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Re: stadium for Lane County/Eugene Emeralds Co-Chair Holvey, Co-Chair Girod, and Members of the Committee”

Please support expanded funding to enable Lane County to build a stadium on the Lane County Fairgrounds site in Eugene. This would be in cooperation with the Eugene Emeralds baseball team.

This makes good sense. The Eugene Ems have been a positive influence to the community for decades and has had millions of attendees. It is good, clean fun. The alternative is that the Ems will have to leave Eugene, which will be a great loss for city, county and state.

The fairgrounds urban location is ideal. There is space available and, as a former nearby neighbor of the fairgrounds, I found it a wonderful part of the neighborhood. Prior Lane County ambivalence re the fairgrounds has hindered capitol improvements. A new multi use stadium would be a game changer. It is also environmentally responsible to build in the city core with existing public transit access and infrastructure rather than relocate/isolate it to a more rural location.

Economically, a new stadium makes sense. It is a win win for the city, county, state and enables a greater presence for sports, leisure, tourism and community reputation. Already, the Eugene Emeralds have committed substantial millions of support and the City of Eugene and County of Lane have voiced support. Additional state support is critical to success.

Facilities like this create opportunities for games and events that draw a lot of tourists. Not doing this isolates Eugene, Lane County from this wonderful opportunity.

Thank you for your support for a new stadium in Eugene.