

## Salem Chamber endorses police facility bond

The Salem Area Chamber of Commerce has made public its support for a [bond measure](#) to finance construction of a new police facility in Salem.

If approved, the bond would raise \$82 million by increasing property taxes 36 cents per \$1,000 of assessed value in the 2017-2018 fiscal year, according to city estimates.

The endorsement was announced on the chamber's public policy [blog](#). The blog post, written by operations director Nick Williams, said the business group's board of directors "overwhelmingly approved" an endorsement of the bond measure at its July meeting.

Williams wrote that the chamber will assemble "a broad coalition" to campaign in favor of the bond.

Salem voters will have a chance to approve the measure in the Nov. 8 election.

Police officials have said a new station is needed because the current facilities at the Civic Center are too small, would not withstand an earthquake and don't adequately protect victims from running into perpetrators.

Last year, the influential chamber [opposed](#) a [tax](#) that would have funded evening and weekend bus service in Salem and bus passes for students. The tax, which would have created a 0.21 percent payroll tax, was defeated by double digits.

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