



Director's Message

February 24, 2012

Dear Colleagues,

As you may know, the Legislature's Ways and Means Committee Co-Chairs released their proposed budget today for the remainder of the biennium. This is the next step in the budget development process, and does not yet reflect a final budget.

In expectation that we might need to find additional savings while Oregon's economy continues to struggle, we have been implementing a range of management actions to reduce expenditures. These have included canceling or deferring some projects, holding vacant positions open longer, and finding other ways to save funding without harming services to youth.

At this point, we do not plan to make any further close-custody or community bed reductions. We will continue to carefully monitor our budget and expenditures, and will work to protect services and programs. We also will continue to coordinate with the Governor, Legislature, and other stakeholders as the budget development process unfolds.

I will keep you updated as we know more. In the meantime, if you have specific concerns, I encourage you to speak with your Assistant Director. Please know that we continue to advocate for the important work you are doing.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Fariborz Pakseresht".

Fariborz Pakseresht
Interim Director