

Submitter: Jean Nelson

On Behalf
Of:

Committee: Joint Committee On Ways and Means Subcommittee On Capital
Construction

Measure: HB5201

Dear Co-Chair Holvey, Co-Chair Girod, and Members of the Committee,

I am writing to express my support on behalf of the Lane County Multi-Use Public Facility.

The Eugene Emeralds and minor league baseball have been an integral part of our community for 70 years. Emeralds games are fun, affordable and traditional family experiences.

I am deeply committed to funding the new stadium, which will be available for all sorts of year-round, revenue-generating events, in addition to baseball games.

Baseball is woven into the fabric of my heart. My son played from the time he could walk, from Babe Ruth, all the way through high school at South Eugene, 4 years at Columbia University, and even 2 years in the minor leagues with the Mariners. We went to Ems games at Civic Stadium, and then PK Park, all summer, every summer. We went as a family, as teams, as fans, and ultimately he went as a ballplayer himself.

The game of baseball teaches us that life is unpredictable; sometimes long, sometimes short, sometimes exciting and sometimes mundane. No other sport has an indefinite playing time, and anything can happen.

My life would be much less rich without baseball in it.

I know I am not alone in wanting this new stadium at the Fairgrounds. It matters to me that the Emeralds continue to play in Eugene, and to all those who value the game of baseball.

Thank you for your consideration.

Jean Nelson