

Feb. 15th, 2024

Joint Committee on Ways and Means Subcommittee on Capital Construction,

My name is Luke Emanuel and I write in support of the Salem Baseball / Softball Turf Project at Willamette University.

The youth of Salem-Keizer desperately need more year round safe outdoor space. Outdoor play, particularly within team sports, provides valuable asset-building to prepare kids for life. Assets like managing anxiety, stress, developing self-worth, discipline, enduring failure and growing from it, teamwork to name a few. This asset building is upstream intervention and instrumental in the shaping of Oregon's future.

In our effort to tackle this need in the Salem-Keizer area and conquer the challenges of Title IX compliance, we have formed an incredible public-private partnership with Willamette University. Our collaboration, fiscal responsibility and community involvement are the highlights of our effort.

This ask is about equity. Equity between communities. Competitive equity. More importantly though, equity among income levels. Youth sports, particularly in Salem, with limited field space, are quickly becoming country club activities. If you have money, you can afford to rent the limited space and/or you can afford to drive up to Portland or Vancouver to attend private training grounds, which many Salem athletes do, 2-3 times a week. For those that can't afford to rent fields or travel, they simply don't play. With the help of the state, this centrally located project makes these fields available equally across the district. It also, opens up the space for programming by the YMCA, the Boys & Girls Club and Special Olympics who share a similar mission to serve all.

This project doesn't aim to put Salem-Keizer on par with the rest of Oregon. To do so today would cost roughly \$36 million on just the baseball and softball side of things and, with the current state of the district budget, not something happening any time soon. Instead, through the sharing of facilities, an equal focus on both sports, and a commitment to upgrading existing resources, we are able to provide two venues available for a variety of uses to the 40,000+ kids in the Salem-Keizer area on a consistent basis.

Our \$3 million request is for the last portion remaining for us to complete this project. Thank you.

Luke Emanuel
Salem Baseball / Softball Turf Project

SALEM BASEBALL / SOFTBALL TURF PROJECT

Public and Private funding • Updating and maximizing existing resources

Over half of the Salem-Keizer Public Schools are designated as federal Title 1 schools with 84% of the district's students considered economically disadvantaged. For many of them, organized sports isn't an option. One of the main roadblocks is access to field space on a consistent basis. This is an opportunity to provide the Salem-Keizer youth with a marquee baseball and softball venue through the renovation of centrally-located existing facilities. This is an extraordinary partnership that recognizes an urgent need of the community with a creative solution.

Any financial assistance would say loud and clear that:

- **Participation in youth sports matters;**
- **Sharing of facilities is encouraged; and**
- **Public – private partnerships like this one are appreciated.**



SALEM BASEBALL / SOFTBALL TURF PROJECT

Why Turf Fields?

Synthetic turf has many benefits:

- Fields are available year round
- Synthetic turf conserves water
- Synthetic turf reduces maintenance (and associated costs) and reduces environmental pollution from gas-powered equipment and fertilizers
- Synthetic turf gets significant more usage without the need for field maintenance or recovery periods
 - Easily adaptable for soccer, football, lacrosse, ultimate Frisbee, rugby, etc
- Synthetic turf is safe for all levels of play:
 - Special Olympics, Youth, High School, College, adult recreation

There are over 100 synthetic turf baseball and softball fields in the state of Oregon. Unfortunately, zero of those are in Salem and available to the Salem-Keizer youth. With consistent wet conditions each spring, the Salem-Keizer baseball/softball athletes fall behind in their ability to practice adequately, consistently play their games or even have the opportunity to play at all. The lack of turf forces Salem-Keizer students to miss class and/or arrive home late on weekdays just to be able to travel up to Portland to play on synthetic turf. The cost to Salem-Keizer Public Schools for the added travel each spring is roughly \$100,000 each year.

Why Doesn't the Salem-Keizer area have any Turf Fields for baseball or softball?

