

Dear Chairs Girod and Holvey, and members of the Committee:

My name is Tami Lea Howard and I live in Toledo. I retired from the Georgia-Pacific Toledo Paper Mill after 28 years of employment. I am a member of the Friends of the Greater Toledo Pool, and I am writing in support of funding for the Greater Toledo Aquatic and Community Center.

I started using the Toledo Pool while I was in fifth grade; my daughters participated in swimming lessons during summer and school programs, and grandchildren have benefitted from the pool programs in more recent years. Our family loves the availability of the pool for family swim times where we can swim and play in the water together.

To consider not having the Toledo Pool and its programs available for our rural community is almost heartbreaking, while on the flipside, to envision the Greater Toledo Pool being improved and a community center available to our citizens in future generations is hope inspiring. The value of a well-maintained and safe community pool and recreation center for our youth, families, and elderly citizens cannot be understated in our rural community.

Thank you so much for your consideration of this funding and what it will add to quality of life in Toledo, Oregon.

Tami Lea Howard