

Southern Coos Hospital & Health Center

Testimony to the State of Oregon, Senate Committee on Health Care
In support of SR Bill 829
February 15, 2023

Submitted by:
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Southern Coos Hospital & Health Center Bandon, Oregon



Senate Bill 829

Section 1.

In addition to and not in lieu of any other appropriations, there is appropriated to the Oregon Department of Administrative Services, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2023, out of the General Fund, the amount of \$250,000 for distribution to Southern Coos Hospital & Health Center for the purpose of paying for engineering costs related to facility expansion.

Section 2.

This 2023 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2023 Act takes effect July 1, 2023.



Executive Summary

Southern Coos Hospital & Health Center, a 21-bed critical access hospital with 24-hour/day Emergency Department and inpatient, outpatient & diagnostic services is of inadequate size to serve the medical needs, including 24-hour/day Physician On site, Emergency Department services needs for the 16,000 permanent residents and tens of thousands of tourists and visitors that come to the Southern Oregon coast each year.

The bed shortage in the State of Oregon is real and is only expected to get worse if we do not expand the supply of hospital beds in our State. Southern Coos Hospital serves a vital role in providing hospital services and care in the Southwestern quadrant of our State.

In order to meet the needs of our community and thriving tourism, Southern Coos Hospital must begin now to plan for expansion and construction of additional hospital space. Specifically, the Emergency Department, Inpatient rooms, Clinical Laboratory, Surgery and Medical Imaging departments are undersized and must be expanded.



Executive Summary

With the availability of funding through SR 829, Southern Coos Hospital & Health Center will complete the following tasks necessary to expand our hospital and facilities, through the creation of a Master Facilities Plan, which will result in a long range strategy to serve this community for generations to come.

1. Conduct a thorough evaluation of the current facilities, land, and equipment through the lens of structural engineers, civil engineers, electrical engineers, mechanical engineers and healthcare architects.
2. Create a forecast of community demographics and health care needs into the future, resulting in projected space requirements.
3. Create an architectural and engineering plan to modify the current facility in order to meet those described needs.
4. A phasing plan to achieve the plan, prioritizing the most critical needs of the community and hospital.
5. A long range schedule, budget and capital plan needed to achieve the developed plan.
6. With the plan in place, initiate design and engineering for “phase 1” of the Master Facility Plan.



Southern Coos Health District:

