
MUNICIPAL JAIL DISCUSSION



HISTORY

- **Constructed in 2009** as a local holding facility for misdemeanor offenses (e.g., theft, assault, trespass, disorderly conduct, traffic offenses)
- **Purpose:** Allow local detention rather than relying on distant county jails
- **Staffing challenges from inception:** Facility was never fully staffed with dedicated corrections officers due to funding limitations
- **Operational strain:** Patrol officers managed the jail, reducing patrol capacity and increasing workload
- **Permanent closure in 2023:** Ongoing staffing shortages and inability to meet Oregon statutory and insurance requirements
- **Statewide trend:** Closure aligns with other small Oregon cities facing increased operational and legal demands
- **Current impacts:** Officers primarily issue citations rather than detain individuals locally

KEY LIABILITIES (ORS OVERVIEW)

Operating a municipal jail requires **continuous compliance, staffing, training, documentation, insurance coverage, and oversight** to manage legal and financial risk.

Legal & Civil Liability

Constitutional duties for due process, safety, and medical care; exposure to civil rights and tort claims

ORS 169.076; ORS 30.260–30.300

Staffing, Training & Supervision

Requirement for adequate staffing levels, training, and oversight; liability for failure to train or supervise

ORS 169.076

Gender Separation & Detainee Safety (PREA)

Mandatory separation of genders in housing and facilities; screening and supervision to prevent sexual abuse *ORS 169.076; federal PREA standards*

Medical, Mental Health & Medication Care

Intake screening, suicide prevention, detoxification, and continuity of prescribed medications

ORS 169.140; ORS 169.150

Religious Accommodations & Humane Treatment

Reasonable accommodation of religious practices, diets, and access to clergy *ORS 169.150; First Amendment / RLUIPA*

Facility Standards, Records & Insurance Risk

Life safety, sanitation, ADA compliance, incident documentation, inspections, and higher insurance exposure *ORS 169.076; ORS 192.311–192.478*

COUNCIL LED CHARGE

- Staff communications must remain strictly factual & neutral
- Meaningful advocacy/community persuasion must be Council-led
 - Uniquely positioned to explain rationale, engage with residents
- Campaign activity must occur OUTSIDE City operations
- Other entities likely to request additional funds from voters for General Obligation Bond/Local Option Levy

Staff Limited by Law: Cannot advocate for a levy (ORS 260.432)

Council Must Lead Advocacy: Only Councilor and Community Members can actively promote the measure

Advocacy Requires Private Funding: Marketing and outreach must be paid through personal funds or a PAC, not City resources

Clear Separation Ensures Compliance



24/7 Operations:
Supplies and maintenance costs

Cost: 317,200



Staffing (FTEs):
6 Correction Officers:
\$1,033,900

Supervisor:
\$276,744



Medical Staff:
Required for insurance coverage

Cost: \$75k



Liability and Insurance:
Medical negligence
Use-of-force lawsuits
ADA/Accessibility claims
civil rights litigation
Ins. Prem = \$30,132



Cost to Taxpayers:
Est. tax rate =
\$1.00/\$1,000

Cost for avg.
homeowner = \$385/yr



Per Bed Per Day Operating Costs:

\$396

WHAT WILL IT COST TO OPERATE THE MUNICIPAL JAIL?



TIME FRAME TO BECOME FULLY OPERATIONAL

81 Days Prior to Election Day

- Deadline to Submit to County Elections Official

Election Day

- Measure on Ballot

Per ORS 254.046, if a city holds an election on a date other than the Primary Election (May of even year) or General Election (November of even year), it shall bear the expense of the election.

