

**The National Alliance on Mental Illness Southern Oregon Steering Committee
Re: Proposed Jail Levy and Special District.**

As you may remember, the National Alliance on Mental Illness came before you earlier and explained our goals around the intersection between MH and LE.

With those goals in mind, we made some requests of the County, in order to make us comfortable with supporting the proposed new jail levy. We asked for:

A comprehensive diversion program; some budget guarantees for MH services in the new jail; a transition center; and flexibility to allow any excess moneys to be used for diversion or Community Justice.

The County's response was that the way this proposal is designed as a Special District makes all these requests illegal.

Finally, we also requested an elected Board to oversee the Jail's Special District. Not only is that legal, but we use elected boards to oversee Libraries, Education. Sewers.

However, the County does not *have* to set up an elected board for the jail levy. It appears they do not intend to. We hope they will reconsider.

For the record, we do not expect any single levy to solve all MH problems; we would have been satisfied if the County Office had reached out and said "We can't use this bucket of money over here for these ideas, but let's meet up and discuss what we can do..."

We will meet that offer enthusiastically and will put our own time and energies into making successful. There have been some individuals, including Sheriff Sickler and Eric Guyer, who have already reached out to address MH concerns, and they are definitely acknowledged and applauded. We expect we will continue working together, hopefully with the support of the County and our whole community.

We know that diversion (including a 24/7 psychiatric crisis center) will save suffering and money. recent presentations from Eugene and Marion County quoted financial savings of \$15.5 Million and decreased bookings of 20-25%, respectively. An initial upfront investment will create a system that can pay for itself!

If this proposal goes through for a vote in May, we know that our many members – and the many non-members who have been affected by mental illness – will all be closely watching to see if the County will step up and join us to ensure Treatment before Tragedy.

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Nathaniel Sickler** <SickleNJ@jacksoncounty.org>

Date: Fri, Nov 15, 2019 at 2:23 PM

Subject: Fwd: Jail construction costs vs. operating costs?

To: Tonya Graham <tonya@council.ashland.or.us>, Meesha Blair <meesha@scottsrocks.com>

This is the spread sheet for costs. If you look at the cost increases for Medical it is likely we will always have a ample budget to run our desired programs. While I cannot predict the future, I think we will be okay. Please look at the Materials and service section near the top for a detailed projection. The below text was a response to a media inquiry. Let me know if this helps.

Please remember these are projections - looking 20 years out - and adjusting for factors that may or may not be in our control. It makes assumptions that may or may not be exact. With that said, I think the projections are valid given everything we know and can assume at this point. Here is how to interpret the spread sheet I've attached.

Total cost of constructing the new jail is \$60 million general fund reserves, \$6.6 million for land, and \$104.3 bonded construction cost (which will be paid by the district) for a total \$170.9. Total bond payments are indicated in column X row 41 on the attached worksheet in the amount of \$138,274,580 (combination of principal and interest payments over time).

Total district support (new taxes) for operations and ~~bond payments~~ would be the sum of row 45 from column C to V for the first 20 years or \$514,042,038. The same total as row 66 Columns C to V (taxes collected).

Total projected continued general fund support for the jail operations would be the sum of row 36 columns C to V for the first 20 years or \$241,798,994.

Total operations expenditures for the 20 years is the sum of row 32 columns C to V or \$713,861,937.

Total budget would be the combination of row 32 "Total Expenditures" plus row 41 or bond payments which equals \$852,136,517.

As you can see in row 66 taxes collected for the district would be about \$18,177,080 in the first year.

You will also notice that the last year the project is spending about \$6.1 million (reserves row 70 column V) more than it is collecting. The last bond payment is due that year (Row 45 column V) so it falls off in year 21 and the revenue used to pay down the bonds will go toward operations and the budget will be balanced.

From: Vickie Aldous <valdous@rosebudmedia.com>
Sent: Monday, November 4, 2019 2:36:46 PM
To: Danny Jordan
Subject: EXT: Re: Jail construction costs vs. operating costs?

Hi Danny,

Looking at the numbers again, I thought the majority of the roughly \$170 million overall cost was actually to cover the increased cost of operations. Are you saying just building the physical jail (including land, permits, etc.) would cost that much? I thought the idea of the service district was to fold in construction costs plus increased operating costs and bundle that together in an easy to understand package for voters. Adding on another \$15.5 million per year in additional operating expenses would put the additional operating costs at roughly \$309 million over 20 years if the costs stayed the same annually. The overall construction and operating costs of a new jail would be roughly \$479.6 million over 20 years.

- Vickie

On Mon, Nov 4, 2019 at 1:37 PM Danny Jordan <JordanDL@jacksoncounty.org> wrote:
Hi Vickie,

The cost of constructing a new jail based on the latest projections, including soft costs, is \$164,265,515. Soft cost are items such as architects, permits, development fees etc.. In addition the County has spent \$6.5 million to purchase 47.07 acres of land on the East side of the airport for the new facility.

It's hard to show an actual operating budget comparison since the new jail doesn't yet exist and wouldn't be open for a few years after the district is formed and the service model will change to provide more service to those with physical health, and addictions and mental health issues. The jail's current operating budget for FY 19-20 is \$13,516,972, with approximately 80 fulltime equivalent (FTE) employees housing approximately 300 prisoners. The new jail's operating budget is projected to be \$29 million when it opens in FY 24-25, with approximately 105 FTE housing approximately 800 prisoners.

From: Vickie Aldous [mailto:valdous@rosebudmedia.com]
Sent: Monday, November 4, 2019 11:24 AM
To: Danny Jordan <JordanDL@jacksoncounty.org>; Julie Denney <DenneyJA@jacksoncounty.org>
Subject: EXT: Jail construction costs vs. operating costs?

Hi Danny,

I'm working on a Since You Asked article in response to a reader's question. The reader wants to know what is the proposed capital budget for the new jail? What is the

proposed annual operating budget of the new jail? What is the current annual operating budget for the existing jail?

Thank you,
Vickie Aldous
Reporter, Mail Tribune
Cell: 541-659-5740
Desk: 541-776-4486

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Vickie Aldous Reporter

(541) 776-4486 | valdous@rosebudmedia.com