

Why a New Courthouse?

Multnomah County Central Courthouse



EXISTING COURTHOUSE

Issues with Existing Courthouse

- Multnomah County's responsibility to provide a safe and efficient place for the business of justice. The county's population has tripled in size since the existing courthouse opened in 1914. The courthouse is functionally obsolete and structurally deficient.
- The existing courthouse is an unreinforced masonry building that does not meet current seismic codes.
- Many county residents are compelled to visit the courthouse. One in 10 county residents reserve a jury summons each year. It is essential that residents have a safe courthouse for the business of justice.
- The century-old design of the existing courthouse creates security concerns for court personnel, crime victims, witnesses and the general public because in-custody defendants can't be kept separate in public pathways.
- The current courthouse lacks secured vehicle pick-up and drop-off areas for those in custody, so traffic and sidewalk users are delayed during transport.
- Courtrooms in the downtown courthouse are not designed to meet current demands for efficiency and services. There are not adequate rooms where attorneys and clients can meet.
- Security screening and the small lobby size at the entrance of the courthouse regularly creates long lines, often in the rain that delay entry.
- No decision has been made regarding the existing Courthouse.



EXISTING JURY ASSEMBLY



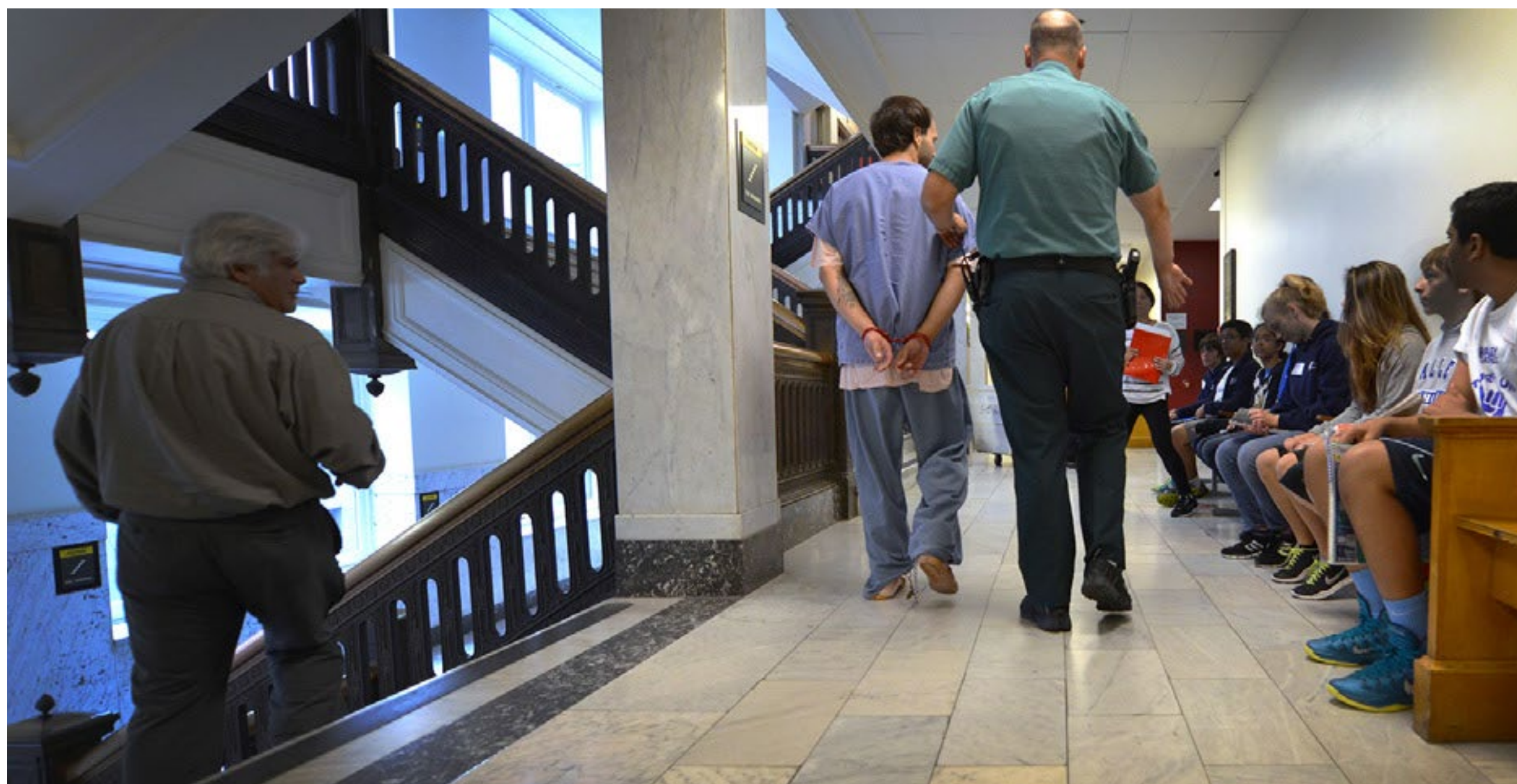
TRAFFIC ISSUES



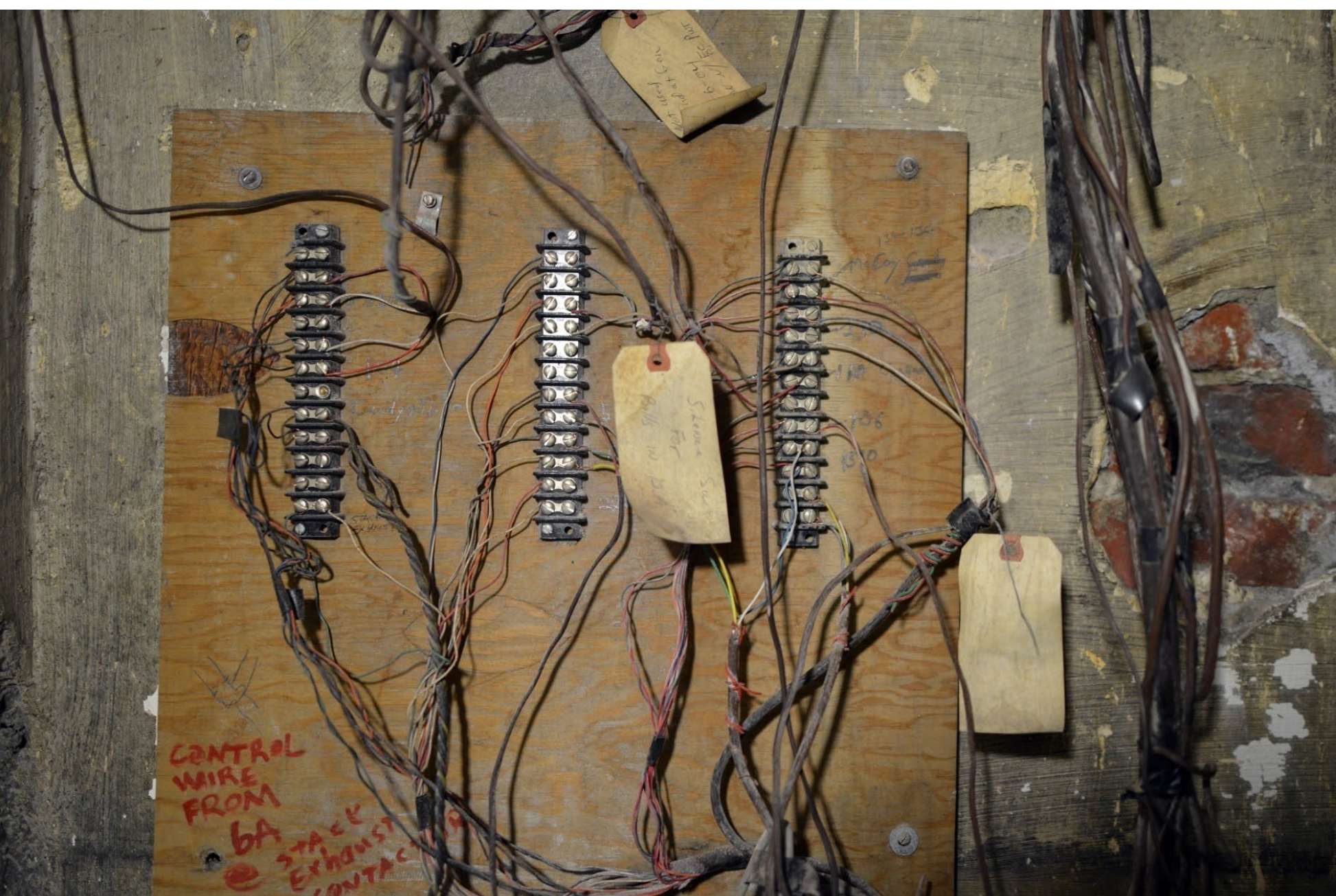
SEISMIC ISSUES



EXAMPLE OF POSSIBLE DAMAGE



CIRCULATION ISSUES



OBSELETE BUILDING



NIGHT IMAGE FROM EAST SIDE OF THE HAWTHORNE BRIDGE

NOTE: ALL DESIGN INFORMATION IS IN DRAFT FORM AND SUBJECT TO CHANGE