

Round-Up City Development Corporation

P.O. Box 1732 • Pendleton, Oregon 97801

May 5, 2023

Joint Committee on Ways and Means
Subcommittee on Capital Construction
Oregon State Capitol
900 Court Street NE, Room H-178, Salem, Oregon 97301

Dear Senator Girod, Representative Holvey, and Committee Members:

Thank you for the opportunity to present written testimony in support of the “Pendleton Regional Youth Sports Complex” capital project under consideration in HB5030.

The funding that we are requesting for the Pendleton Regional Youth Sports Complex will allow the project to achieve several significant goals that will benefit the Region. The project will deliver a tremendous fiscal impact, it will benefit the Pacific Northwest with family-centered opportunities and will provide a youth sports complex to host local, regional and national youth athletics tournaments by providing the facilities as well as an organization to market and maintain the facility.

Round-Up City Development Corporation (RCDC) is a non-profit 501(c)6 whose focus is increasing the economic vitality of Pendleton, Oregon, and the surrounding region. Recently RCDC has taken over the planning and execution of the Pendleton Regional Youth Sports Complex project, an idea that has been in consideration since the ‘80s.

Our regional community has multiple families with youth that routinely travel to locations in and out of state to participate on various youth sports team events and games. A more localized complex was suggested by a group of parents to enable their kids to stay local while providing an opportunity to invite other teams and their families from outside the region to increase visitorship. Pendleton has all the requisite assets to accommodate this youth sports industry but lacks the facility to adequately host the tournaments.

As Pendleton is centrally located to Seattle, Portland, Boise, a sports complex would allow games to be held locally, attracting sports teams and their families and friends throughout Oregon, Washington, and even Idaho. Pendleton offers a dry climate which is conducive to outdoor sports most of the year and a hotel and restaurant base to serve these visitors.

The full project is estimated at \$40M. The project has proven feasible and the 40-acre site is currently being transferred to RCDC by the City of Pendleton. The estimated cost for Phase I is \$7,915,000. RCDC has applied for \$2M in federal funding. Phase I includes: purchase of an additional 60 acres (for a total of 100 acres), design and provide infrastructure for water, sewer, electrical including field lighting, turf filed surfaces, utility rough-in for phase 2 and paved access roads and the construction of an RV Park to create sustainable business year-round in the Complex to generate revenue.

The request for the 2023 Oregon State Legislature is \$5M and, if awarded, this funding, along with the federal CDS funding and private foundation funding, would allow RCDC to complete Phase 1 of the project.

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In all, approximately 100 acres of space will be combined to accommodate the necessary parking, amenities, and complexes themselves. It has easy access from interstate 84 via Exit 202 and secondary access via the Pendleton Airport via exit 207. By utilizing this land that is within the Urban Growth Boundary space it will allow us to fulfill a community need that isn't too far from the heart of the city.

This project contributes to the larger community beyond our project vision and services. It will beautify and revitalize the western entrance to Pendleton and is perfectly placed just off of Interstate 84. In addition, the complex will provide opportunities to partner with other local organizations to further meet communities needs without duplicating services.

Thank you for your consideration of our request. We understand that resources are limited but we do believe that investing in this project is an opportunity to support the youth, community, and prosperity of Pendleton and the surrounding region.

Sincerely,

Joseph Hull
RCDC President

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