



June 23, 2016

The Honorable Nan G. Waller
Presiding Judge, Multnomah County Circuit Court
Multnomah County Courthouse
1021 SW Fourth Avenue
Portland, OR 97204-1123

Dear Presiding Judge Waller:

As you know, Multnomah County is in the process of replacing the Multnomah County Courthouse to provide a safer, more functional central courthouse. Recognizing the significant costs associated with that project, the 2016 Oregon Legislature passed House Bill 4093, which provides a mechanism to assist counties in funding courthouse construction.

HB 4093 creates a funding mechanism for counties that have received funds for a county courthouse from proceeds of bonds issued pursuant to Article XI-Q of the Oregon Constitution. Eligible counties must also owe debt service on those and certain other bonds related to the county courthouse. Specifically, in qualifying counties, the Board of County Commissioners may request the presiding judge of the judicial district in which the county is located to order the imposition of a surcharge of five dollars on each fine assessed. These fines are to be assessed for (1) a violation of a parking ordinance or (2) a traffic offense as defined in ORS 801.555(2). The presiding judge may order the imposition of the surcharge at the Board's request, and the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court must then approve the surcharge.

Multnomah County is eligible to use the funding mechanism in HB 4093 because the County has received funds for the new courthouse from Article XI-Q bond proceeds and expects the sale of additional bonds to provide funding for later phases of the courthouse project.

By signing this letter, approved by the Multnomah County Board of County Commissioners on June 23, 2016, the Board of County Commissioners requests an order imposing a surcharge of five dollars on each fine assessed in Multnomah County for a violation of a parking ordinance or a traffic offense as defined in ORS 801.555(2). Multnomah County will use the surcharge funds (1) for payment of capital costs of the courthouse project for which bonds are or will be issued under section 8, chapter 705, Oregon Laws 2013; (2) for payment of debt service and related expenses and funding of debt service reserves, if any, for bonds issued under ORS 271.390 or ORS chapter 287A to finance capital costs of the courthouse project for which bonds are or will be issued under section 8, chapter 705, Oregon Laws 2013; (3) for payment of the county treasurer's actual costs associated with maintaining a courthouse surcharge account, up to five percent per year of the moneys received from the surcharge for that year; and (4) for any other purpose authorized by the legislature.



The Board requests an order imposing the five dollar surcharge be submitted to the State Court Administrator before July 1, 2016, so that the Circuit Court may begin imposing the surcharge on fines for offenses occurring on and after January 1, 2017.

Respectfully,

Deborah Kafoury
County Chair