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MULTNOMAH COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
PUBLIC TESTIMONY SIGN-UP

Please complete this form and return to the Board Clerk
This form is a public record

MEETING DATE: 4-22-10

SUBJECT: EAST COUNTY COURTS

AGENDA NUMBER OR TOPIC: _____

FOR: X AGAINST: _____ THE ABOVE AGENDA ITEM

NAME: JOSH FUHRER

ADDRESS: 1332 NW BIRSDALE AVE

CITY/STATE/ZIP: GRESHAM, OR 97030

PHONE: DAYS: 503-869-1810 EVES: SAME

EMAIL: josh.fuhrer@greshamoregon.gov FAX: _____

SPECIFIC ISSUE: I'D LIKE TO ENCOURAGE THE COMMISSIONER TO APPROVE THE EAST COUNTY COURTS PROJECT

WRITTEN TESTIMONY: _____

IF YOU WISH TO ADDRESS THE BOARD:

1. Please complete this form and return to the Board Clerk.
2. Address the County Commissioners from the presenter table microphones. Please limit your comments to **3 minutes**.
3. State your name for the official record.
4. If written documentation is presented, please furnish one copy to the Board Clerk.

IF YOU WISH TO SUBMIT WRITTEN COMMENTS TO THE BOARD:

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2. Written testimony will be entered into the official record.



April 21, 2010

Hon. Jeff Cogen
County Chair
501 SE Hawthorne Blvd.
Portland, OR 97214

Hon. Deborah Kafoury
Commissioner District 1
501 SE Hawthorne Blvd.
Portland, OR 97214

Hon. Barbara Willer
Commissioner District 2
501 SE Hawthorne Blvd.
Portland, OR 97214

Hon. Judy Shiprack
Commissioner District 3
501 SE Hawthorne Blvd.
Portland, OR 97214

Hon. Diane McKeel
Commissioner District 4
501 SE Hawthorne Blvd.
Portland, OR 97214

RE: East County Courthouse Facility

Dear Chair Cogen and Commissioners Kafoury, Willer, Shiprack and McKeel:

This letter expresses the Gresham Area Chamber of Commerce's strong support for the construction of the East County Courthouse facility with three courtrooms. The Chamber recognizes this project as critical to support the need for citizens of East Multnomah County to address their legal needs and requirements.

The Chamber sees that this facility would fulfill a commitment, a promise and a need for this growing community. The proposal is environmentally friendly, reducing unnecessary trips downtown to the courthouse and will help support and promote mass transit options.

Not only will this proposal help ease court congestion at the current courthouse in Gresham, which is totally inadequate in room size and from a physical perspective, a new facility will bring several benefits to the East County area, including attracting service providers and consumers to our city, who do not reside in the area, but will shop locally during their time spent here for court matters.

Again, the Chamber of Commerce strongly supports the proposal to construct the East County Courthouse. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Bob McDonald".

Bob McDonald
President
Gresham Area Chamber of Commerce

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MEETING DATE: 4-22-10

SUBJECT: east county courthouse

AGENDA NUMBER OR TOPIC: _____

FOR: X AGAINST: _____ THE ABOVE AGENDA ITEM

NAME: Judy Edwards - Multnomah Bar Association

ADDRESS: 620 S.W. 5th Ave. Suite 1220

CITY/STATE/ZIP: Portland, OR 97204

PHONE: _____ DAYS: _____ EVES: _____

EMAIL: judy@mbabar.org FAX: _____

SPECIFIC ISSUE: _____

WRITTEN TESTIMONY: _____

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MEETING DATE: 04-22-10

SUBJECT: East County Courthouse

AGENDA NUMBER OR TOPIC: R-13

REPRESENTATIVE OF

FOR: _____ AGAINST: _____ THE ABOVE AGENDA ITEM

NAME: Gresham Chamber of Commerce - ?