Results Certified

- If Operation Levy passes, begin hiring process

6-9 Months After Election Day

- Estimated Opening

CONSULTANT

Viability & Readiness Assessment

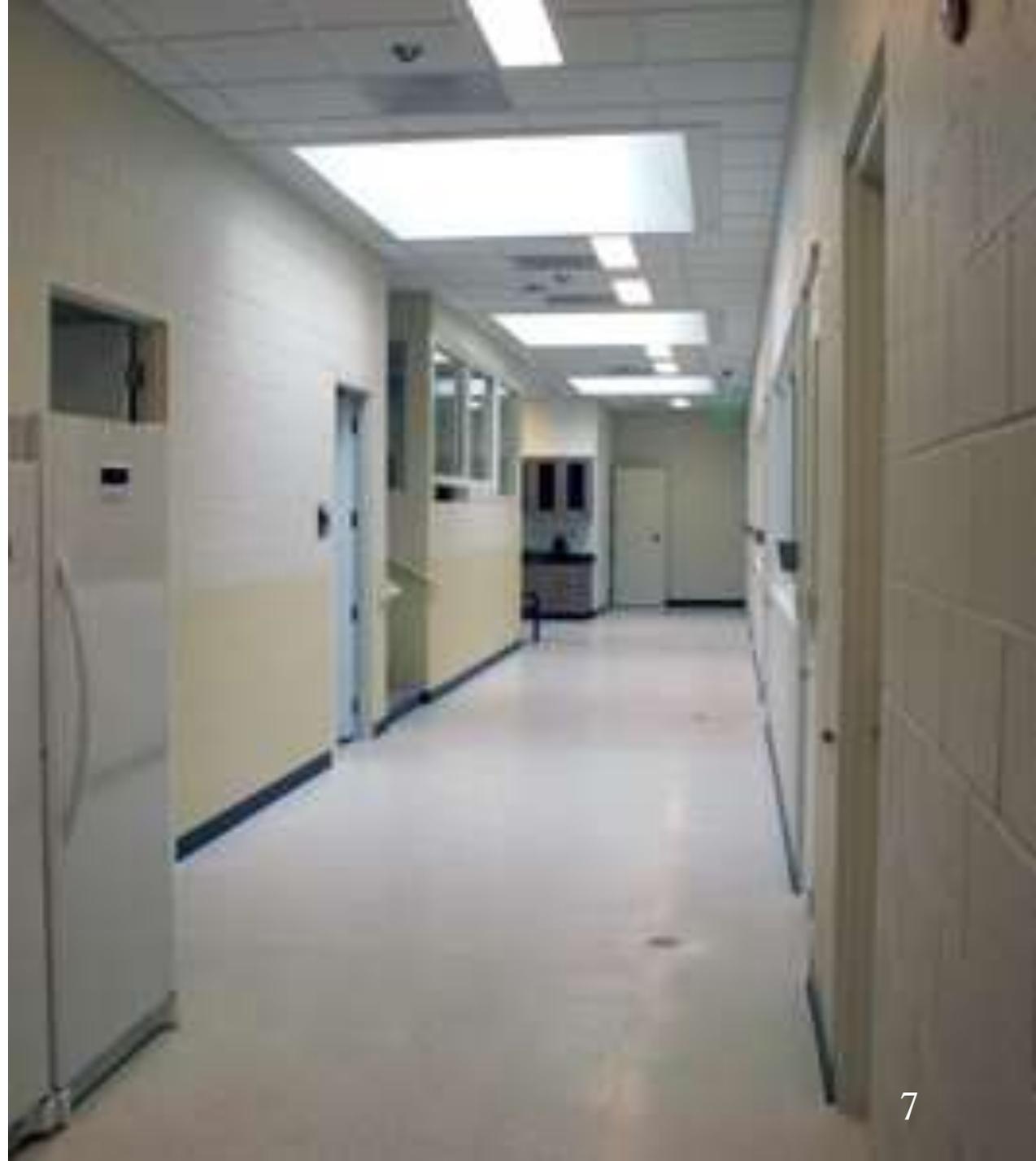
- Poll public opinion
- Review jail history and internal City data and prepare narrative
- Grassroots & Stakeholder Landscape Assessment
- Provide Go/No-Go Recommendation to Council

Message Development & Framing

- Translate data into clear, role-appropriate communication
- Support staff and elected officials as they create/share information

Public Outreach & Media Strategy

- Produce outreach and communications plan
 - Elected official & staff support
 - Provide conversation monitoring & strategic adjustments (advise on messaging pivots w/o overreaching)
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COUNCIL DIRECTION

- November 2026 or May 2027
- Approve the use of funds for hiring consultant
- Move forward with levy preparation