

**BEFORE THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FOR MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON**

RESOLUTION NO. 08-076

Directing Facilities to Pursue Land Use Entitlements for the North Hawthorne Bridgehead, the Preferred Site for a New Courthouse in Portland's Government Center Area

The Multnomah County Board of Commissioners Finds:

- a. Oregon Revised Statute 1.185 requires counties in which a circuit court is located to provide "suitable and sufficient courtrooms, office and jury rooms."
- b. Resolution 01-114 found that, "The existing Multnomah County Courthouse does not meet the requirements of the Fourth Judicial District, Circuit Court of the State of Oregon. The current size and configuration of the Courthouse do not meet the programmatic requirements of the Court."
- c. Resolution 06-033 resolved to "move forward with all due speed to address the needs of the Fourth Judicial District Circuit Court ... [with the] intent to acquire a site as the first step towards constructing a new facility for the Fourth Judicial District Circuit Court in, or in proximity to, downtown Portland's Government Center area by December 31, 2006."
- d. By Resolution 06-203, the Board declared the North Hawthorne Bridgehead Block to be the preferred site for a new Multnomah County Courthouse.
- e. Resolution 07-055 approved an agreement to provide \$9 million in urban renewal funding to help finance the relocation of the existing Hawthorne Bridge west-bound off-ramp and efforts are underway to select a contractor to design the new ramp.
- f. Resolution 07-193 approved an agreement with Two Main Development LLC for a Tunnel Easement between the Justice Center and the Courthouse site.
- g. Current zoning on the North Hawthorne Bridgehead Block limits the height of development and precludes the construction of a building of sufficient size to meet the needs for a new courthouse.
- h. The process to obtain the required zoning modifications needed to support the construction of a new courthouse is significant. It is important that this work begin immediately to insure the site is ready to accommodate the new courthouse when construction funding is identified.

The Multnomah County Board of Commissioners Resolves:

1. FPM is directed to begin work immediately to obtain the required zoning modifications needed to support the construction of a new courthouse on the North Hawthorne Bridgehead Block. FPM shall provide the Board with quarterly progress reports on this effort.

ADOPTED this 29th day of May 2008.




**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FOR MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON**


Ted Wheeler, Chair

REVIEWED:

**AGNES SOWLE, COUNTY ATTORNEY
FOR MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON**

By 
John S. Thomas, Deputy County Attorney

SUBMITTED BY:

Lisa Naito, Commissioner District 3