

February 10, 2022

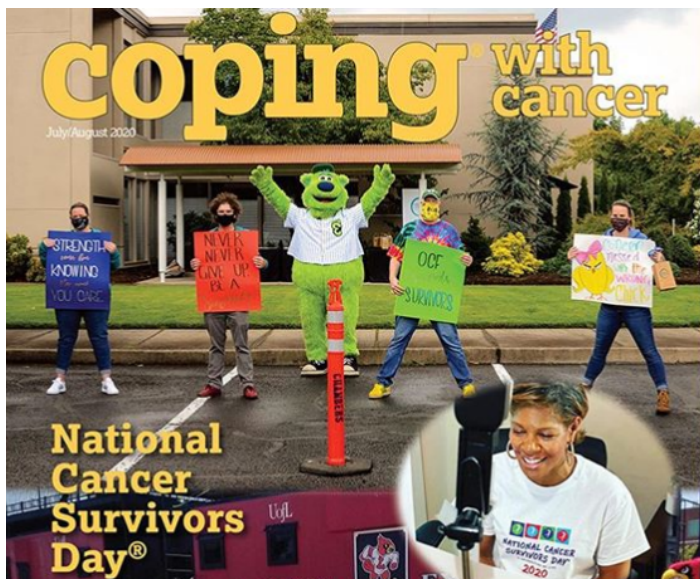
*Co-Chair Holvey, Co-Chair Girod,
& Members of the Joint Committee on Ways and Means
Subcommittee on Capital Construction:*

I am writing in reference to SB 5701, in support of funding the project to construct new facilities at the Lane County Fairgrounds, to build a permanent home for our Eugene Emeralds.

I have had the pleasure of not only being a longtime Ems fan, but working in partnership with the organization on several occasions. The Emeralds are a vital part of the Lane County area, and beyond for economic impact, strengthened sense of camaraderie and service to the community.

I am the Development Coordinator for Oregon Cancer Foundation, and the challenges of COVID have dominated our planning and service to our clientele. One of our big celebratory events is National Cancer Survivors Day, where we honor all the cancer patients in our area. In 2020, when we were faced with the need to social distance, but still create an appropriate celebration, the Emeralds did not hesitate to enthusiastically join and Sluggo was the hit of the day!

Not only did the Emeralds help up the ante for our celebration, survivors also enjoyed complimentary tickets to 2021 games when play resumed. Being the natural shining star that he is, Sluggo helped Oregon Cancer Foundation make the cover feature of the national "Coping with Cancer" publication. *WE LOVE OUR EM'S!*



I ask that you vote to approve funding and help keep the Emeralds in Eugene, by building them a stadium, of which the defending High-A West Champions are worthy.

Sincerely -
Damon Garner
Development Coordinator
Oregon Cancer Foundation
Eugene, Oregon