

Submitter: Erin Meechan  
On Behalf Of:  
Committee: Joint Committee On Ways and Means  
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB5006  
RE: Financial Support for Eastside Timbers Community Center

Co-Chairs Lieber and Sanchez and Members of the Joint Committee on Ways and Means:

I am writing this letter to request your support for Eastside Timbers FC request for financial support for building a community center at the Eastside Timbers Sports Complex on 174th and Powell. This project is shovel ready and has over \$6 million dollars of funding from donors, sponsors, and individuals that agree we need this space in East County.

I have been employed with Eastside Timbers FC for 4 years now as the Administrative Assistant to the Director of Community Programs. We have provided over 400 kiddos free soccer in Gresham, Troutdale, Fairview, and Wood Village over the past 2 years through grants from Gresham and East County Rising. This has been an amazing opportunity for me to work with low-income families, specifically kiddos that live in our community.

This Community Center would provide more kiddos in the community a safe space to extend their growth in soccer as well as homework and more. We are proud of the opportunities we have been able to provide low-income kiddos to play soccer including Reynolds Middle School, Centennial Middle School, Gordon Russell Middle School and other clubs that are not part of a Recreational League. Many of our Recreational kiddos go on to play club soccer, work as referees, and even support PreK/K teams as Co-coaches. Not to mention play in college and come back to EST as competitive coaches or play professional soccer.

Thank you for all your work and I appreciate your time.  
Sincerely,  
Erin Meechan  
503-421-7534