



April 12, 2019

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

RE: Support of state bonding for Lane County Courthouse redevelopment

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 2019/21 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, as well as addressing existing space constraints, security and privacy challenges, and improving equal access to justice for our community.

Last fall, we completed the purchase and sale 'parcel exchange' between Lane County's downtown lot and the City's vacant city hall lot. This transaction delivered 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 \$87.6 million-dollar funding request during the 2019/21 biennium is critical to ensuring this occurs. The project is supported by the Presiding Judge, 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