



From the desks of
Gov. Barbara Roberts, Gov. Ted Kulongoski, Gov. John Kitzhaber

May 6, 2019

Honorable Senators and Representatives of the Oregon Legislative Assembly
900 Court St., NE
Salem, OR 97301

Subject: Gerry Frank | Salem Rotary Amphitheater

We are pleased to express our enthusiastic support for the new Gerry Frank | Salem Rotary Amphitheater to be built at Riverfront Park in Oregon's capital city of Salem.

This wonderful project will serve all residents of the regional community, creating expanded opportunities for cultural enrichment, recreation, and economic vitality. It will become a unique and inviting gathering spot – open and welcoming to everyone – in what is now one of the largest scenic urban parks in America.

The new amphitheater is named in honor of Gerry Frank, Oregon's first and only Premier Citizen. Few Oregonians have done as much for our great state. For decades, Gerry has worked tirelessly in support of Oregon tourism, business development, public safety, and nonprofit social services. At the age of 95, Gerry continues to travel the state, much as he did as chief of staff to the late Senator Mark Hatfield, spotlighting the best of places to eat, sleep, play and relax in his familiar book, *Gerry Frank's Oregon*.

Indeed, the amphitheater will give Oregonians and visitors to our state a *new* place to visit. With a unique design inspired by the open-weave baskets of the Native American Kalapuya, the stunning beauty of the architecture will place this structure among the most significant and iconic landmarks in Oregon for generations to come.

We wholeheartedly support the legislature's allocation of funds to this important Oregon project. It is a solid investment in the vitality of Oregon.

Sincerely,

Gov. Barbara Roberts
1991-1995

Gov. Ted Kulongoski
2003-2011

Gov. John Kitzhaber
1995-2003 and 2011-2015