

Problem

Located at 18480 SE Stark, the East County Courthouse (ECC), a joint state-county asset, is currently underutilized. Under current state statute, ORS 3.014, if a defendant has been in custody at any point during their case, the court proceedings are required to be heard at the downtown courthouse.

Solution: SB 188

Remove the statutory barriers to hearing more cases at the ECC.

SB 188 provides the court with greater flexibility by allowing all misdemeanors occurring east of 122nd to be heard at the ECC unless the person is currently in custody at the time of a proceeding, has a warrant, or is charged with a felony case.

All felonies will still be heard downtown.

Outcomes

An additional 2400 matters will be held in the ECC for an estimated total of 6700 matters annually, according to the Multnomah County District Attorney Office estimates.

Increased efficiency for both our downtown and east county courthouses.

Improved service and convenience for East Multnomah County residents.



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