



Oregon

Tina Kotek, Governor

Oregon Department of Corrections

Director's Office

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April 7, 2023

The Honorable Senator Girod, Co-Chair
The Honorable Representative Holvey, Co-Chair
Joint Committee on Ways and Means Subcommittee on Capital Construction
900 Court Street NE
Salem, OR 97301-4048

RE: House Bill 5006 (2023)

Dear Co-Chairpersons,

The Oregon Department of Corrections (DOC) respectfully submits the following written testimony in relation to House Bill 5006.

The department is requesting \$98.6 million in Q-Bonds for the following four, separate, requests:

1. The addition and upgrade of camera systems within corrective institutions,
2. The replacement of institution communication systems,
3. High priority capital renewal needs at all institutions, and
4. The engineering and construction of a new Transport Headquarters building located in Salem.

The goal of these projects is to address the deteriorating infrastructure which are inherent to systems that operate 24-hours a day, 365-days a year, and are critical to ensuring the continued safe and secure operation of state prisons, as well as the safety and security of staff and adults in custody (AICs) for which we are all responsible.

DOC requests funding in the amount of \$8.5 million to pay for the cameras, switches, cables, infrastructure, and contracted labor at each of the 12 institutions across the state. While some systems are more current, nearly all require some degree of updating/upgrading to include additional storage capacity, enhanced viewing capabilities (made possible by more modern equipment), and additional camera locations. DOC received Q-bond funding in the amount of \$8.6 million in the 2019-21 biennium. This request is a continuation of that project funding.

The second request is for \$12.9 million in Capital Construction funds to replace the DOC-owned and operated communications systems at five institutions – all of which are over 15 years in age. These replacement systems will ensure current and future communication needs for the next 15 to 20 years. In addition, replacement systems will be standardized and be interoperable with the ability to communicate with state and local emergency services first responders. These systems will include all equipment and support structures (antenna, towers, and equipment shelters) necessary to provide turn-key operations. DOC received Q-bond funding in the amount of \$11.5 million in the 2019-21 biennium, and this request is a continuation of that project funding.

DOC's third request is for \$70 million to address deferred maintenance capital renewal items in six categories: building elements, electrical systems, hardscaping, HVAC, plumbing, and roofs. DOC manages 328 buildings encompassing approximately 5.52 million square feet under roof, ranging in age from 15 to 150 years old, with a replacement value of \$2.68 billion. Our current deferred maintenance backlog is over \$626 million for priority one items, which are identified as being critical to health, safety, and the likelihood of rapid deterioration.

Lastly, DOC requests \$7.2 million for the engineering and construction of a Transport Headquarters in Salem. The Transport Unit was established to support eight institutions, yet current staffing has grown to approximately 90 full time employees (FTE) at the current Salem headquarters and three satellite units across the state (Madras, Hermiston, and Umatilla). The addition of a centrally located Transport Unit will allow for storage of over \$2 million worth of vehicles, as well as security equipment; will house administrative staff; and will provide space for staff debriefs and training. While this is a \$7.2M initial investment, it is also a future cost-avoidance in that it will protect expensive equipment from the weather and from vandalism and will provide work-specific and productive space for Transport staff.

The mission of the DOC is to promote public safety by holding offenders accountable for their actions and reducing the risk of future criminal behavior. These funding requests meet critical needs and support the department's mission.

Thank you for your consideration of these projects.

Sincerely,

Thom Martin

Thom Martin
Acting Assistant Director for Administrative Services
Oregon Department of Corrections