The upfront cost of turf and Title IX are the two main factors for why there aren't any turf options available for the youth of our community. Just one field can cost between \$2-3 million. With 6 public high schools in Salem-Keizer with 12 total baseball/softball fields that would need to be completed to comply with Title IX, the cost is too much for a school district to tackle when it is already facing a significant budget shortfall.

What are the projected costs to install synthetic turf w/lights at both a baseball and softball field?

\$6 million as of August 2023

Why use Willamette University's fields?

Willamette University needs synthetic turf but can't afford to do it alone. The same for Salem-Keizer Public Schools. In partnering on this project and utilizing two fields that are centrally located and easily accessible from all parts of the Salem-Keizer area, both entities get the fields needed and Salem gets access to two year round outdoor spaces.

The collage consists of four news items, each with a logo, a headline, a date, and a small image:

- Oregon Public Broadcasting - OPB**: "Salem-Keizer schools outline specifics in first major round of spending cuts" (Dec 12, 2023). Image: A sign for Salem-Keizer Public Schools Student Services.
- Statesman Journal**: "46 staff positions included in updated Salem-Keizer Public Schools budget cuts" (Dec 6, 2023). Image: A portrait of a woman.
- KPTV**: "Salem-Keizer Public Schools considers \$31 million budget cuts to admin pay, staff, programs" (Dec 7, 2023). Image: A sign for Salem-Keizer Public Schools.
- KGW**: "Oregon's second-largest school district sees financial trouble looming" (Aug 24, 2023). Image: A map of the Salem-Keizer area.

Should funds be allocated to Willamette University?

This is a wonderful opportunity to use our unique public-private partnership as an example for other communities, especially those with private institutions, to follow. We are setting the bar high on the level of collaboration, fiscal responsibility and community involvement with Willamette University and the Salem area. Instead of building all new exclusive spaces for each high school, we are maximizing centrally located existing resources and making them available to the entire school district. The cost savings is significant. It will cost \$6 million to convert a baseball field and softball field to synthetic turf with lights. With 6 high schools in need, the total cost to the 2nd largest school district in the state, in current dollars, would be \$36 million.

The collaboration doesn't end with just the Salem-Keizer Public Schools. We have partnered with the YMCA, Boys & Girls Club and Special Olympics to allow their respective programming needs to take place on these fields. We have also offered to make Willamette's athletic complex an emergency disaster relief destination for Marion County.

This ask isn't a gift to Willamette. It is a public investment in the Salem community. \$3 million allocated directly to the school district, directly to City of Salem parks department or any of the other groups hoping for this project to happen (YMCA, Boys & Girls Club, Special Olympics) wouldn't come close to having the same impact for the 40,000+ kids in the Salem-Keizer area. Having Willamette as the recipient of state funds and the caretaker of the facilities just continues the cost-savings to these user groups from not having to provide the maintenance and upkeep down the road.

Is there a Return on Investment?

The return on investment isn't just in positive community impact, though that should be heavily considered. The improvements to these existing fields also provide a financial return with increased tourism (more hotel stays, more consumer traffic in downtown Salem) and state revenue in payroll taxes from the introduction of a new baseball team in Salem playing in the West Coast League with the Corvallis Knights, the Portland Pickles and the Bend Elks. This team will operate in a similar fashion to the Emeralds in Eugene and Hops in Hillsboro with a similar direct economic impact to the city and the state. With a 30-year lease, the yearly income to the state will quickly return the one-time investment of \$3 million.

How can you help?

The Salem Baseball / Softball Turf project has raised over 50% of the funds needed and continue working hard on raising additional funds. An award of \$3 million from the State will green light this project towards becoming a reality. For only \$3 million, the entire Salem-Keizer area gets two all synthetic turf fields with lights. This is 1/12 of the cost it would take for the school district to do this on their own in current dollars. With the current budget crisis in the district, they will not be able to take on this much needed project any time soon.

