

Vote no on police facility measure; demand realistic plan

My wife and I have never voted against a city bond measure, but we will vote no on Ballot Measure 24-399.

This bond measure asks us to approve spending \$82 million for a [new police facility](#) that is 148,000 square feet in size and far larger than the 48,000 square feet now used by the police department.

The proposed building would be double the 75,000 square feet city officials and consultants working with the police department previously agreed they needed on the Civic Center, and then later on the O'Brien site.

We are supportive of our police department and acknowledge their need for additional space, but this [proposal](#) is excessive at 1.6 times the size of the City Hall building, twice the size of the new Eugene police headquarters, bigger than the new state police headquarters and about as large as the Marion County Courthouse Square building.

We encourage you to join with us in voting no and sending a strong message to city leaders.

Bring this measure back next year with a realistic plan that reflects both the needs of the police department and the lifesaving seismic upgrades desperately needed on City Hall and the public library.

Wesley Bouche

Salem

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