



Memorandum Date: March 10, 2024

Order Date: March 12, 2024

TO: Board of County Commissioners

DEPARTMENT: County Administration, Policy Division

PRESENTED BY: Alex Cuyler, Intergovernmental Relations Manager

AGENDA ITEM TITLE: REPORT – 2024 Legislative session highlights

I. MOTION

No motion anticipated, this is a high level summary of the 2024 Legislature, which adjourned Sine Die on March 7, 2024.

II. AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

The Policy Director and the Intergovernmental Relations Manager will report out on the outcomes for Lane County's Legislative Priorities from the 2024 Legislature. In addition, there will be a slightly deeper dive into some of the higher profile issues arising from the 2024 Legislature.

III. BACKGROUND/IMPLICATIONS OF ACTION

A. Board Action and Other History

The Board of County Commissioners regularly takes positions on specific legislation. Typically the Board adopts recommendations of the Committee after their review, but can also take positions on specific legislation if timing of Committee meetings does not allow for the Committee to make recommendations in a timely manner.

The Board memorializes these decisions by making changes to the Lane County Legislative Principles and Priorities document, a comprehensive yet dynamic summation of issues important to Lane County and which guides organizational-wide advocacy involving the Oregon Legislature and the United States Congress, as well as administrative rulemaking arising from adopted laws.

The Board last acted on January 30, 2024, when it provided the final pre-session direction

to staff with respect to priority measures and on-going principles.

Prior to that, the Board acted on December 5, 2023 when it adopted Order 23-12-05-06 which amended the Legislative Principles and Priorities document by adding legislative principles specifically identified to prepare the organization to advocate for Measure 110 reforms via the newly formed Joint Committee on Addiction and Community Safety Response.

B. Policy Issues

Participation in the state and federal political process is initiated by participation in Lane County's Legislative Committee, established in Lane Manual Chapter 3, Section 3.670, and Administrative Procedures Manual Chapter 1, Section 10. Additionally, the Board of County Commissioners adopts Legislative Priorities and Legislative Principles. The Principles are broad statements designed to cover a breadth of county concerns, while the Priorities are specific bills or initiatives.

The By-Laws of the Committee mandate that each meeting of the Legislative Committee there is a review of the Principals and Priorities document.

C. Board Goals

The Strategic Priorities of Lane County's 2022-2024 Strategic Plan of Safe, Healthy County, Vibrant Communities, Robust Infrastructure, and Our People & Organizational Health are each represented in the legislative priorities adopted by the Board.

D. Financial and/or Resource Considerations

Lane County went into the '24 Legislature with a significant budgetary shortfalls in both community corrections and behavioral health (community restoration). Both those issues were addressed by the Legislature and staff estimates that for the final fiscal year of the biennium, there will be inputs of approximately \$1.6M and \$750,000 respectively. In addition, the Legislature invested new dollars that county government will receive for work associated with improving access to drug treatment that will support work at the offices of the District Attorney and Sheriff, and within Health and Human Services. It is expected these dollars will "roll-up" into the 25-27 Oregon biennial budget.

There were several direct appropriations to Lane County the Legislature approved:

- \$900,000 in state general fund that will be used to match a \$1M federal community project to improve emergency communications functionality.
- \$7.5M in lottery back bond revenue for the Lane County Multi-Use Facility, the sale of which is "contingent upon all other funding being secured".
- \$4.2M for health related work arising from the closure of the University District Emergency Department.

There were a number of investments the Legislature made for the final year of the biennium to a number of Lane County cities, and several others that will benefit Lane County

community-based organizations. These were consistent with the Legislature's priorities to address housing and behavioral health needs across Oregon. These investments are one-time investments.

E. Health Implications

There is always the possibility of health implications stemming from the actions of state and federal legislation. The Board has a keen focus on homelessness, housing, and behavioral health issues, each of which were addressed in some fashion during the '24 session. Likely the highest profile issue of the 2024 Legislature was reforming Oregon's voter approved Measure 110, the goal of which is to increase access to treatment services for those afflicted with substance use disorder and to reduce overdose deaths in Oregon.

F. Analysis

Staff has prepared Attachment A, which briefly summarizes the priorities Lane County took into the 2024 Legislature.