Luke Emanuel
Salem Baseball / Softball Turf Project
lukeemanuel@yahoo.com
541-222-0736

2023-25 CAPITAL FUNDING REQUEST

PROJECT INFORMATION FORM

Legislative Fiscal Office
900 Court St. NE, H-178
Salem, OR 97301



CONTACT INFORMATION FOR RECIPIENT ORGANIZATION

Organization Legal Name _____

Organization Type _____ Federal Tax ID Number _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Contact Person _____

Contact Phone _____ Contact Email _____

PROJECT INFORMATION

Project Name _____

Project Description

Project Location _____

Project Schedule (Please describe the project's readiness, including planned start and end dates and any remaining permits, approvals, or other steps that must be completed prior to beginning.)

PROJECT BUDGET

Estimated Project Cost

Construction/Renovation	_____
Site Improvements	_____
Land Acquisition	_____
Architectural and Engineering Fees	_____
Equipment	_____
Contingencies	_____
Other Costs (specify) _____	_____
Other Costs (specify) _____	_____
Estimated Total Project Costs	_____

Amount Requested _____ **Percent of Total Project Cost** _____

Type of Funding Requested _____

Matching Funds

State Funds (source) _____	_____
Federal Funds (source) _____	_____
Private/Other Grants	_____
Donations/Gifts	_____
Other Revenues/Financing (source) _____	_____
Other Revenues/Financing (source) _____	_____
Total Matching Funds	_____

OTHER INFORMATION

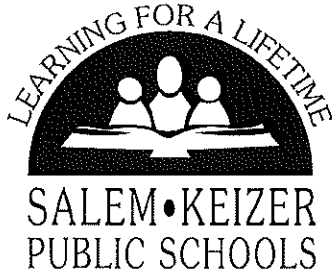
Grants financed through the issuance of bonds are not available until bonds are sold. Multiple factors impact the timing of sales; however, many sales often occur during the last six months of the biennium (Oregon's biennial budget begins on July 1 of odd-numbered years and runs through June 30 of the next odd-numbered year). Significant decreases in revenues or changes in financial conditions subsequent to authorization may also delay or prevent the issuance of bonds, which means that the approved projects or grants would also be delayed or not funded.

Public works projects, including any project that uses \$750,000 or more of public funds for constructing, reconstructing, painting or performing a major renovation on a road, highway, building, structure or improvement of any type, may be subject prevailing wage requirements. Grant recipients must comply with prevailing wage rate laws and should consult the Oregon Bureau of Labor and Industries to determine whether a project is subject to prevailing wage.

Please return the completed form and any supporting documentation to:

Walt Campbell, Principal Legislative (Bonding) Analyst

walt.campbell@oregonlegislature.gov



LARA TIFFIN
Coordinator of Athletics & Activities
2450 Lancaster Drive NE / PO Box 12024
Salem, Oregon 97309-0024
503-399-3000

Andrea Castañeda, Superintendent

October 10, 2023

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing in support of the collaborative effort of the City of Salem, Willamette University and Salem Baseball Club to provide upgrades to the softball and baseball fields owned by Willamette University.

While Salem-Keizer School District does not have the financial means to contribute to the initial development of the softball and baseball fields, the high school baseball and softball teams would greatly benefit from the addition of turf and lights on Willamette's ball fields. We have zero publicly- available synthetic turf baseball and softball fields near the city of Salem. Due to the rainy weather we typically experience every spring, our Salem-Keizer School District's softball and baseball teams cannot rely on a dependable schedule. For competitions, our teams endure cancellations, postponements and spontaneous road trips. Often the change in competition venue translates to games being canceled for the sub-varsity teams, limiting student-athletes' opportunities to develop their skills.

For practices, our high school baseball and softball teams typically find space inside gyms and on the artificial turf on our football fields. Most years, they have not practiced on an actual baseball or softball field before playing their first game. They do their best to simulate game-like situations while in the gym or on the football field, but clearly it is not the same as practicing on an actual softball or baseball field. Having turf fields available for our high school teams to rent would prevent them from having to travel to other cities to play, would give families a reliable schedule to plan around, and would provide athletes the opportunity to improve their skills on a regulation-size field.