ADDRESS: 701 N.E. Hood

CITY/STATE/ZIP: Gresham, OR 97030

PHONE: _____ DAYS: 503-260-8468 EVES: _____

EMAIL: _____ FAX: _____

SPECIFIC ISSUE: MUST BE BOB McDONALD
PRESIDENT

WRITTEN TESTIMONY: X

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MEETING DATE: 4/22/10

SUBJECT: East County Court House

AGENDA NUMBER OR TOPIC: R-13

FOR: AGAINST: _____ THE ABOVE AGENDA ITEM

NAME: TRAVIS STOVALL - EAST METRO ECONOMIC ALLIANCE

ADDRESS: PO BOX 422

CITY/STATE/ZIP: GRESHAM OR 97030

PHONE: _____ DAYS: 971.506.1493 EVES: SAME

EMAIL: _____ FAX: _____

SPECIFIC ISSUE: _____

WRITTEN TESTIMONY: Support moving forward with building Courthouse.

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MEETING DATE: 4/22/10

SUBJECT: East County Courthouse

AGENDA NUMBER OR TOPIC: _____

FOR: AGAINST: _____ THE ABOVE AGENDA ITEM

NAME: Jean DeMaster

ADDRESS: 12350 SE Powell

CITY/STATE/ZIP: Portland

PHONE: DAYS: 503 548-0722 EVES: _____

EMAIL: _____ FAX: _____

SPECIFIC ISSUE: Support the East County Courthouse

WRITTEN TESTIMONY: _____

IF YOU WISH TO ADDRESS THE BOARD:

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MEETING DATE: 4/22/10

SUBJECT: East County Courthouse

AGENDA NUMBER OR TOPIC: _____

FOR: _____ AGAINST: _____ THE ABOVE AGENDA ITEM

NAME: Joe D. Nuhn

ADDRESS: 1385 NE 49

CITY/STATE/ZIP: Port, OR.

PHONE: DAYS: 503-282-1072 EVES: 503-208-1398

EMAIL: Joe@ProjectCleanSlate.com FAX: _____

SPECIFIC ISSUE: _____

WRITTEN TESTIMONY: _____

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MEETING DATE: 4-22-10

SUBJECT: R-13 East County Courts

AGENDA NUMBER OR TOPIC: _____

FOR: AGAINST: _____ THE ABOVE AGENDA ITEM

NAME: JOHN BILDSON

ADDRESS: PO BOX 1172 GRESHAM OR 97030

CITY/STATE/ZIP: _____

PHONE: _____ DAYS: 503-250-2584 EVES: _____

EMAIL: _____ FAX: _____

SPECIFIC ISSUE: _____

WRITTEN TESTIMONY: This project has already come a long way. And it won't go away. Please approve it now so we can move forward with our lives!
Thanks

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MEETING DATE: _____

SUBJECT: Courthouse

AGENDA NUMBER OR TOPIC: R13

FOR: X AGAINST: _____ THE ABOVE AGENDA ITEM

NAME: Dina DiNucci

ADDRESS: 17934 SE Clay

CITY/STATE/ZIP: Portland OR 97233

PHONE: _____ DAYS: _____ EVES: _____

EMAIL: dina @ parkplacecoffee.com FAX: _____

SPECIFIC ISSUE: _____

WRITTEN TESTIMONY: _____

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MEETING DATE: 4-22-10

SUBJECT: COURT HOUSE

AGENDA NUMBER OR TOPIC: _____

FOR: X AGAINST: _____ THE ABOVE AGENDA ITEM

NAME: LORI STEGMANN

ADDRESS: 788 SF WENDY LN

CITY/STATE/ZIP: GRESHAM OR 97080

PHONE: DAYS: 503-667-7971 EVES: 503-618-0197

EMAIL: LSTEGMANN@FARMERS AGENT.COM FAX: 503-666-8110

SPECIFIC ISSUE: _____

SUPPORT OF COURTHOUSE IN ROCKWOOD

WRITTEN TESTIMONY: _____

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MEETING DATE: 4/22/10

SUBJECT: East County Court

AGENDA NUMBER OR TOPIC: _____

FOR: _____ AGAINST: _____ THE ABOVE AGENDA ITEM

NAME: Ron Clemenson

ADDRESS: 840 SE 156 Pl.