Staff has also prepared Attachment B, a brief powerpoint presentation that highlights three of the higher profile issues the Legislature addressed this session:

- Measure 110 Reform
- Housing and Homelessness Prevention
- Campaign Finance Reform

IV. RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends the Board accept the report and move to include the recommendations to amend the Legislative Principles and Priorities document as highlighted in Attachment A.

V. FOLLOW-UP

Staff will continue to review the measures which did pass the Legislature to inform specific programs throughout the County and will likely prepare some limited presentation for Advisory Committees which request them.

VI. ATTACHMENTS

Attachment A – Outcomes related to Lane County's Priorities for the 2024 Legislature

Attachment B – Slides addressing outcomes from Measure 110 Reform, Housing Investments, and Campaign Reform.

LANE COUNTY PRIORITIES
2024 Oregon Legislature
Approved by Lane County Board of Commissioners 1/30/2024

Prepared by Alex Cuyler, Lane County Intergovernmental Relations Manager
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Background

Lane County maintains a dynamic list of broad Legislative Principles in order to take positions on measures as they arise during a given Legislative Session and we are emphasizing the following issues for the 2024 Legislative Assembly:

POLICY

- Support efforts to improve immunity, indemnification, or additional insurance resources to mitigate risk exposure in the delivery of behavioral health services.
 - *HB 4002, section 80a, contains new language to protect mobile crisis intervention teams from civil suits related to transporting people to sobering centers and appropriate treatment facilities.*
- Support efforts to amend ORS 105 (recreational immunity) to better protect operators of public parks and private land access from litigation arising from all uses of these lands (SB 1576).
 - *This was an omnibus “civil matters” measure with recreational immunity beginning at section 5. Note that these sections sunset on Jan 1, 2026 meaning that this issue will again need to be addressed by the 2025 Legislature.*
- Amend ORS 430 (HB 4002 & SB 1530) to ensure M110 activities result in:
 - increased access to treatment
 - *HB 5204 provides \$80M in capital grants to a number of treatment programs across OR (\$4M to Willamette Family Treatment for inpatient detox services).*
 - better drug overdose data
 - *Lane County was unsuccessful in increasing access to OREMSIS.*
 - ensure that community mental health programs play a key role in coordinating service delivery and effective communications with courts and other criminal justice system actors
 - *The Criminal Justice Commission*
 - IMPACTS funding provided through formulaic allocations to each county and tribe
 - *\$20M for deflection programming, with priority funding for the “commitment” counties, including Lane. See HB 5204 for additional information)*
- Support efforts to gain state funding for the non-federal match required for the Medicaid billing of Nurse Family Partnership services (HB 4105).
 - *\$3.1M is appropriated via HB 5204*
- Support efforts to mitigate the closure of the University District Emergency Department.
- *HB 4136 enhanced flexibility for nurse staffing in Oregon and appropriated \$4.5M to Lane Co. See “Budget” for additional information.*
- Support efforts to establish standardized pathways for affected property owners to claim a rightful share of any surplus revenues realized from the sale of their foreclosed property (HB 4056).
 - *Passed both Chambers of the Legislature but ultimately opposed by counties.*
- Ensure pharmacy discounts for “340B” drugs may not be disallowed by the pharmaceutical industry (HB 4010, Section 3).
 - *Became HB 4028 but was re-referred on the floor, and never recovered from that pharmaceutical industry led maneuver.*

- Establish a stable funding source for County Emergency Management (HJR 201 & HB 4075).
 - *Lane County was only county government to support these measures at their public hearing but did built rapport with Representative Evans as a result.*
- Seek additional flexibility for employers under pay equity (HB 4050).
 - *Received a public hearing but did not advance.*

