



LANE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Heather Buch
Ryan Ceniga
Pat Farr
David Loveall
Laurie Trieger

March 31, 2025

The Honorable Kate Lieber, Senator and Co-Chair
The Honorable Tawna Sanchez, Representative and Co-Chair
Joint Committee on Ways and Means

The Honorable Fred Girod, Senator and Co-Chair
The Honorable Rob Nosse, Representative and Co-Chair
Joint Committee on Ways and Means, Capital Construction Subcommittee

Dear Co-Chairs Lieber and Sanchez and Co-Chairs Girod and Nosse:

We write to express our collective appreciation to each of you for your ongoing focus on Oregon's behavioral healthcare crisis. Here in Lane County, the human need is particularly pronounced and we share your sense of urgency to fill the gaps in treatment capacity. In October, we were excited to publicly announce a partnership effort to collocate our 42-bed Behavioral Health Stabilization Center with PeaceHealth's 96-bed in-patient Timber Springs psychiatric hospital. Together, these facilities will provide an incredible boost in treatment capacity locally, regionally, and ultimately, statewide. Our stabilization center has a projected annual capacity that exceeds 8,200 patient visits and Timber Springs has an estimated annual capacity of over 4,300 patients. We are grateful for the strong bipartisan support of our legislative delegation in exploring capital funding opportunities for us with the rebalance bill early this session. As this was not possible, we write now to request an authorization for \$14,500,000 in Lottery Bonds for capital construction.

We estimate the total capital cost for the Stabilization Center to be \$30m, \$15.5m of which already secured via Lane County General funds (\$7.5m), federal HRSA grants from the 2023 and 2024 Congressionally Directed spending appropriations (\$3m), and Legislative support via Lottery Bond funds from HB 5030 (\$5m). Lane County and PeaceHealth have entered into a joint purchase agreement with a seller on a parcel in the Gateway area of Springfield and we are deep in the due diligence process. Given the urgent need for these facilities to open as quickly as possible, PeaceHealth and Lane County continue to explore every possible avenue to reduce the construction timeline.


We are unanimous in our view that securing these final capital funds for the Lane County Behavioral Health Stabilization Center is our community's top priority. We are grateful to each of you for your leadership and your consideration of our request.

Sincerely,


Lane County Board of Commissioners



David Loveall, Chair



Ryan Ceniga, Vice-Chair



Heather Buch, Commissioner
District 5, Each Lane



Pat Farr, Commissioner
District 4, North Eugene



Laurie Trieger, Commissioner
District 3, South Eugene

cc: Lane County Legislative Delegation