

Douglas County Youth Sports Park Overview

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Project Overview

The Douglas County Youth Sports Park will be a cutting-edge, community-owned facility, fostering year-round athletic engagement, economic growth, and community resilience. Designed for versatility and inclusivity, it will provide state-of-the-art facilities for youth and adult sports leagues, positioning Douglas County as a premier sports destination. By eliminating the need for families to travel elsewhere for tournaments, the park will enhance livability and access to recreation for all residents.

Economic & Community Impact

The sports park aligns with Oregon's legislative priorities, driving up to \$7 million in annual economic impact by attracting tournaments, visitors, and new spending in hotels, restaurants, and local businesses. This job-creating investment will also strengthen youth engagement, equitable access to extracurricular activities, and public health.

Facility Features

- Four Turf Baseball/Softball Fields – All-weather fields for league play and tournaments.
- Four Multi-Use Turf Fields – Adaptable for soccer, lacrosse, and football.
- 60,000-Square-Foot Indoor Facility – Basketball, volleyball, pickleball, and year-round events.
- Dual-Purpose Indoor Venue – Functions as a disaster relief center, improving community preparedness.

The Power of Youth Engagement

Extracurricular activities are life-changing for youth, improving academic performance, social skills, and emotional well-being. Studies show that students involved in sports and organized activities are more likely to graduate, develop leadership skills, and avoid risky behaviors. The Aspen Institute's Project Play finds that young athletes experience lower stress, higher self-esteem, and lifelong health benefits. Investing in these opportunities strengthens families, schools, and communities, ensuring that all children—regardless of income—have access to structured, meaningful engagement.

Conclusion

The Douglas County Youth Sports Park is a transformational investment that will drive economic development, increase opportunities for youth, and enhance community resilience. This funding request will bring this vision to life, ensuring that Douglas County thrives for generations to come.