Pend Oreille County

Board of Commissioners

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March 14, 2017

Senator Shelly Short
Washington State Senate
PO Box 40407
Olympia, WA 98504-0407

RE: Historic County Courthouse Grant Program

Dear Senator Short:

We, the Board of Commissioners of Pend Oreille County, request your support of the funding for the Historic County Courthouse Grant Program.

For the 2017-2019 Biennium, the Courthouse Steering Committee recommended nearly $4 million to fund 16 courthouse projects statewide. However, the Governor's proposed Capital Budget is under $2 million to fund the top 5 projects.

Pend Oreille County's project ranked number 4 in Washington State. This funding will primarily be used to replace the courthouse elevator which is practical and necessary to provide public safety and access to county offices – Assessor, Treasurer, Auditor and Commissioners, and, to comply with the ADA requirement. Not only is this necessary, but also urgent as the elevator has been out of order on several occasions making it necessary for representatives of the inaccessible county offices to meet with constituents at another courthouse location. This project will also provide maintenance and restoration such as exterior brick sealing. Funding this project will be difficult in our future budgets.

We encourage your support of full funding of this program as recommended by the committee.

Sincerely,

PEND OREILLE COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Karen Skoog, Chair

Stephen Kiss, Vice-Chair

Mike Manus, Member