In addition, we believe that athletic participation would increase due to having a more reliable game schedule, not only for the athletes but for their families. Our schools could actually host games in town rather than have to travel around the state, leading to less missed instructional time and less need for substitutes for the school employees who are coaches. In addition, the turf fields would reduce the need for maintenance, freeing up the grounds crew to focus on much-needed maintenance elsewhere. Finally, the turf fields are accessible year-round, giving Unified Sports and off-season teams a place to practice. Another benefit is the exposure of our baseball and softball players to a college campus and the promotion of the continuance of their education at the next level.

I foresee the Salem-Keizer School District requesting to rent Willamette's softball and baseball fields on a regular basis. With zero synthetic turf fields in our community, we are clearly behind other communities in what we are providing to our youth. We fully support Willamette University's endeavor to renovate their fields to provide a much-needed venue for the Salem community.

Sincerely,

Lara Tiffin
Coordinator of Athletics and Activities

SALEM-KEIZER PUBLIC SCHOOLS

January 29, 2024



**BOYS & GIRLS CLUB
OF SALEM
MARION AND POLK COUNTIES**

To whom it my concern,

We are pleased to express our support for the Salem Baseball/Softball Turf Project. We will support this project as there would be plans to use the facility in many ways not just associated with baseball/softball.

Boys & Girls Club of Salem Marion and Polk Counties mission is to inspire and enable all youth, grades 1-12, ESPECIALLY THOSE WHO NEED US MOST, to realize their full potential as productive, responsible and caring citizens through the development of a positive self-image and self-reliance. Youth can learn many life lessons through playing sport and participating in recreational activities that involve play.

The vision for our Athletics Department is Youth who participate in the Boys & Girls Club athletic programs will: learn about good character and sportsmanship, gain mastery of both team and individual sports, and develop life-long fitness skills and healthy habits.

If this project is funded, the Boys & Girls Club of Salem Marion and Polk Counties will support the Salem Baseball/Softball Turf Project by:

- End of season celebration for T-ball program
- Charity Softball games to raise youth sports awareness and scholarship opportunities for low-income families (potential future event)
- Summer Camp programming
- Flag Football games (unique one-off weekends)

We believe this is an excellent opportunity to bring the community together through sport but create an avenue for our youth at the Boys & Girls Club to take part in sport and play on a quality turf field and safe environment.

Sincerely,

Kyle Buse
Athletic Director

Boys & Girls Club of Salem
Marion and Polk Counties
1395 Summer St. NE
Salem, OR 97301
Phone: (503) 581-7383
Fax: (503) 375-6129
bgc-salem.org

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Chad Savage

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Kevin Walker

Dewey Whitton



FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®
FOR HEALTHY LIVING
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

FAMILY YMCA OF MARION & POLK COUNTIES
685 Court St., Salem, OR 97308
503.581.9622 | www.theYonline.org

January 26th, 2024

To Whom It May Concern:

On behalf of the Family YMCA of Marion and Polk Counties, we would like to offer our support for the Salem Baseball Club. We support their proposal to turf the baseball and softball fields at Bush Park.

We will have a great partnership with the Salem Baseball Club. This project will create many opportunities for our community to grow and thrive. While bringing a professional team to our community, Salem Baseball Club is looking to partner with organizations, such as the YMCA to bring people together in the summer months. By bringing in partnerships, they will be able to provide space for youth and adults to participate in multi-sports camp programs, summer sport leagues among other programming.

The best part about this project is the location, Bush Park is in Central Salem and is a short distance for many families and partners to be able to participate in programming and attend games.

Based on our relationship with Salem Baseball Club, we can confidently recommend Salem Baseball Club for this project.

Thank you for your consideration, please contact if you have any further questions.

Sincerely,

Brandon Lemon

Brandon Lemon
Chief Operations Officer

blemon@theyonline.org

(D) 503.551.0741

(O) 503.581.9622



January 19, 2024

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing this letter in support of the upgrades to artificial turf and lights for the baseball and softball fields in Downtown Salem on the Willamette University campus.

