

Dear Chairs Johnson, Steiner-Hayward, and Rayfield, and members of the Committee:

My name is Richard Ceder and I am the principal of Toledo Junior/Senior High School, which serves students from the entire east Lincoln County area. I am writing this letter in support of the Greater Toledo Aquatic & Community Center request for state funding to help pay for the renovation of the public pool, located in Toledo, Oregon.

This pool represents an important aspect of community livability in Toledo and the east area of Lincoln County including Siletz and Eddyville and has done so since the 1940s. However, the facility is old and needs to be replaced in order to continue to provide for the fitness and safety needs of our rural community.

As principal of Toledo High School I know firsthand the benefits of a swimming pool to the youth of our community. Toledo High is one of only a few 2A schools in the state of Oregon that has a competitive swim program. Our AquaBoomer swim team is a valued part of Toledo High School's Boomer Nation. Go Boomers! Additionally, the pool provides swim club and swim team opportunities for our junior high students and the youth of Siletz and Eddyville as well. The after school swim program has given our students a solid avenue for fitness in the east area of Lincoln County.

I want to thank you for your consideration of our infrastructure needs. Small town Oregon has been a mainstay of the culture of Oregon, and the east Lincoln County communities of Toledo, Siletz, and Eddyville are some of its best representatives.

Regards,

Richard Ceder
Toledo High School Principal