



Oregon

Oregon Public Defense Commission

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Responses to questions from Public Safety Sub 2/6/2024

Questions regarding OJD/OPDC data share agreement timeline:

OPDC has been working to update its data share agreement with OJD since mid-December. OPDC sent a new data share agreement to OJD on February 5th. We are presently awaiting OJDs response and working to schedule a meeting.

Question regarding DAS/OEA forecasting update:

OPDC emailed the Office of Economic Analysis on February 7th requesting a status update and to schedule a check in. Prior to that, OPDC reached out to DAS OEA in early January after learning that the analyst we had been working with retired. DAS OEA indicated the work had been appropriately handed off and next steps were for DAS OEA to reach out to OJD and LFO about expectations.

Question regarding IT transition timelines:

IT Transition Update: OPDC has successfully recruited a Chief Information Officer (CIO) who will join the team by the end of February. We have also submitted a request to the legislature for approval to hire four additional IT staff members to support the transition and ongoing operations. Furthermore, the commission intends to engage a dedicated project manager through contracted services to oversee the transition process. Without these supplementary resources, the pace of the IT services transition would be considerably slower and risk missing the established timeframe. If approved, the new staff members could commence their roles as early as April 2024, contingent upon the availability of qualified candidates.

Collaborating closely with the Department of Justice and the Department of Administrative Services, the commission has identified transition needs and delegated responsibilities for each element. However, the Department of Justice has mandated that the transition must be finalized no later than January 2025 to coincide with OPDC's transfer to the Executive Branch, effectively condensing the timeline by six (6) months. Despite this revised timeline, the commission is confident in its ability to stay on course with the transition, recognizing the critical need for additional staff to ensure its successful completion.

Looking ahead, the incoming CIO, equipped with extensive experience and connections within Oregon State Government, particularly in the Executive Branch, will have the opportunity to assemble their own team and focus on establishing a well-structured and effective IT department. Overall, the commission remains focused on meeting the transition requirements outlined in SB 337 (2023) within the established timeframe.

Financial/Case Management System (F/CMS) Update:

Please see attached memo from OPDC to LFO dated 1/22/24.



Date: February 1, 2024
To: John Borden, Legislative Fiscal Office
From: Jessica Kampfe, Executive Director of Oregon Public Defense Commission

The Oregon Public Defense Commission, formerly the Public Defense Services Commission, has delayed the release of a Request for Proposal (RFP) to obtain a Financial / Case Management System (FCMS) while we work to refine it.

The Public Defense Services Commission began work nearly two biennia ago to obtain an off the shelf FCMS to replace the agency's aging information technology systems. The agency had set an internal benchmark to release an RFP for the FCMS by the Fall of 2023. As we worked towards that goal the agency realized that it did not have the specialized procurement staff necessary and contracted with a third-party vendor to develop the RFP.

In October 2023, the Public Defense Services Commission's Chief Information Officer (CIO) announced their resignation effective December 2023 and the agency's executive staff reached out to the State CIO office for assistance. The State CIO's office, in collaboration with Legislative Fiscal Office (LFO) Principal Legislative IT Analyst, agreed to assist the Oregon Public Defense Commission during the transition. Their support included recruitment of a new CIO for the agency and securing temporary contracted professional services. These services are a temporary solution to address FCMS project related staff turnover and employees on extended leave. Additionally, the services facilitate the transition of the Commission's Information Technology infrastructure from the Judicial Branch to the Executive Branch of government.

In early December 2023, the third-party vendor delivered a presentation to the Commission's executive team and leadership from the State's CIO office, unveiling the draft RFP intended for release to procure the FCMS. Following a comprehensive review and inspection, the agency identified deficiencies in the RFP, prompting a decision to postpone its posting. This delay is intended to allow for a thorough refinement before advancing further. The agency is actively engaged in internal efforts to enhance the procurement process. This includes conducting a comprehensive process mapping of requirements to better define priorities, recruiting for the new CIO, seeking experienced IT project managers, and maintaining ongoing communications with DAS-EIS to coordinate the subsequent steps in the process.

Due to the delayed posting of the RFP, the cumulative expenditure on this project amounts to \$752,500 over two biennia. In the 2021-23 biennium, the agency allocated \$422,000 towards project staff and a Quality Assurance and Compliance contractor. In the subsequent 2023-25 biennium, the agency incurred expenditures totaling \$330,500, covering project staff, a Quality Assurance and Compliance contractor, and the vendor who supplied a draft RFP. It is noteworthy that the latter was rejected prior to its public release.