Dedicated to Improving Access to Health in a Rural Area

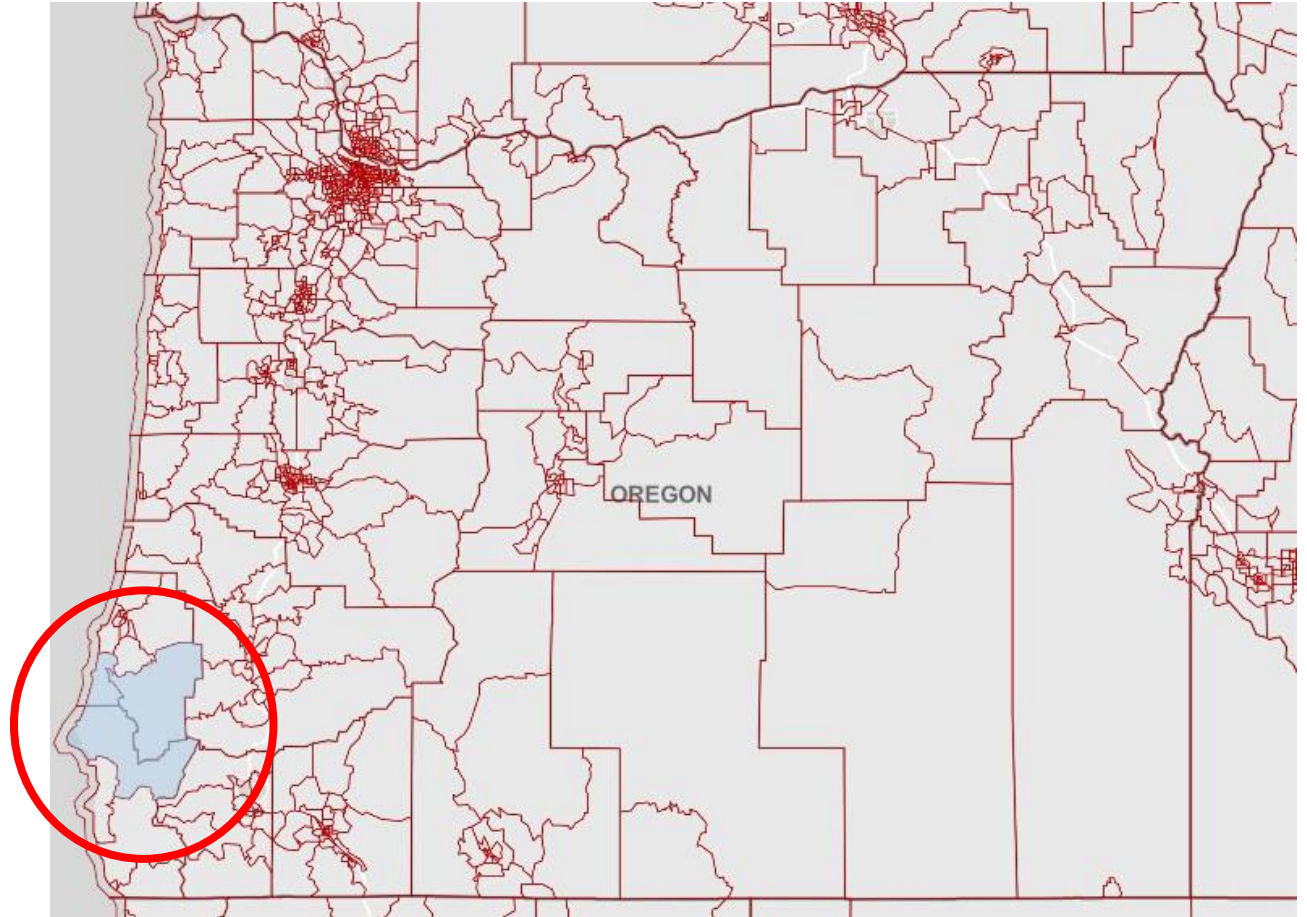
- The mission of the Southern Coos Health District is to provide quality healthcare with a personal touch.
- The Southern Coos Health District, originally formed in 1955 by public vote, is a municipal corporation organized under Oregon Statute.
- The current hospital facility was constructed in 1999 and opened its doors for service in December 1999 as a Critical Access Hospital (CAH). SCHHC meets this goal through:
 - A 24/7 emergency department;
 - 21 Licensed Acute Care Hospital beds;
 - Ancillary Services including Medical Imaging; Laboratory; Respiratory Therapy; Surgical Services;
 - The Multi-Specialty Clinic (MSC) which provides primary care, internal medicine, and behavioral healthcare.



Southern Coos Health District Service Area

The primary service area is populated by approximately 16,000 residents, and includes areas of Bandon, Coquille, Port Orford and Langlois. The service area boundaries go East past Sitkum, South toward Illahe and North to Lakeside. The service area includes Coos County Oregon, which is comprised of approximately 64,487 (ACS, 2019) residents and Curry County Oregon, which has a population of approximately 22,925 (ACS, 2019) residents.

The SCHHC service area serves approximately 18.3% of the population of Coos and Curry combined. This combined county area is 3,794 square miles along the Oregon Coast, and includes many notable geographic features including lakes, rivers, streams, and rugged and mountainous terrain. The service area stretches between the Oregon Coast Mountain Range and the Pacific Ocean, with many isolated rural communities scattered between hundreds of hills, valleys, waterways, and limited roads.



