Issue Brief

OREGON DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTION

Junction City Construction

Overview

The future prison near Junction City is part of the Oregon Department of Corrections' (DOC) long-range construction plan to safely house inmates as the prison population grows. The plan is based on the biannual Corrections Population Forecast, issued by the Oregon Office of Economic Analysis, available online at: http://egov.oregon.gov/DAS/OEA/corrections.shtml.

Location

DOC owns an approximately 262-acre site located within the City of Junction City. The site is approximately 3.5 miles south of downtown Junction City. The new DOC prison facilities will be co-located with a new Oregon Health Authority (OHA) State Hospital.

Project description

The Junction City correctional facilities will be built in three phases. Phase 1 constructs site access, infrastructure, and onsite wetlands mitigation. Phase 2 constructs an anticipated 532-bed men's minimum-security facility. Phase 3 constructs an anticipated 1,262-bed men's medium-security facility.

The new correctional facilities, as currently planned, will address the needs of several special populations, which include inmates needing residential programming and treatment, mental health treatment, and geriatric care.

Background

The 2007 Legislature provided DOC with $10.7 million for initial design programming, wetland delineation, project administration, and infrastructure planning. The 2009 Legislature provided DOC with an additional $41.5 million for offsite infrastructure planning and construction, wetlands mitigation, drainage improvements and site access. All current activities have been closely coordinated with the OHA Junction City State Hospital.

Design

The design for the minimum and medium-security facilities will be based on the model developed at Coffee Creek Correctional Facility in Wilsonville, and Deer Ridge Correctional Institution in Madras, with modifications for special population treatment considerations.

Design and infrastructure development and adaptation for both projects began in July 2007. Adjustments to the design and construction schedule may occur based on changes in future population forecasts, legislation or voter initiatives.

Project Schedule

Infrastructure construction began in spring 2010 and was completed in winter 2013. At this time, completion of the Junction City facility is beyond the 10-year construction schedule. However, construction schedules are subject to change and re-evaluated with the April and October prison population forecasts.

Funding

To date, funding for DOC prison construction and related activities has been primarily through the sale of Certificates of Participation (COPs), which are similar to bonds. The estimated cost for the Junction City prison is more than of $350 million.

Local involvement

A Prison Advisory Committee (PAC) was created in 1997. The purpose of the PAC is to serve as a citizen advisory group to the DOC regarding siting conditions, design and construction activities, correctional issues, and other DOC activities and practices that may affect communities in the region.

Estimated employment

At full capacity, the minimum-security facility will employ 100 to 150 staff members, with an estimated annual payroll of $4-$6 million. When the medium-security facility is complete and at full capacity, the

workforce for the combined minimum and medium security facilities will be 400 to 500 employees, with an estimated annual payroll of $22 million.

The mission of the Oregon Department of Corrections is to promote public safety by holding offenders accountable for their actions and reducing the risk of future criminal behavior.

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