



Governor Kate Brown
Oregon State Capitol
900 Court Street, Room 254
Salem, OR 97301

Senate President Peter Courtney
Oregon State Capitol
900 Court Street, S-201
Salem, OR 97301

House Speaker Tina Kotek
Oregon State Capitol
900 Court Street, Room 269
Salem, OR 97301

Re: HB 4146

Governor Brown, President Courtney, Speaker Kotek, and Members of the Legislature:

As the national governing body of the sport in the United States, we at USA Track & Field are proud and pleased to have partnered with TrackTown USA in securing the right to host the 2021 IAAF World Championships in Eugene, Oregon.

We cannot think of a more fitting community than Eugene, and the wider State of Oregon, in which to hold this event. We are writing to express not only our full support of TrackTown USA, but also our complete confidence, based on years of experience and partnership, in their ability to deliver an outstanding World Championships.

Team USA has long been regarded as the World's #1 Track & Field team, but until now we have not had the opportunity to perform in front of home crowds in such a major international competition. Thanks to the strong partnerships between TrackTown, USATF and the United States Olympic Committee, we have succeeded in attracting the sport's most elite events to Oregon. To host these major international events has reinforced the well-deserved reputation of Eugene and the State of Oregon as the cultural and sporting center of track & field in this country.

The contributions that Oregonians have made to track & field and running are undeniable and immeasurable. While this great legacy laid an indelible foundation, it is the continued commitment of running enthusiasts, volunteers, industry, universities and supporters from around the region that is responsible for our ability to present our sport in world-class fashion at Hayward Field. The environment in Oregon is truly second to none. It helps provide us with a platform to create an outstanding competitive opportunity for athletes, showcase our top talent to fans around the world, and inspire the next generation of young people.



As the largest event on the track & field calendar outside of the Olympic Games, the 2021 World Championships represent an unprecedented opportunity for all parties involved to showcase our athletes, our sport and our country. Historically, there has been a very substantial investment made by public entities and institutions to ensure the success of the Championships. Virtually every World Championships to date -- including in great cities such as Paris, Rome, Beijing, Moscow and Tokyo -- have hinged on financial support from local, regional or even national public institutions. Although the United States and our successful bid has a more balanced funding model, public support remains absolutely vital in order for us to deliver an outstanding World Championships.

We know that you are considering some very important legislation that would be used not only to help fund the World Championships in 2021, but also promote the State of Oregon to a global audience. The World Championships will serve as the perfect platform to achieve such an objective. We strongly encourage you to support this legislation and this amazing opportunity for your State and its citizens.

Sincerely,

Max Siegel
CEO

Steve Miller
Chairman

Stephanie Hightower
President