



April 22, 2019

The Honorable Fred Girod and
The Honorable Paul Holvey
Co-Chairpersons, Ways and Means Subcommittee on Capital Construction
State Capitol
Salem, Oregon 97301

Regarding: House Bill 5030 – Lottery Bonds for Gerry Frank Salem Rotary Amphitheater

Dear Senator Girod, Representative Holvey, and the Members of the Subcommittee:

I write today in support of the Rotary Club of Salem's Amphitheater Project. As a local artist and performing arts patron, it is an exciting prospect to have a covered outdoor performance space in downtown Salem. Rotary's proposed amphitheater will extend the performance season, attract local, regional, and national performances to Salem, and provide a developed area for events and festivals extending beyond the performing arts.

The new amphitheater is anticipated to support industry standard lighting and sound equipment used in performances including live music, drama, opera, and dance. The space will also provide support for vendors associated with performances, festivals, and events. These are major improvements that will provide access for local companies to use the space while also attracting larger regional and national performances. In other words, the new space is scalable to meet the needs of all types of performances and events from weddings to national tours.

The scalability is what is most exciting to me as a founding member of Theatre 33 in Salem, Oregon. It means that a play development company, like ours, has the opportunity to use the space with a high level of production values while the next performance might be a large rock-n-roll show touring through Oregon.

The space is also similar in size and resources to Bend's Les Schwab Amphitheater and Eugene's Cuthbert. This means that producing organizations can work together to provide a diverse group of bookings through working together. In short, there are some performances and events that may be too expensive to bring to one venue and by linking with other venues the price becomes more affordable. This is a benefit for the entire region and potentially the state.

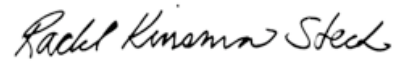
The proposed amphitheater is a beautiful structure that compliments the surrounding River Front Park and its other attractions. I enthusiastically support the project moving forward and I believe it

Rachel Kinsman Steck

rachel.steck@gmail.com ∞ 541.517.9441 ∞ www.rachelsteck.com

will be one of the centerpieces of Salem and our surrounding communities.. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any further questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rachel Kinsman Steck". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Rachel Kinsman Steck, Ph.D.

M: 541.517.9441

E: rachel.steck@gmail.com

Rachel Kinsman Steck

rachel.steck@gmail.com ∞ [541.517.9441](tel:541.517.9441) ∞ www.rachelsteck.com