SCHHC Facility Overview

- Critical Access Hospital on the southern Oregon Coast
- Service Area Bandon, Oregon, and surrounding communities
 - Largely Medicare population over 60 years of age
 - Most common healthcare issues:
 - Behavioral Health
 - Obesity
 - Drug & Alcohol Abuse
 - Heart Disease
 - Neurological Issues (stroke, etc.)
 - Top industries and employers:
 1. Tourism
 2. Golf – Bandon Dunes Golf Resort
 3. City of Bandon
 4. Natural resources



SCHHC Facility Overview

- Building constructed in 1999
- 22,894 square feet in main building
- Steel & Wood Construction
- 2 additional structures
 - Business Office Building
 - Modular Construction, 2,680 sf
 - Multi Specialty Clinic
 - Modular Construction, 5,544 sf



Multi Specialty Clinic



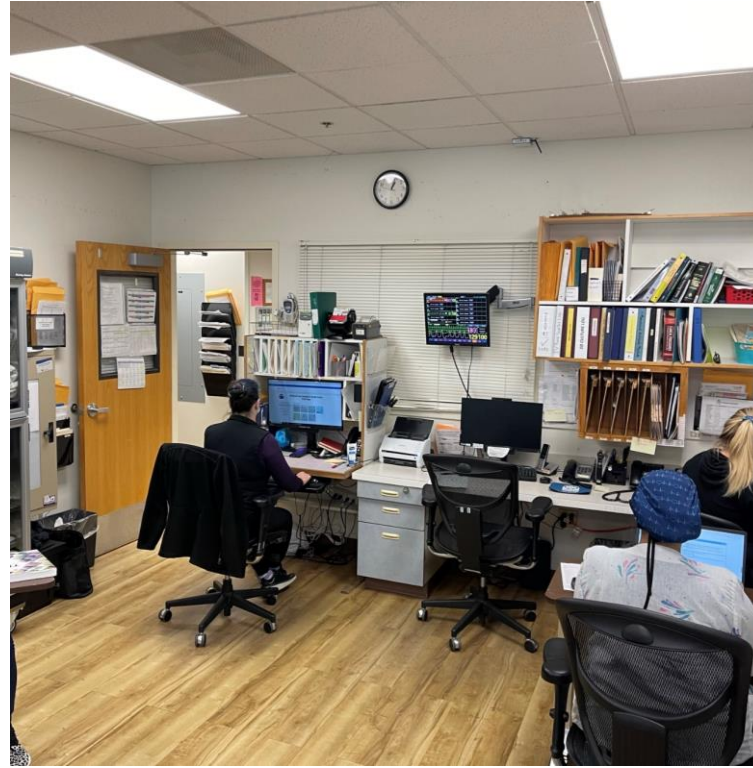
Main Hospital Square Footage (Total = 22,894 sf)

• Patient Rooms	3,813 sf
• Medical Imaging	1,856 sf
• Operating Room & Recovery	1,830 sf
• Central Sterile Supply	533 sf
• Emergency Department	1,161 sf
• Pharmacy	900 sf
• Laboratory	837 sf
• Dietary	2,143 sf
• Materials Management	630 sf
• Administration	1,243 sf
• Misc. Office Space	1,941 sf
• Engineering	2,158 sf
• Common Areas	3,849 sf



Southern Coos Hospital & Health Center Priority Areas of Need





SCHHC Emergency Department

- No dedicated triage space; staff often triage patients in the waiting room, if ED is busy
- Patient bathrooms are across the hall from the ED entrance, essentially eliminating patient confidentiality
- Nurse's station situated so staff has backs to patient area creating unsafe environment

SCHHC Emergency Department, *continued*

- During COVID, a tent was brought in for triaging of patients because the ED clinical space was too small; the tent has been utilized for 2 years
- Limited space effecting efficient use and storage of PPE for potentially infectious patients. Negative pressure room does not have anterooms that help to reduce exposure and cross contamination
- ED only has 2 beds with privacy walls, creating HIPAA concerns
- As the number of SCHHC ED visits climbs (slide 19), the current ED facility is not adequate to safely meet this increase
- ED patients are commonly overflowed to Inpatient rooms which challenges the ED staff's ability to monitor patient condition effectively as they are physically on a different unit
- Physical design of the department does not provide a safe room for patients suffering from behavioral health crisis. This means a staff member must be utilized to continuously sit with a patient to ensure he/she does not injure self on equipment that is unable to be removed from the room



SCHHC Emergency Department *continued*

- SCHHC is the only Hospital in Curry, Coos & Douglas Counties that is not a part of the State Trauma System.
- The lack of a trauma facility in Bandon means that there are residents in Southern Coos County/ Northern Curry County that are greater than 30 minutes away from the closest trauma facility.
- Future expansion plans include applying for and obtaining Level IV Trauma Center Status for SCHHC.



