

Council Meeting November 19, 2019
Issue: Jackson County Jail

Jail Cost: Half a Billion over 20 years

- According to the Sheriff's figures of March 2019 (available at the new jail website - see link below) the new tax would create a new funding source that would bring in a total of more than **half a billion** dollars over the span of 20 years.
- The new tax for the new county service district, if passed, is permanent, and adds up to more than 40 percent of what the county **already takes in property taxes**.
- **Not one dime** of that new tax can be used on anything else other than building, maintaining, and operating the new jail. That's state law about county service districts, defined in the ORS's. So the whole mental health and substance abuse treatment angle becomes a false flag.
- <http://jacksoncountyor.org/sheriff/Jail/New-Jail-Project>

Without Ashland becoming a member of the new county police service district, the jail can't be built. The revenue from Ashland's property taxes is the foundation for the jail.

Don't give us a "false" vote because the rest of the county can vote for the jail and we still have to pay for it even if 90% of Ashland doesn't want it. It is a county-wide vote that determines the funding for the jail and Ashland pays the lions share of it.

Let's work on funding more diversion programs *like Eric Guyer's work in Talent* and set up mental health clinics and services that can significantly reduce the population in our jail. We must think out of the box for ways to address mental illness, addiction and poverty all that can lead to "jail time". There are other solutions!! Let's give ~~22~~ a try for less than \$1 million. It works!

For instance, Cabots works ~~is~~ well in other communities.

Dr. Carol Voisin, Ashland