



Josephine County Board of Commissioners

Daniel E. DeYoung, Chair • Herman E. Baertschiger Jr., Vice Chair • Darin J. Fowler, Commissioner

April 13, 2021

To: Joint Committee on Ways and Means

Subj: Josephine County Renovation Projects in OJD's FY 2021-2023 Budget

Dear Members of the Joint Committee on Ways and Means,

I am writing to you on behalf of the Josephine County Board of Commissioners. Josephine County's courthouse recently celebrated its 100th birthday. In order to accommodate the expanding needs of court operations, the following upgrades and renovations are necessary during the upcoming biennium:

- An additional courtroom is needed for all five judges to be simultaneously effective. The new courtroom would include a judge's chamber, a jury room, and office space for staff.
- A large jury assembly room that would allow 80 to 100 jurors to convene on site making managing and utilizing jurors timelier and more effective. Currently this process occurs off site causing delays in trials as jurors are moved.
- A single point of access is required as part of a necessary security upgrade. Currently court patrons may enter the courthouse through five different points of access making screening at entrance impossible.
- The law library is moving out of the second floor and the space must be renovated to house and accommodate court operations.
- Some seismic retrofitting is needed, though the courthouse's age prevents full seismic protection.

The total cost estimate for the above renovations is \$2,190,000.00. Thus, OJD's match funding participation during FY 2021-2023 amounts to \$1,095,000.00. These figures are also reflected on the Project Information Form that Josephine County provided to the Legislative Fiscal Office.

Thank you for considering Josephine County's request for the inclusion of capital project matching funds in OJD's FY 2021-2023 budget. Please contact me at 541-474-5221 if there are any questions, or to obtain further elaboration.

Sincerely,

Daniel E. DeYoung, Chair

COURTHOUSE

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