

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

I am writing to express my strong support for the "Save our Ems" campaign, which aims to preserve the presence of the Eugene Emeralds baseball team in our community. As a lifelong fan and supporter of the Ems, I believe their continued presence in Eugene is vital, not only for sports enthusiasts but also for the economic and cultural well-being of our city.

The Ems have been a cornerstone of our community for almost 70 years, bringing joy and excitement to fans of all ages. Beyond the thrill of the games themselves the Ems contribute to our local economy by attracting visitors, supporting local businesses and non-profit organizations, and creating jobs and hospitality and entertainment sectors. Additionally, the team fosters a sense of pride and unity among residents, serving as a symbol of our city's unique identity and spirit.

The games hold a special place in my heart, offering moments of joy and anticipation throughout the season. Attending games with my dad on Father's Day has become a cherished tradition, and bringing my kids (and even our dog) to the promotional events adds to the magic of the experience. It's more than just baseball; it's a time for creating lasting memories with loved ones. The thought of summers in Eugene without the Ems is unimaginable to me.

A new multi-use stadium could not only provide a state-of-the-art venue for baseball games but also serve as a hub for a variety of community events, concerts, festivals, and other recreational activities. By creating a dynamic space that can accommodate a wide range of programming year-round, we can attract visitors, stimulate economic activity, and enhance the quality of life for residents.

I urge you to support funding and legislation that will facilitate the construction of a new multi-use stadium in Eugene. This investment will not only preserve the legacy of the Eugene Emeralds but also contribute to the long-term prosperity and vitality of our community.

Sincerely,

Sydney Mills