CITY/STATE/ZIP: Portland

PHONE: DAYS: (503) 252-3383 EVES: _____

EMAIL: _____ FAX: _____

SPECIFIC ISSUE: Courts / Rockwood

WRITTEN TESTIMONY: _____

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MEETING DATE: 4-22-2010

SUBJECT: EAST COUNTY JUSTICE CTR

AGENDA NUMBER OR TOPIC: _____

FOR: _____ AGAINST: _____ THE ABOVE AGENDA ITEM

NAME: TOM LEWIS

ADDRESS: 1333 S. E. 148TH

CITY/STATE/ZIP: PD X 97233

PHONE: DAYS: 503 3475715 EVES: _____

EMAIL: GAMODATO @ AOL.COM FAX: _____

SPECIFIC ISSUE: SUPPORT

WRITTEN TESTIMONY: NO

IF YOU WISH TO ADDRESS THE BOARD:

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MEETING DATE: 4-22-2010

SUBJECT: Court House in Rockwood

AGENDA NUMBER OR TOPIC: _____

FOR: _____ AGAINST: _____ THE ABOVE AGENDA ITEM

NAME: Louis Bowerman

ADDRESS: 17844 SEDWISION ST

CITY/STATE/ZIP: PORTLAND OR 97236

PHONE: DAYS: 503-679-9212 EVES: _____

EMAIL: Bowerman1941@yahoo.com FAX: _____

SPECIFIC ISSUE: _____

WRITTEN TESTIMONY:

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MEETING DATE: 4/22/10

SUBJECT: East County Justice Center

AGENDA NUMBER OR TOPIC: _____

FOR: _____ AGAINST: _____ THE ABOVE AGENDA ITEM

NAME: Vance Hays

ADDRESS: 16035 SE Main St.

CITY/STATE/ZIP: Portland 97233

PHONE: DAYS: 503 253 4728 EVES: 503 253 0546

EMAIL: Vancehays@juno.com FAX: _____

SPECIFIC ISSUE: Support east county justice center
construction

WRITTEN TESTIMONY: _____

IF YOU WISH TO ADDRESS THE BOARD:

1. Please complete this form and return to the Board Clerk.
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www.humansolutions.org

**Empowering Families, Strengthening Communities and Rebuilding Hope
Housing • Skill Development • Support Services**

Testimony in support of the East County Courthouse
4/22/10

My name is Jean DeMaster and I represent Human Solutions which is located at: 12350 SE Powell, Portland, Oregon.

Human Solutions focuses on services to people living in Mid to East Multnomah County--these are people who live between 5 and 20 miles from the Multnomah County Courthouse in Downtown Portland. This is an inconvenience, a problem, and a difficulty---at best if you have a car. However, thousands of low-income people in East Multnomah County do not have working vehicles. And, people in East Multnomah County also have limited access to public transportation in the North-South corridors. The result is huge problems and significant obstacles for thousands of low-income people who need to utilize the services of the Multnomah County Court system.

For example, a mother of two young children needed to file a restraining order against an abusive husband in a domestic violence situation. If she did not have a car, she might need to walk with her two children for a mile or more to the nearest bus stop and then take two or three buses to get to the current downtown courthouse. The amount of time she would need---and the problems she would encounter for herself and her children---might be enough to stop her from seeking the restraining order----putting herself and her children in danger.

While an East County Courthouse would not offer all of the services of the Courthouse in downtown Portland, it would go a long way toward providing fair access to the Court system for people living in Mid and East Multnomah County. Since low income people are less likely to have working vehicles, this issue of fairness is accentuated for low-income people in Mid and East Multnomah County. I encourage your support of the East County Courthouse.

There is no question that the Courtrooms now located in Gresham are no longer adequate. I encourage you to authorize the development of an East Court Courthouse adequate to meet the needs of the people in Mid and East Multnomah County---especially low income people.

Multnomah County Commission
East County Court Bldg Proposal
At Rockwood/Gresham Site
The Vote April 22, 2010

Comments in Favor by Ron Clemenson
Vice Chairman Centennial Community Assn /East Portland

Good morning I am Ron Clemenson resident of East Portland where my wife Jan and I have lived in our home since 1967. We are both active in Centennial Community Assn. for the last 13 years and I am Vice Chairman with focus on public safety issues among others.

We are all here today to discuss a matter of justice and a building project that houses matters of the courts and those who go there to do their business and the judges, their staffs, attorneys, police who work there. The old court house in downtown Gresham has long ago seen it's day and begs to be torn down. Facts we all know so well.

