



Issue Brief - 2008

OREGON DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

Junction City Prison Site

Overview

Oregon’s prison population is growing. The future Department of Corrections’ (DOC) prison near Junction City is part of the agency’s long-range construction plan to safely house the projected number of felons in its custody. The plan is based on the semi-annual Corrections Population Forecast, issued by the Department of Administrative Services Office of Economic Analysis (available on-line at: <http://egov.oregon.gov/DAS/OEA/corrections.shtml>.)

Location

DOC owns a 240-acre site in Lane County, located 1.5 miles south of Junction City. The new prison will be co-located with one of the new Oregon State Hospitals.

Project description

Current plans build the Junction City facility in two phases. Phase 1 constructs a 532-bed men’s minimum-security facility. Phase 2 constructs a 1,262-bed men’s medium-security facility. The facilities will include areas for inmate housing, work and education programs, health services, food services, physical plant, warehouse and storage, vehicle maintenance, administration and other related functions.

The new facility will address the needs of several special needs populations. The special populations include mental health and geriatric inmates in the medium facility and residential programming and the mental health transitional unit in the minimum facility.

Estimated project schedule

Item Estimated Completion

Phase 1: 532-bed men’s minimum prison

Construction start date..... Summer 2009

Completion dateFall 2012

Phase 2: 1,262-bed men’s medium prison

Construction start date..... Summer 2009

Facility completion date..... Spring 2013

Design development and adaptation for both phases is expected to begin in July 2008. Adjustments to the construction schedule may occur based on changes in future prison population forecasts, legislation or voter initiatives.

Design

The design for the minimum-security prison likely will be based on the Warner Creek Correctional Facility in Lakeview and the Deer Ridge Correctional Institution (DRCI) in Madras. The site and designs will allow for additional future construction, doubling the size of the prison if needed. The medium-security prison design will be based on the template used for DRCI, Coffee Creek Correctional Facility and Two Rivers Correctional Facility.

Funding

In the 2007-09 budget, ten million dollars were allocated for planning of the Junction City site. 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 is in excess of \$350 million based on DRCI design.

Local involvement

Before DOC begins construction of a new prison, a Prison Advisory Committee (PAC) is created. The purpose of the PAC is to serve as a citizen advisory group to the DOC regarding construction activities, correctional issues and other DOC activities and practices that may affect communities in the region. The PAC also is used to promote effective communication between the community and DOC.

DOC appointed individuals who represent a broad cross-section of areas of interest from the local communities to serve on the Southern Willamette Valley Prison Advisory Committee. These individuals were appointed

based on recommendations from regional elected officials.

The PAC began meeting several years ago, but was suspended in 2003 because of delays in the construction schedule for the facility. It will be reactivated before construction begins.

Estimated employment

The minimum-security prison will employ 100-150 employees with an estimated annual payroll of four to six million dollars. When the medium-security prison is complete, the workforce for the entire facility will be 400-500 employees and will have 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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