@howepa.com\)](mailto:Elizabeth.Howe@howepa.com); [CUYLER Alex D](#); [VINIS Lucy K](#)
Subject: Eugene Mayor Lucy Vinis Testimony in Support of Lane County Courthouse
Date: Wednesday, May 10, 2017 3:33:11 PM
Attachments: [17-05-9 Eugene Letter of Support for Courthouse Bond.pdf](#)

Greetings:

Please include the attached letter as written testimony for SB 5505 Public Hearing on Friday, May 12 in the Joint Ways and Means Subcommittee on Capital Construction. This is in support of Lane County's request for \$5M in bond allocation for the site development and design of the new Lane County Courthouse.

Thank you,

Ethan Nelson | Intergovernmental Relations and Sustainability
City of Eugene
125 East 8th Avenue | Eugene OR 97401
Phone 541.682.5245 | cell 541.543.1095
www.eugene-or.gov



May 10, 2017

Joint Committee on Ways and Means Sub-Committee on Capital Construction
The Honorable Senator Fred Girod, Co-Chair
The Honorable Representative Paul Holvey, Co-Chair
Oregon State Legislature
900 Court Street, NE
Salem, OR 97301

RE: Support of state bonding for Lane County Courthouse redevelopment

Dear Senator Girod and Representative Holvey;

I am writing today to show support for, and request your approval of, the Lane County Courthouse Project to be funded within the 2017/19 bond allocation from the Oregon Courthouse Capital Construction and Improvement Fund.

Eugene believes that Lane County's efforts to build a new Courthouse and support facilities, fits with our collective vision for a new and vibrant civic heart of our community. Although there is a current design, construction plan, and funding for a new Eugene city hall at our current location, because of the synergy for this project, we have put that effort on hold.

Last fall, we jointly initiated a collaborative process between the City, County and Court that culminated with action by both the Board of Commissioners and the City Council to direct staff to begin negotiations for the purchase/sale 'parcel exchange' between Lane County's downtown lot and the City's vacant city hall lot. The negotiations are underway with the hope that they will be wrapped up by early summer. This current opportunity delivers a 'win-win-win' for Lane County-by securing an ideal site, the City-using downtown property to highest best use and siting the new city hall on an appropriately scaled parcel, and for Lane County Farmers Market-allowing for a permanent year-round downtown home on a re-established legacy park block.

With the eyes of the world literally examining our City during the 2021 World Track and Field Championships, we are eager to present our shared vision for a renewed civic center in the heart of downtown Eugene. It is our desire that the new Lane County Courthouse be seen rising at its planned location at that time, and we believe your authorization of the County's funding request in the 2017-19 biennium is critical to ensuring this occurs. The project is supported by the Chief Justice, the Board of County Commissioners, the Eugene City Council, and the entire Lane County Delegation. We are committed to the success of this project as a cornerstone of a livable and safe community.

Sincerely,

Mayor Lucy Vinis