Special Olympics Oregon (SOOR) partners with schools, parks and recreation departments and other sport organizations around the state to conduct sports practices, clinics, and competitions. We are always seeking high-quality, accessible, safe playing fields, courts, and facilities to host our athletes (children and adults with intellectual disabilities) in a variety of sports, health, and fitness activities.

These proposed lighted turf fields would serve as excellent places for our Marion County Local Program to offer a variety of training and competition opportunities during the day or evening in sports such as softball, bocce, and soccer throughout the year as these fields would be multi-purpose and functional year-round.

As a Willamette University graduate who spent several years living in Salem - playing my fair share of soccer games on muddy grass pitches - I think the addition of these all-weather, lighted fields would benefit the community at large by providing more places for participants of all ages to gather and play.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mark Hanken', followed by a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Mark Hanken
Chief Operating Officer



January 17, 2024

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to express Travel Salem's enthusiastic support for the collaborative effort of the City of Salem, Willamette University, and the Salem Baseball Club to upgrade softball and baseball fields with turf and lights. The commitment from these partners and the offering of these fields to the community reflects a shared vision for enhancing our community's recreational facilities.

We recognize the profound impact that sports and recreational activities have on our local economy. In 2022 alone, visitors to the region generated an impressive \$782 million, with a significant portion attributed to sports participants and spectators, which underscores the importance of investing in our sports infrastructure.

The proposed field upgrades not only align with our commitment to community development but also present a strategic opportunity to attract more tournaments and events. Turf fields with lights enhance the versatility and year-round usability of the facilities, providing an ideal setting for youth sports and attracting tournaments that inject new dollars into the region's economy.

Considering the economic impact of sports on our region, the requested \$3 million from the Oregon legislature is not just a funding request; it is an investment in the continued growth and prosperity of our community. The positive ripple effects of this investment will be felt through increased tourism, local business engagement, and the overall enhancement of Salem's reputation as a sports destination.

Travel Salem urges you to support this funding request and champion the collaborative initiative to upgrade the softball and baseball fields at Willamette University. Your advocacy for this project will contribute to the long-term economic sustainability of our region while providing valuable recreational opportunities for our community's youth.

Thank you for your attention to this matter, and we look forward to witnessing the positive impact that this project will have on the Salem Community.

Sincerely,

Angie Villery
Travel Salem President & CEO
Angie@TravelSalem.com

County Commissioners
Kevin Cameron, Chair
Colm Willis
Danielle Bethell



Chief Administrative
Officer
Jan Fritz

MARION COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

January 31, 2024

RE: Marion County Board of Commissioners Support for Salem Turf Fields Project

Dear Joint Committee on Ways and Means,

The Marion County Board of Commissioners writes to express our support for the initiative to install artificial turf and lights at Willamette University's baseball field and softball stadium in Salem.

The need for turf fields in Salem is compelling, considering the lack of such facilities despite the consistently wet conditions in the Willamette Valley. We believe that this project will significantly enhance the opportunities for local athletes, providing them with a year-round, safe, and reliable space for practice and play.

The benefits of artificial turf align with our vision for fostering community development and providing accessible recreational opportunities. The advantages, such as year-round availability, water conservation, and reduced maintenance costs, not only contribute to the well-being of our youth but also align with sustainable practices.

The plan to renovate the existing baseball field and softball stadium at Willamette University, strategically located in downtown Salem is also a key component to this project. Maximizing these central resources for the benefit of the youth through a scheduling agreement with the Salem-Keizer School District showcases a collaborative approach that we wholeheartedly support.

The Marion County Board of Commissioners supports this initiative and believes that the installation of artificial turf and lights at Willamette University's baseball field and softball stadium will not only benefit the local youth but also create premier venues for high school postseason competitions. We anticipate the positive impact this project will have on our community, and we are excited about the prospect of enhancing the sports and recreational facilities available in Marion County.

Thank you for your consideration of this project, and we look forward to witnessing the positive transformation it will bring to our community.

