



Photo courtesy of Chemeketa Community College

Architect's drawings of the Chemeketa Center for Business and Industry at Union & High Street

Health Sciences, Advanced Manufacturing Top Bond Projects

Voters will decide in November whether or not Chemeketa may build classrooms and laboratories to serve a growing number of students being served by the college. The college board of education will place an \$89 million bond levy on the general election ballot. If approved, taxpayers will repay the bonds at the rate of 27 cents per \$1,000 of assessed valuation. The owner of a \$150,000 home would pay about \$40.50 to repay the college's bonds.

Property taxpayers now are paying 34 cents per thousand on bonds approved in 1996. Passage of the 2006 bond levy would mean a reduction in property taxes to retire the bonds throughout the district (all of Marion and Polk counties and portions of Yamhill and Linn counties). If voters turn down the levy, their tax rate on 1996 bonds will drop to 10 cents per thousand in 2008.

Included in the levy are these projects:

Health Science Education Center. This new building would provide training for more students in high-demand jobs in nursing, dental science, pharmacy and other health-care fields. The building would contain additional up-to-date science labs and medical equipment.

Center for Advanced Manufacturing and Information Technology. This building would provide labs and classrooms for students in electronics, engineering, computer science, drafting, manufacturing and welding.

New classroom building. This building will replace the deteriorating portable trailers that were purchased used 35 years ago. Two of those modulares were vacated this year because of problems with mold. The new building will include classrooms and computer labs. Some of the bond proceeds will help refurbish the college's existing buildings and grounds, making sure that it remains in compliance with safety, health and energy regulations.

Emergency Services Training Facility. This new building would provide a place for on-the-job training for the region's firefighters, law enforcement and emergency services personnel, as well as better preparation for students entering careers as emergency responders.

New building for Chemeketa in McMinnville. This building would be located near Willamette Valley Medical Center and provide for expansion of health sciences programs and better access to college courses.

Chemeketa Center for Business and Industry. This facility would house the Training and Economic Development Center and provide additional space for the college's developing programs that assist economic development partnerships and small businesses. ●