The new court house site at 185th and SE Stark, owned by the County, is a great site for all concerned and it begs to be built for ALL THE RIGHT REASONS!

It will sit on a main street of travel SE Stark It is a block from Light Rail/MAX It is on a bus line and is accessible by car from all directions from Corbett down to I-205 and from Marine Dr. north to the Clackmas County line. It will have convenient parking space and most important, a building that will do justice to and for Justice matters.

Secondly, it is not only going to benefit all the above named people, in East County, but it will also relieve pressure for those same named people who might otherwise have to travel to the downtown Portland Courthouse. This court also generates money from fines and fees for Multnomah County as citizens who go there usually must pay for their indescressions, etc. (My speed ticket was received by mail a few years back with the photo radar picture of me behind the wheel, was too good to deny responsibility and the judge and I agreed and I paid up!)

Third, Rockwood/Gresham needs such a vital linchpin building to retain existing businesses that have been hanging in there all these years and those who will come to this business area. And with that comes much needed jobs for many people both in the contruction phase of the courthouse and from new businesses that will come.

Since the arrival of Light Rail/MAX, outer east has grown in leaps and bounds, as multiple dwelling housing has mushroomed. All this, part of the Cities, County planning for growth in a ever growing population. Thus, the need now for new job opportunities for residents and to help reduce crime activities and to support efforts by crime prevention folks like Teri Poppino and Roseanne Lee at ONI and the police officers who are making a difference even as we meet here today, ie. Sgt John Scruggs of recent tv fame and his Neighborhood Response Team of Portland Police and officers as well from Gresham PD>

So Multnomah County Commissioners, this vote today should be a unanimous YES VOTE for all these reasons and for Multnomah County, it's citizens, it's employees and for you as our elected officials. I rest my case--- and let's do this today and get the ball for construction rolling post haste. Time is money and we cannot waste either, not one day more! Thank you and again. Please do this unanimously with 5 Yeses.

Ron Clemenson



✓ Copy: Judy Shipreck

Rockwood Business Coalition

18709 SE Stark,

Portland, OR 97233

www.rockwoodbusinesscoalition.org

April 21, 2010

Chair Jeff Cogen
Multnomah County Commission
501 SE Hawthorne Blvd. #600
Portland, OR 97214

Dear Chair Cogen & Fellow Commissioners,

We write to you collectively as local businesses united through the Rockwood Business Coalition. For six years Rockwood businesses have focused many hours on working with the County to find a mutually beneficial plan to bring a Justice Facility to the neighborhood. Many times over these years the County has presented their plans to our constituents and many times we have questioned the feasibility of the plan and whether it was realistic to bring the project to Rockwood.

Fiscal responsibility is indeed a concern that the County must address. Our members have dedicated their time to stay apprised of this project and the current financial projections. We believe, as do many of your County staff and consultants, this project is financially achievable. But financial feasibility CANNOT be the ONLY consideration for this project.

Integrity and honor of our County government and community responsibility must also be a factor in your decision. The County purchased a large amount of property in our commercial district and, in turn, vacated three businesses. As you know, this is an Urban Renewal area and the evacuation has decreased the tax increment revenue in Rockwood for three years. Our business community has accepted the additional blight to the area and waited patiently on the word from the County that the space would be replaced with a court facility.

(Continued, see page 2)

Continued, Page 2

We respect the County's need to make financially responsible decisions. However, budget decisions cannot be made in a vacuum, but must be carefully balanced with the effects on the community, promises made, and the effect on those constituents who support you.

Moving forward on the scaled down courthouse proposal is not only about budget numbers or a building. It is not only providing vital services to an area of your district that has often been neglected. Approving this project sends a strong statement that the many years that Rockwood businesses and residents have partnered with the County in the Justice Facility vision will not end by the County leaving Rockwood with a blighted empty lot and broken promises.

Sincerely,

Dina DiNucci, Chair
Rockwood Business Coalition
Owner, Park Place Coffee

Lori Stegmann, Vice-Chair
Rockwood Business Coalition
Owner, Stegmann Insurance

Electronic copy:
Commissioner Kafoury
Commissioner Willer
Commissioner Shiprack
Commissioner McKeel