Sincerely,

Kevin Cameron
Chair

Colm Willis
Commissioner

Danielle Bethell
Commissioner

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

This Memorandum of Understanding, is entered into this ___ day of December, 2023, between the City of Salem, an Oregon municipal corporation (“City”), Willamette University, an Oregon nonprofit corporation (“Willamette”), and the Salem Baseball Club LLC, and Oregon limited liability company (“LLC”), defined collectively and referred to herein as “the Parties”.

RECITALS

- A. Willamette owns the baseball stadium (“baseball stadium”) located at 730 Mission St. SE, Salem, OR 97302 and has a long term lease of its softball stadium (“softball stadium”) located at 501 14th St. SE, Salem, OR 97301, which is owned by Tokyo International University of America, and uses both for its athletic programs, in particular, the sport of baseball and softball.
- B. The baseball stadium sits adjacent to a City park known as Bush’s Pasture Park (the “Park”).
- C. Willamette and the City have an existing Agreement dated 09/24/1982 to allow, in part, for the baseball stadium located adjacent to Bush’s Pasture Park to encroach on the Park.
- D. The LLC has an interest in leasing the baseball stadium.
- E. The City has an interest in seeing the LLC use the baseball stadium.
- F. The Parties, collectively, have an interest in supporting improvements identified in this MOU to both the baseball stadium and the softball stadium.
- G. The City and Willamette have an interest in continuing their existing agreement and amending it to permit the expanded encroachment into the Park created through the improvements.

AGREEMENT

I. Non-Binding Nature/Final Documentation

It is in the best interest of the public and the Parties, and conducive to the success of the project, that reasonable and necessary business points identified to date be reduced to writing in the form of a Memorandum of Understanding.

The Parties further acknowledge and agree that although this Memorandum of Understanding is fully intended to name the key items to be undertaken over the next 10 months by the Parties, the Memorandum shall not be of binding force and effect on the Parties, but rather, shall be of a non-binding nature and effect.

Nothing herein shall be construed or interpreted as regulatory approval, such as land use approval or building permit issuance of any improvements for the project.

At a time prior to the expiration of the 10-month period, the Parties will determine whether to proceed with negotiation and execution of a final form of a Development Agreement, which shall include any terms and conditions determined by the Parties to be necessary and appropriate for this project.

II. The Project

The general project envisioned by the Parties is to renovate the baseball stadium for the purpose of allowing Salem's new organized summer collegiate baseball team (LLC) and Salem-Keizer Public Schools access to the property. The main renovations desired include the installation of sports lighting, a synthetic turf playing surface and increased accessibility. The project also includes the renovation of the softball stadium for the purpose of allowing Salem-Keizer Public Schools access to the property. The main renovations desired include the installation of sports lighting, a synthetic turf playing surface and increased accessibility to both the baseball and softball stadiums.

The project will require careful design and consideration to comply with the Pre-Application Report from the project's Conference with the City on 4/10/2023, attached hereto as Attachment 1.

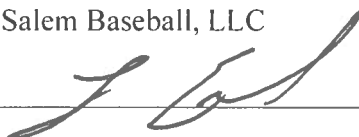
III. Timeline/Action Step Schedule

This MOU memorializes the Parties' intention to participate in good faith negotiations for the next 10 months on the renovation of the baseball stadium and softball stadium and make them available to LLC as noted in the recitals.

IV. General Terms

- a. This MOU shall be effective on the date last signed by all parties, and shall expire on October 31, 2024, unless extended.
- b. No Legally Binding Force or Effect: It is expressly understood and agreed by the Parties that this MOU does not create any legally binding or enforceable obligation on the part of any Party, either with respect to the MOU. If the Parties wish to create a legally enforceable agreement, the Parties agree to negotiate such agreement which shall be executed by the authorized individuals for each Party.
- c. Applicable law. This MOU shall be construed and enforced in accordance with the laws of the State of Oregon.
- d. No partnership or joint-venture. Nothing in this MOU shall be construed so as to make the Parties partners or joint-venturers.
- e. No attorney fees. The Parties shall be responsible for their own attorney fees, legal costs and disbursements incurred in enforcing or administering this MOU.
- f. Public Record. This MOU is a public record as defined by Oregon law and may be provided to the public upon request.