BUDGET

- Support the \$16M backfill for the 23-25 Community Corrections budget (Dept of Corrections).
 - *HB 5204 (companion funding bill to HB 4002) appropriates \$16M.*
- Support the \$6M backfill for Intellectual and Developmental Disability service providers to function closer to 100% of the workload model (draws down an additional \$7.7M in federal funding).
- Support \$6M in ambulance service supports and innovative health care delivery directed to Lane County Public Health (HB 4136).
 - *Passed with a \$4.5M appropriation to Lane County, \$1.3M of which is to be transmitted to the City of Eugene for a basic life support unit.*
- Support \$500M for housing production and \$65M emergency sheltering (SB 1537 & SB 1530):
 - \$21M for “the Coleman” (Sponsors, post-prison transitional housing)
 - *Not funded*
 - \$3.5M for planning, permitting, and preliminary engineering for Hwy 58 corridor city land development.
 - *Not funded*
 - \$2.5M each for Creswell and Coburg water and wastewater infrastructure improvements.
 - *SB 1530 (9) (6) provided \$1M for Creswell for treatment facility upgrades and connections to a regional treatment facility.*
 - \$1.5M for “Ollie Court” early learning center (Homes for Good, affordable housing)
 - *Fully funded in HB 5701, Section 479 (19).*
 - \$15M, the “Field on Quince” in Florence (Homes for Good, affordable housing)
 - *Not funded, but note Florence did receive \$1.9M in SB 1530 for housing related infrastructure.*

CAPITAL REQUESTS

- Seek \$900K to match a federal grant for replacing the Bear Mountain telecommunications tower.
 - *Fully funded in HB 5701, Section 479 (15), \$900,000 general fund appropriation to Lane County for emergency communications equipment.*

2024 Legislative Session Briefing

Steve Adams and Alex Cuyler

Emergency Housing Stability and Production Package

Senate Bill 1537

- The package grants qualifying cities a one-time expansion of their Urban Growth Boundaries.
 - Cities under 25,000 people can expand by 50 acres
 - While cities over 25,000 people can expand by 100 acres
 - 30% of housing in any expanded areas must be affordable, one of the highest requirements in the nation
- The package also creates a new **\$75 million** revolving loan fund to make interest-free loans available to local governments to help finance the production of affordable housing and moderate-income housing projects.

Emergency Housing Stability and Production Package

Senate Bill 1530

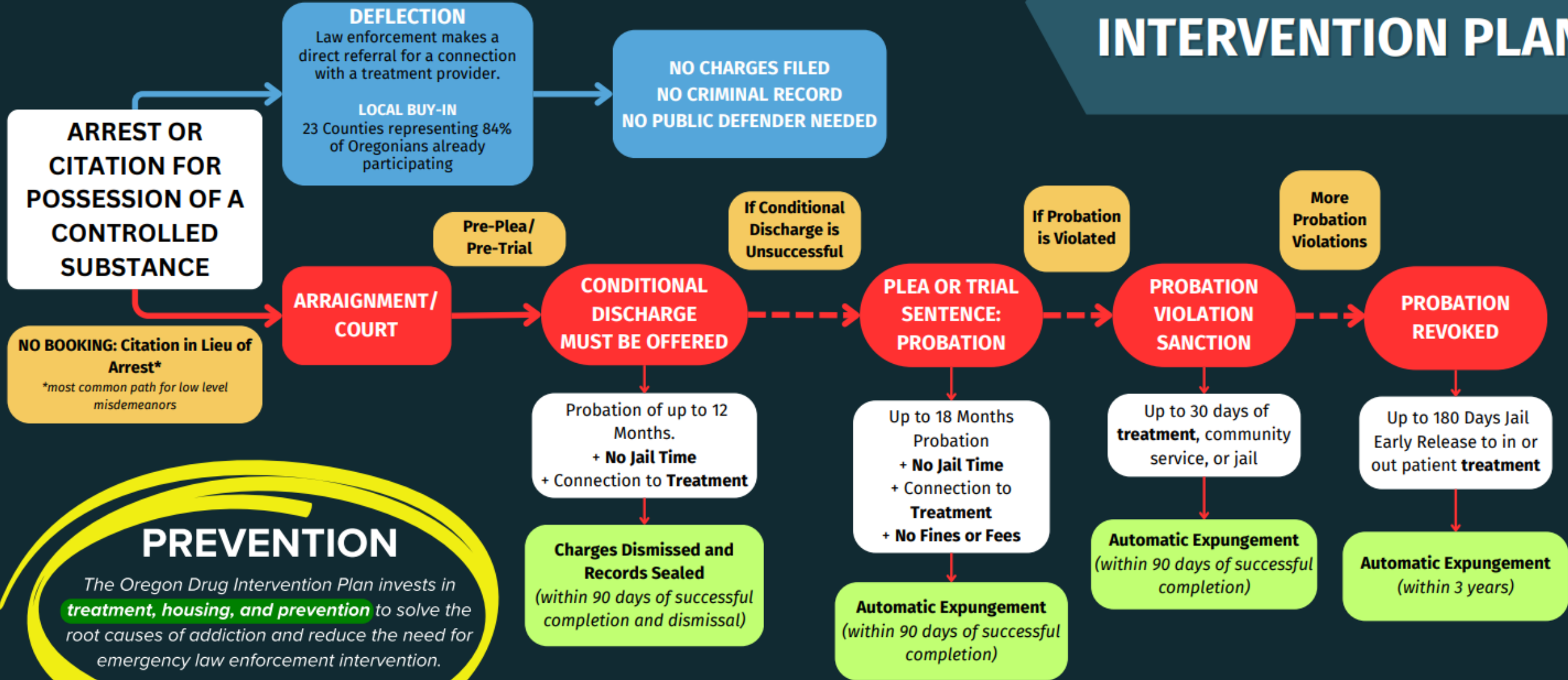
Appropriates **\$279.6 million** General Fund across eight agencies to support investments in housing stability, infrastructure development, housing production, climate impacts, and recovery housing:

- **\$89.4 million** to the Oregon Business Development Department, to administer grants for shovel-ready water and waste-water projects that support housing production
 - Direct dollars for Eugene, Springfield, Cottage Grove, Florence, and Creswell
- **\$36.5 million** to the Oregon Health authority, of which **\$15 million** will be invested in the Healthy Homes fund; and **\$3.5 million** will support acquisition and distribution of air conditioners and air filters
- **\$4 million** to the Department of Energy for investment in the Residential Heat Pump program
- **\$6.5 million** to ODOT and the Water Resources Department for other housing-related infrastructure grants.

Measure 110 Reform

HB 4002

OREGON DRUG INTERVENTION PLAN



Measure 110 funding bill HB5204

- **\$9.8 million** appropriated to OHA for Community Mental Health to provide deflection program coordination (section 11)
- **\$3 million** appropriated to the non-federal matching share for the Nurse-Family Partnership program (section 12)
- **\$20 million** appropriated to CJC for the Oregon Behavioral Health Deflection Program (section 15)
- **\$10 million** appropriated to CJC for the Oregon Jail-Based Medications fund (section 18)
- **\$6.9 million** appropriated to CJC for specialty courts (section 21)
- **\$14 million** appropriated to Judicial Department for specialty courts (Section 30)
 - See HB 4001 regarding task force on specialty courts
- **\$800k** appropriated for State Police Forensic Services and Chief Medical Examiner (section 27)
- **\$4 million** appropriated to Willamette Family to support construction of the Family Medical Detox and Resident Services Facility (section 36 -14)
- **\$4.7 million** appropriated to the Emergency Board to allocate to OHA for payments to employers of behavioral health care providers (section 40)

Additional funding from HB 5204



\$16 million appropriated for
Department of Corrections general
fund (section 14)



\$7.5 million appropriated to OHA
for distribution to community
restoration services (section 10)



\$4 million appropriated to CJC for
the restorative justice program
(section 23)

Representative
Nathanson's
University
District Effort:
HB 4136

HB 4136

- The measure directs Lane County Public Health to enter into an agreement with OHA to administer moneys appropriated under this measure:
 - OHA would distribute **\$4.5 million** to LCPH, with **\$1.3 million** of this to be used for distributions to the City of Eugene, and **\$3.2 million** for a health care access innovation fund.
 - Lane County Public Health may withhold a reasonable amount from the funds provided for administrative costs, as agreed to with OHA.

Other Relevant Bills



Zoning Changes: HB 4023 (did not pass,
Senate amendments not agreed to in House)

This measure directs local governments to allow residential treatment facilities within an urban growth boundary to be sited on a property without requiring a zone change or conditional permit, under certain circumstances.



OHA Study: HB 4092

Requires OHA to consult with counties to determine the funding required for community health programs to provide behavioral health services.



Campaign Financing: HB 4024

Establishes limits on campaign contributions that may be accepted by candidates. Sets the contributions limits for local offices to the same as limits established for state representative, except where local government has established its own limits.