SCHHC Lab

- **Extremely small footprint**
- **Phlebotomy station** is cramped and not private, creating an uncomfortable environment for staff and patients
- **Instrument Room** is packed with large instruments:
 - Loud ambient noise
 - Precious little storage space
 - Reduces staff satisfaction and morale
- Staff must **open exterior doors** during the winter to keep the room cooled off



SCHHC Lab, Continued

- The **safety shower** (required) cannot be utilized as doing so would cause electrical hazards as there is no way to prevent water from spraying all over electrical equipment. In addition, the hood in the lab would become contaminated, limiting the ability to perform testing.
- **Biohazard disposal** is extremely limited as there is only space for one biohazard disposal container in the lab. Additional biohazard disposal containers need to be throughout the lab.
- **Eye wash stations** are not usable as the sinks in the department (2) are not reasonable options. One sink is in a COVID-19 testing area and the other commonly has waste disposed of in the sink, making it a hazard if a splash were to come back in to the eye wash user's eye.





SCHHC Surgical Services: Improvements Needed for Growth

- As we build surgical services at SCHHC, to meet community demands, we anticipate the need for at least 2 OR rooms in the next five years (currently only one)
- Staff use a patient room for endoscopies because the current OR is not big enough
- Sterile Processing room needs to expand to accommodate the expected growth in surgeries