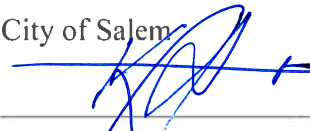
Salem Baseball, LLC



By: Luke Emanuel, Manager

Date: 12/5/23

City of Salem



By: Keith Stahley, City Manager

Date: 1/31/2024

Willamette University



By: Dan Valles, Senior VP and COO

Date: 12/5/23

Enhancing Oregon Communities Through Sports

Sports brings Oregonians of all ages and backgrounds together, enhancing the livability, health and vitality of our communities.

For 2024, a diverse coalition has come together and is seeking state support for professional, amateur and youth sports that will generate wins on and off the field:

- EUGENE – a new county-owned facility for the Emeralds that will modernize Eugene’s aging fairgrounds
- HILLSBORO – a new city-owned ballpark for the Hops with enhanced year-round entertainment
- SALEM – creating the community’s first all-synthetic turf baseball field and softball field
- SPORT OREGON – youth sports grants that provide more access and opportunity beyond Portland

These projects are approximately 85% funded. We are now asking the state to fund the remaining \$27 million through the Oregon Sports Community Investment Package. In essence, this is a public-private partnership in which every dollar the state invests will be matched 7:1.

Without state support:

- The Emeralds and the Hops will no longer exist in Oregon, and their losses will jeopardize future statewide sports opportunities.
- Communities across the state will lose vital funding and dedicated public space for youth sports and other local activities.
- The state stands to lose over \$90 million in personal income tax revenue if the Eugene and Hillsboro projects are not completed.



► Sports Unite Us and Create New Connections

Each project is unique. What they share is the opportunity to secure long-term homes where youth sports can flourish, and Oregonians of diverse backgrounds can affordably celebrate community, sports and culture together. Lifetime memories are made in these environments.

The ballparks are centrally located within their communities on publicly-owned land, serving as central gathering places in good times as well as in critical moments of need – enhancing local operations and capabilities around public health.

► Returning Strong Economic Benefits

This one-time state investment will return far more tax revenue to Oregon than what is being requested. Economic analysis shows the state will recoup its investment within a 6-year time-frame.

According to estimates by the EcoNorthwest, losing the Hops and Emeralds would mean the state stands to lose approximately \$385 million in revenue.

Our local governments and communities are invested in the success of these public-private partnership projects, but we can’t do it alone. State support is critical!

Nearly half of respondents identified professional sports facilities as the city’s most important amenity in the Governor’s 2023 Portland Central City Task Force survey.

Projects That Create Positive Statewide Impact



- Providing affordable and diverse family entertainment at the Lane County Fairgrounds, a centrally-accessible location for the community that helps bolster restaurants and other surrounding businesses.
- Construction of the facility will contribute \$127.8M in economic output, 684 jobs and \$47.9M in labor income; operations will produce \$40.3M annually to Oregon's economic output along with the full-year equivalent of 317 jobs.

KEVIN CAMPBELL
kevin@victorygrp.com



- Building a new, city-owned ballpark that increases access, equity and wellness benefits for players and fans, hosts enhanced year-round concerts and regional events, and secures Ron Tonkin Field as a dedicated community resource.
- The new ballpark outperforms its requested \$15M state investment with a projected six-year payback on a 40-year lease, and once open will annually generate \$64M in regional economic activity, \$3M in state and local taxes, and support 380+ full-time jobs.

JON EAMES
jon@eames.consulting



- Providing Salem's first all synthetic turf and lighted baseball field and softball field for the local high school and youth programs. These multi-purpose venues will host safe and affordable local community events.
- Public-private partnership with Salem-Keizer Public Schools that maximizes existing facilities

LUKE EMANUEL
lukeemanuel@yahoo.com



- Targeted funds for youth sporting events outside of Portland that create proven benefits to youth and their families, communities and local business.
- Grants targeting youth sporting events support local communities and Oregon's sports tourism industry that injects millions of dollars each year into the state's economy.

NATHAN NAYMAN
Nathan@sportoregon.org