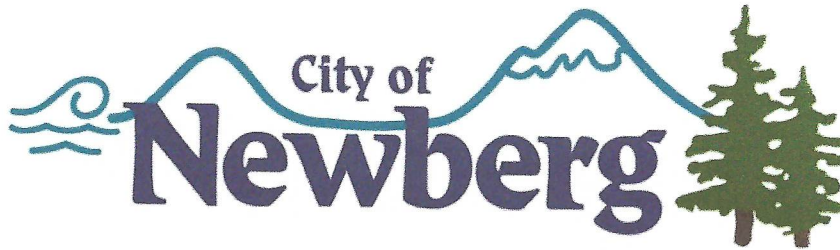


Mayor's Office
503-537-1276



Mayor's Fax
503-537-5013

414 E. First Street · P.O. Box 970 · Newberg, OR 97132

April 14, 2021

Joint Committee on Ways and Means
Legislative Fiscal Office
900 Court Street, NE, Room H-178
Salem, OR 97301

Re: SB 5555 – Chehalem Cultural Center

Dear Co-Chairs and Committee Members:

The Chehalem Cultural Center is a jewel. Located in the former Central School in downtown Newberg, the CCC is the largest provider of arts services in Yamhill County attracting more than 80,000 guests per year. The guests are treated to culturally sensitive arts and education programming.

The Center's planned Performing Arts Wing was selected by the Cultural Advocacy Coalition for advancement for funding through the Cultural Resource Economic Fund (CREF) as this project will be the only professional midsize public use performance venue in our county.

The project will provide equitable access to thousands, will generate millions in construction activity, will create full time jobs, and will attract tourists to the region.

To date, the Chehelem Cultural Center has raised \$3.0 million toward this project. The CREF request is for \$1.25 million to support 9,000 square feet of new construction.

I am fully in support of this project and hope that you will be too.

Thank you for your service and for the long days and evenings you are spending to make our state a better place.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Rick Rogers", with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Rick Rogers
Mayor