

Setting the Stage

Project:

In celebration of its 100th anniversary in 2020, and continuing a track record of service to the Willamette Valley, the Rotary Club of Salem, the City of Salem and various community partners have committed to build a covered and enhanced performance facility at Riverfront Park – The Gerry Frank | Salem Rotary Amphitheater!

Against the scenic background of the Willamette River, Minto Island and the Peter Courtney Pedestrian Bridge, the Gerry Frank | Salem Rotary Amphitheater will provide a unique and stunning urban park entertainment venue.

The new amphitheater will serve as a cultural and regional landmark while encouraging school events, festivals, concerts and many other community celebrations to enjoy the breathtaking views and history of Salem's riverfront. These events will provide exceptional economic stimulation to Oregon's capital city.

Public/Private Partnership:

- The Rotary Club of Salem is doing its part by aggressively pursuing a fundraising goal of \$4 million by the end of 2019 for construction of the new amphitheater.
- The City of Salem will invest an estimated \$2.5 million to develop the site with utility services, expand public access to the site and enhance the existing undeveloped land.

The Ask:

The Rotary Club of Salem, the City of Salem and community leaders urge lawmakers to support this public/private partnership between the Salem Rotary Foundation and the City of Salem with an investment of \$1.75 million\$ that will go towards the following:

- Construction costs of the iconic and culturally significant "woven" stage cover
- Site development, including providing power to the site and other landscaping for the audience area
- Improvements to pedestrian walkways, safety enhancements and a parking lot expansion

Key Issues:

- Legacy gift to the region and all who visit in the years to come.
- Innovative design inspired by the open weave baskets of the Native American Kalapuya who lived at the amphitheater site.
- Basket-weave structure is envisioned to be a showcase for modern Oregon timber products.
- Honors the legacy of Rotarian Gerry Frank, with a lifetime of service to Oregonians.
- Strong community support with over \$1,000,000 raised by January 2019.
- Expected completion date of Fall of 2020.

"This state of the art venue will add a new dimension to Salem's quality of life but also add to our economy."

Angie Onyewuchi, CEO, Travel Salem