TO: Co-Chair Holvey, Co-Chair Girod, and Members of the Committee"

**Subject:** Support for Lane County Multi-Purpose Public Facility

For the state of Oregon - Long Term Positive Impact - Jobs - Revenue for Oregon - Building on Positive State & Community Environment

Do this for the Eugene Emeralds Baseball Club. It Makes sense for the state of Oregon

- This makes economic sense for the state. The new ballpark will provide million in state income tax from the construction jobs and millions annually from the ballpark related jobs. This results in a payback to the state in a few years on direct income tax alone.
- We need positive stories for our region. Oregon has taken their hit with negative headlines lately. We need positive headlines, and we need to invest in quality of life. This new venue will provide affordable entertainment options year-round.
- The Eugene Emeralds community support is substantial and grows every year. For Years the Emeralds have donated to youth sports and education opportunities and volunteer hours.
- We need places to gather for wholesome shared experiences. Ballparks bring people together like no other venue. Getting people out of their house and off their devices is critical for positive mental health. Nothing beats a generational experience like parents and grandparents taking their kids & grandkids to their first baseball game!

Eugenes impact on the community and the state is very substantial.

## **Eugene Emerald**

Allan Benavides, GM, The Eugene Emeralds

Rep. Holvey & Co-Chair Girod I've personally known these folks & have done volunteer work for them & their organization.

To lose these folks and their organization would be a crime.

**Thank you,**George Aker
Eugene, Oregon