

Submitter: Linda McKim-Bell

On Behalf Of: Portland State University

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

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB 5505

Dear Co-Chair Fred Girod, Co-Chair Rob Nosse and Members of the Subcommittee on Capital Construction,

My name is Linda McKim-Bell and I live in Portland residing in the Forest Park neighborhood. I am a concerned and invested community member living close to downtown. I have been concerned about the health and prosperity of my beloved downtown. I am here today to express my strong support for Portland State University's Performing Arts Center and urge you to fund PSU's \$85 million Article-G Bond request.

PSU's Performing Arts and Culture Center is a comprehensive project that will breathe new life into our city. Including two theaters, a conference center, a hotel, classrooms, and community spaces, all integrated into one dynamic location. This means the site will be active around the clock, not just during showtimes, creating a vibrant and continuously engaged downtown.

The multi-purpose nature of PSU's plan, with its auditoriums, conference center, hotel, classrooms, and restaurants, promises a bustling downtown environment. It will attract more people to the area, enliven our streets, and provide economic opportunities for small businesses in the downtown core. PSU's site offers over six acres of developable space, paving the way for further development opportunities. PSU's proposal is the kingpin catalyst our city urgently needs to rejuvenate and thrive.

I have always been proud of our forefathers and foremothers that founded our parks and our institutions. They had the foresight to think big when they invited Frederick Olmstead to create our park system and made this a great city. This is a pivotal moment for Portland, and I urge you to follow their example and THINK BIG PORTLAND.

Please support PSU's Capital Construction request for \$85 million in Article-G Bonds.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Linda McKim-Bell