Health Trends – Southern Oregon Coast

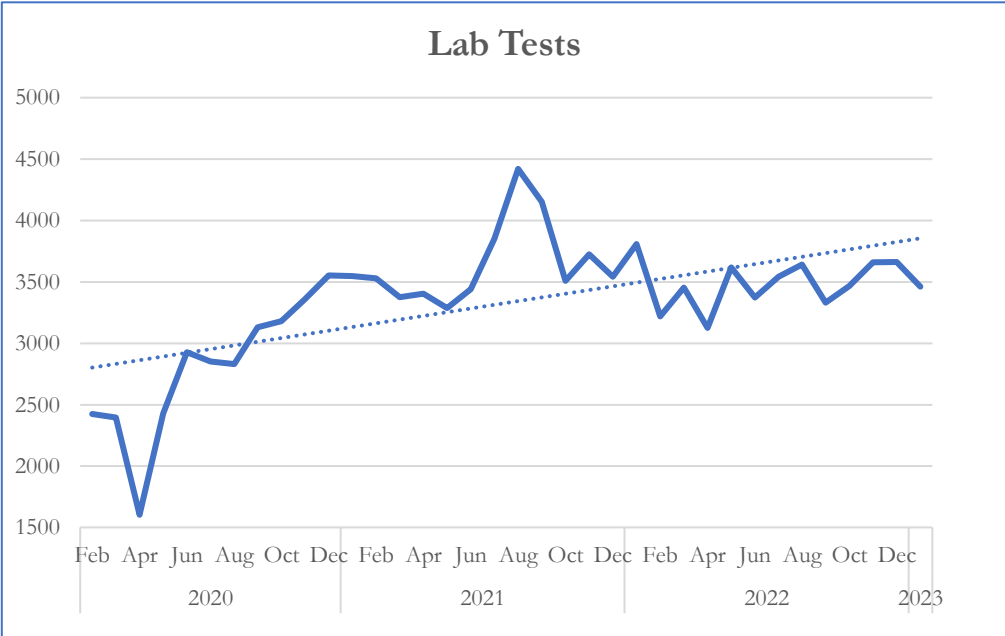
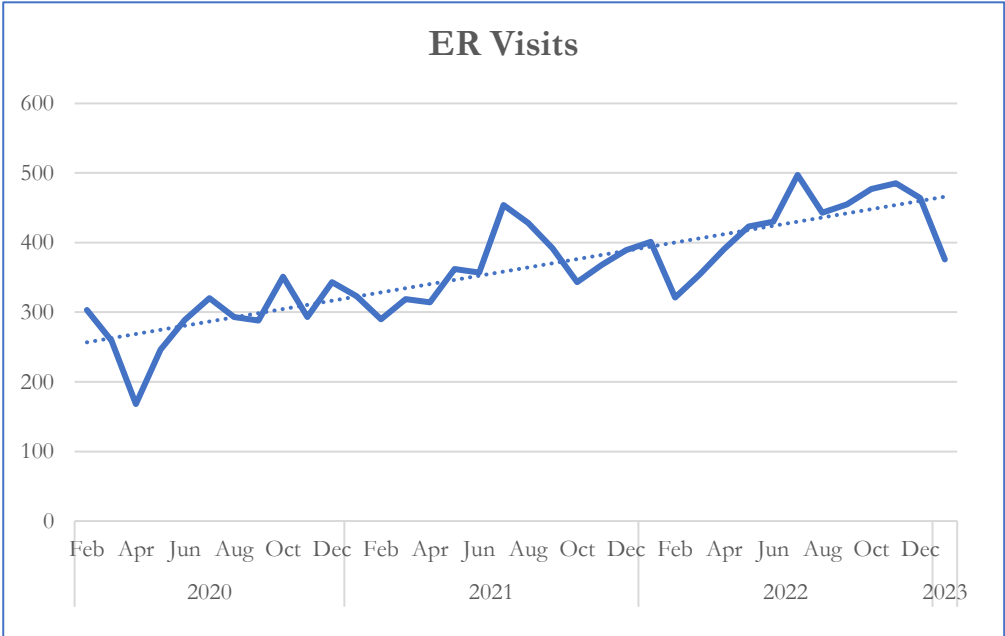
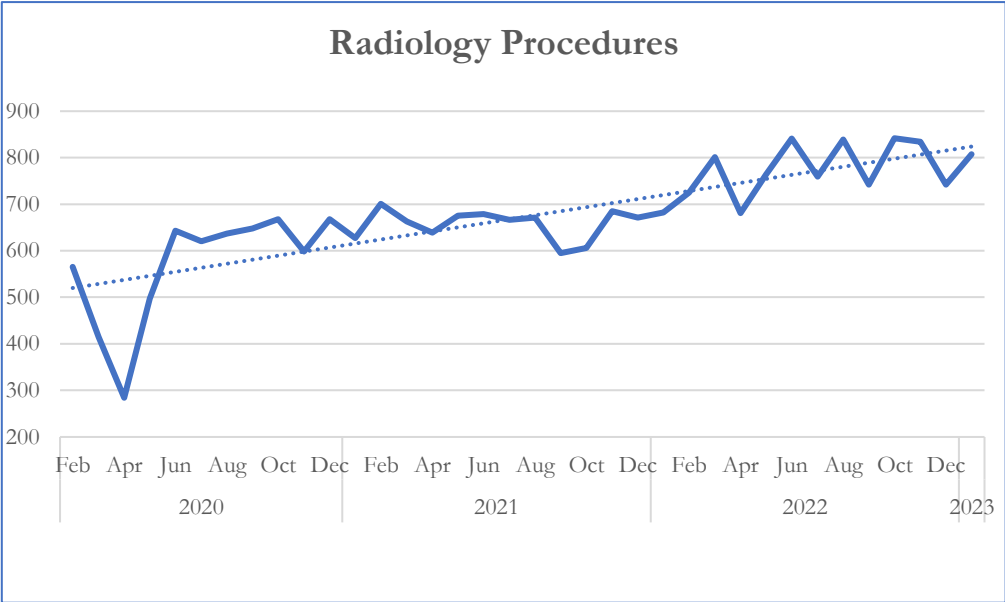
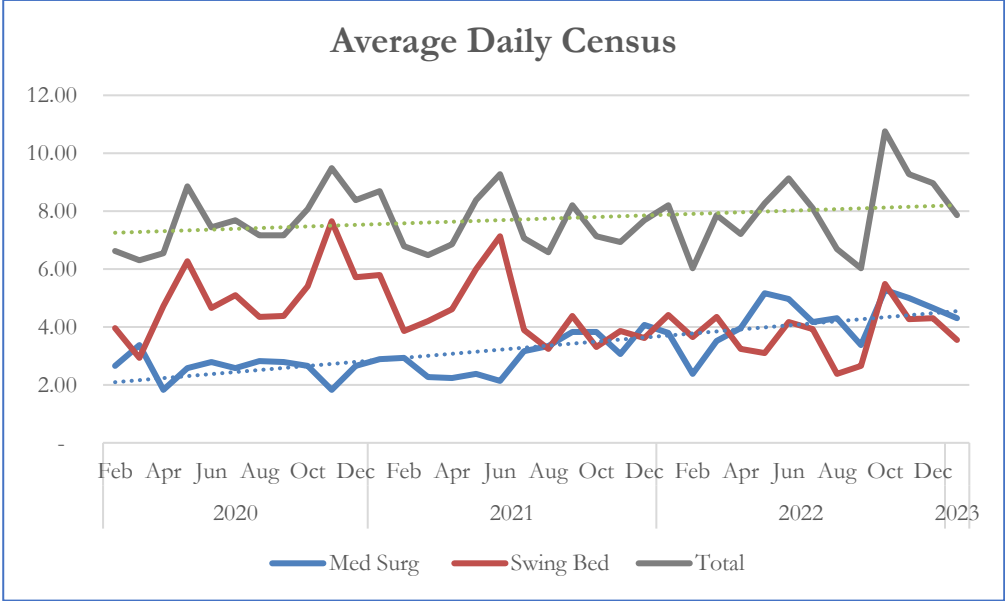
Southern Coos Hospital is expecting significant growth in the next 5-10 years as our service area grows and residents age.

