

Submitter: Jerry Walker

On Behalf Of: Sports Enterprises Inc

Committee: Joint Committee On Ways and Means Subcommittee On Capital Construction

Measure: HB5030

May 4, 2023

Joint Committee on Capital Construction
Oregon State Legislature
Salem, OR
Re: HB 5030

Dear Committee Members,

I am writing in support of the city of Keizer's funding request for upgrades to Volcanoes Stadium in Keizer.

Volcanoes Stadium was built in 1997 via a public/private partnership. The capital request is the only formal request ever made by the Stadium to any municipality in its 26 years of existence.

The requested upgrades total approximately \$1,950,000 and will include artificial field turf and LED field lighting. Approximately 1.1 million has been raised with the request being for \$850,000.

The new artificial field turf will maximize use of the facility in several ways. First, other sports like soccer, lacrosse, football will become users. Secondly, play can be virtually year-round and not just limited to good weather months.

New LED field lighting will significantly impact energy savings replacing a 26-year old lighting system. Not only will this be good 'energy wise' it will also reduce the facility costs that historically have been paid by the users. In other words, it will cost the users less to play. That too will lead to increased usage.

Increased use will positively impact the local economy bringing both players, their friends, families and fans to the Stadium resulting in travel and tourism dollars to the region.

The project is ready to move forward and is planned for Fall 2023.

I strongly encourage funding this project as it is ready to go, is leveraged with other funding, and will be an economic driver for the city, county and State.

With High Regards,

Jerry Walker
President
Sports Enterprises, Inc.