

CLACKAMAS COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Staff Presentation Worksheet

Presentation Date: **Tuesday August 10, 2010** Time: **10:30 a.m.** Length: **30 Minutes**

Presentation Title: **Courthouse Sally Port Construction Project**

Department: **Finance/Facilities Management**

Presenters: **Marc Gonzales, Clackamas County Circuit Court Presiding Judge Steven Maurer**

POLICY QUESTION

Will the Board of Commissioners approve the project to add a sally port, one additional secure courtroom and other related improvements to the County-owned Courthouse on Main Street in Oregon City? Additionally, in the event the project cost exceeds the amount available from the Courthouse Security Account, will the Board agree to provide temporary bridge funds to the project, to be repaid from proceeds directed from the State Court system to the Courthouse Security Account?

ISSUE & BACKGROUND

Clackamas County's Courthouse, built in 1936, has long been inadequate and outdated. It has been remodeled extensively over many years to fit in space necessary to operate a modern court system. Although the Courthouse now holds more courtrooms and judge's chambers than ever before, its configuration continues to present a challenge to safeguard the public, the staff and the rights of the accused in criminal matters.

Presiding Judge Steven Maurer, as head of the Courthouse Security Committee, has commissioned a design from LRS Architects for an addition to the Courthouse, to include security features which will keep defendants attending criminal proceedings separate from the public and improve the temporary holding cell capacity and safety. It will also add one courtroom to accommodate the expanding complement of judges assigned to the Courthouse. The design and cost estimates have been reviewed by Facilities Management staff and are expected to be approved through the Oregon City design review process as appropriate for the historic courthouse.

The estimated cost of the proposed improvements is approximately \$1.9 Million, all of which is programmed to come from the Courthouse Security Account established by the State Court system which is funded by a surcharge on court fines and is reserved for such uses. The Courthouse Security Account is maintained by the County Treasurer and is only accessible with approval of the Presiding Judge, after consultation with the Courthouse Security Committee.

QUESTION(S) PRESENTED FOR CONSIDERATION

- 1) Will the Board of Commissioners approve adding the sally port and related improvements to the Courthouse?
- 2) Will the Board also approve the potential provision of temporary "bridge funding" to the project from County resources should the project costs temporarily exceed the Courthouse

Security Account balance? *Note: In the event that bridge funding becomes necessary, the Presiding Judge agrees that the County will have first call rights on any deposits to the Account until the amounts loaned are repaid.*

OPTIONS AVAILABLE

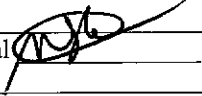
- 1) Approve the project which will add capacity and square footage to the County Courthouse and commit to a temporary loan (if necessary) to complete project funding, to be repaid from the first subsequent deposits to Courthouse Security Account funds;
- 2) Approve the Project but not the bridge funding loan;
- 3) Do not approve either the project or the funding assistance.

RECOMMENDATIONS

County elected officials and staff participate as members of the Courthouse Security Committee and have followed the development of the plans for this facility improvement project. The need for an additional Courtroom is demonstrable, and the security needs related to the transport and safe holding of those awaiting criminal trial proceedings is of high concern to the Court and to the County Sheriff who are responsible for safe operations within the Courthouse.

Staff respectfully recommends that the Sally Port Construction Project be approved. Staff also recommends that the Board agree to provide necessary temporary funding from County resources in the event the construction project costs exceed the balance available in the Courthouse Security Account, to be immediately recovered by the County as deposits are made to the Account.

SUBMITTED BY:

Division Director/Head Approval _____
Department Director/Head Approval  _____
County Administrator Approval _____

For information on this issue or copies of attachments, please contact _____ @ 503- _____