



Deferred Maintenance Package - Week 2, 2009 Legislative Session

Week two of the 2009 Legislative session concluded the committee work on the Legislature's stimulus plan. This second week moved every bit as fast and furiously as the first week, and in the end, the Joint Ways and Means Committee passed out a capital package focused on deferred maintenance projects. Two packages passed out of the committee. One package was specifically for community colleges totaling \$53,566,600 -- \$9.7 million from Article XI-G bonds and \$43.9 million in Lottery Bonds. The other package included all other agencies receiving deferred maintenance money and totaled \$123.4 million.

The capital funding from the stimulus packages are to be used for projects including deferred maintenance, renovation and construction projects that are meant to stimulate Oregon's economy through job creation and retention throughout the state as quickly as possible. There is an emphasis on using Oregon companies, employees, and products whenever possible. The use of minority, women and emerging small business should also occur to the greatest extent practicable.

Originally, legislative leaders did not intend to include community colleges because the funding source they intended to tap could only be used for state owned buildings. However, working with Speaker Hunt and Representative Larry Galizio, Chair of the Capital Construction and Infrastructure Subcommittee of Ways and Means, OCCA brought forward college projects. While there was ultimately wide support from legislators for the community college projects, Speaker Hunt and Rep. Galizio worked tirelessly make sure colleges were included. The final vote in Ways and Means was 16-4 with one absence. Voting no were Senators Girod and Whitsett and Representatives Gillman and Richardson.