Relevant Trend Lines:

- Average Daily Census
- SCHHC Emergency Department
- Radiology Services
- Laboratory Services



3-Year Trendlines for SCHHC Major Service Areas



SCHHC 2022-2025 Strategic Plan

- SCHHC has an Operations Plan for a Healthy Future
 - 3-Year Plan Adopted on May 26, 2022
 - As of December 31, 2022, the Plan was 70% Completed
- Goals Established in the Following Categories
 - People
 - Services
 - Quality
 - Growth
 - Financial



SCHHC 2022-2025 Strategic Plan *continued*

Partial List of Goals Completed or On Track for Completion:

- Updating Employee Compensation Strategy
- Implement Employee Engagement & Communications Plan
- Medical Staff Recruitment (2 new primary care physicians and 1 surgeon recruited this year)
- Implement Leadership Training Program
- Focus on Recruitment & Retention through education and internal training
- Identify, Select & Implement the most effective EMR and ERP systems for SCHHC.
- Achieved DNV Accreditation for the first time in SCHHC history
- Update SCHHC Cybersecurity Program
- Develop a facility master plan
- Develop a long-term financial sustainability plan by focusing on growth areas and service lines that meet the healthcare needs of our community



In Summary

Southern Coos Hospital & Health Center, a 23-year old steel and wood construction hospital serving the residents, employers, employees, tourists and visitors in the Southern Oregon Coast area of Oregon, has major physical plant challenges as our area continues to grow and tourism is thriving. The physical plant challenges include undersized clinical space in several key clinical departments (Emergency, Inpatient Units, Surgery, Laboratory) and in some construction flaws.

Because we are a smaller facility, with lean staffing and limited resources, we propose to engage professional engineering, planning and design specialists in a phased approach to first complete a comprehensive



In Summary

assessment of our current facilities and their sustainability for expansion/renovation for future needs. And then to engage architectural and engineering professionals to create a Master Facilities Plan for expansion and remodeling of our current facility to meet the described needs.

The next step would be to create a long range schedule, budget and capital plan needed to achieve the developed plan. This will include an evaluation of all possible funding mechanisms to bring the vision into reality.

The budgeted cost for professional plan development and oversight of engineering and architectural professionals is \$250,000.



Testimony Provided By

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