



Issue Brief - 2009

OREGON DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

New Prison Construction

Overview

Over the next ten years the Oregon prison population is expected to increase by 17 percent, based on the April 2009 Oregon Corrections Population Forecast produced by the Department of Administrative Services Office of Economic Analysis. To address this growth, the Oregon Department of Corrections (DOC) has created a long-range construction plan that will provide permanent housing for the increased population. In the meantime, the Department utilizes the maximum number of temporary beds within existing prisons that can be safely managed in the short term. Once new construction is complete, DOC gradually phases out the use of temporary beds.

Modern correctional institutions represent a building type which is large, technologically advanced and multi-faceted in use. New prisons are designed as self-supporting cities. The following list provides some comparisons of prison elements to community elements.

Prison		Community
Housing units	↔	Apartments
Infirmery	↔	Hospital
Segregation	↔	Jail
Chapel	↔	Church
Physical Plant	↔	Public Works
Programming	↔	School

Siting

In 1995, the Oregon Legislative Assembly passed House Bill 2214, now codified in ORS 421.611, which sets out an expedited process for nominating and establishing facilities. Executive Orders of former Governor John Kitzhaber provided authorization of six sites for prison development, four of which have been completed – Two Rivers Correctional Institution in Umatilla; Coffee Creek Correctional Facility in Wilsonville; Warner Creek Correctional Facility in Lakeview; and Deer Ridge Correctional Institution in Madras. The two remaining authorized sites are Junction City and White City.

Costs

The costs of constructing a new prison vary depending on the type of facility being constructed, conditions of the marketplace at the time of construction and the site itself. Currently the total cost to construct a new 2,000-bed prison is approximately \$450 million. The costs are broken down into five categories.

On-Site Development

On-site development costs include measures taken to prepare the site for construction, including:

- Clearing and leveling the ground
- Paving
- Fencing
- Site lighting
- Roads
- Parking
- Installing underground utilities

Administration

Administration costs include:

- Project management
- Design
- Materials testing
- Commissioning
- Permits
- Pre-construction fees
- Inspection fees

Off-Site Infrastructure

Off-site infrastructure costs include:

- Water and sewer line extensions
- Water and sewer treatment plant expansions
- Road and street improvements
- Electrical, natural gas, and fiber optics extensions

Facility Construction

Facility construction costs are the costs of physically constructing the sections of the prison, including:

- Housing units
- Inmate processing

- Food services and dining
- Facility administration/gatehouse
- Warehouse
- Laundry
- Classrooms
- Medical
- Multipurpose rooms
- Inmate processing area
- Furnishings

Timeline

Construction of a minimum facility takes approximately 18 months to complete and construction of a medium facility takes approximately 27 to 32 months to complete. Once construction is complete there is a period of approximately three to five months during which the construction site is transformed to an operating prison. This period includes:

- Familiarization of staff with facility architecture and design.
- Security checks of the site to ensure no materials are left behind from construction.
- Staff training on operations and security systems.

Efficiencies

DOC economic sustainability initiatives not only reduce costs, but also make the agency's operations more efficient. Environmental sustainability initiatives ensure that our natural capital is used wisely and preserved now and for future generations. DOC has four sustainability goals that result in economic or environmental efficiencies:

- ***Sustainable construction and maintenance projects:*** In design and construction projects, the Department incorporates energy conservation opportunities, uses recycled products, and limits environmental impact to the extent possible.
- ***Minimize solid waste production:*** The Department recognizes the need and the importance of reducing the generation of solid waste from its operations through reduction, reuse, and recycling.
- ***Conservation of energy, water and other resources:*** The Department minimizes consumption of energy, water and other resources by eliminating wasteful practices and promoting efficient use.
- ***Environmentally responsible and strategic purchasing:*** DOC recognizes the need and the importance of making purchases that will obtain the best value by balancing short and long-term costs when purchasing products, goods and services. ■

**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.**



**Max Williams, Director
(503) 945-0927**

**Mitch Morrow, Deputy Director
(503) 945-0927**

**Doug Young, Administrator
New Prison Construction
(503) 934-1064**

**Oregon Department of Corrections
2575 Center Street NE
Salem, Oregon 97301-4667**

www.oregon.gov/doc

PA-99:6/15/09