

Submitter: Helen Ying

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 Helen Ying, and I am a former educator, Portland State University alumna, dedicated community advocate, and neighbor of the site where the University Place Hotel is currently located. I am writing to express my enthusiastic support for Portland State University's proposed Portland Performing Arts & Culture Complex.

As someone who has devoted many years to education and community service, I have witnessed firsthand the profound impact that accessible cultural and educational resources can have on individuals and communities. The Portland Performing Arts & Culture Complex will be a transformative project that will greatly enrich the cultural, educational, and economic landscape of our city.

Furthermore, the Portland Performing Arts & Culture Complex will significantly support artists of color and community-based arts organizations. This venue will offer much-needed space for diverse artistic expressions, enabling underrepresented voices to be heard and celebrated. By providing these artists with the resources and exposure they need, the complex will help to foster a more inclusive and dynamic cultural scene in Portland.

The arts have a unique power to bring people together, creating shared experiences and fostering mutual understanding. The Portland Performing Arts & Culture Complex will help build a more connected and resilient community. It will be a beacon of inclusivity, where artists from all backgrounds can showcase their work and engage with the broader community.

Throughout my career, I have been deeply involved in various organizations and initiatives aimed at fostering community engagement and sustainable development. As President of the Lan Su Chinese Garden, I have seen the importance of cultural institutions in promoting inclusivity and enriching the lives of Portlanders and all Oregonians. The Portland Performing Arts & Culture Complex will be a cornerstone in our efforts to create a vibrant, inclusive, and dynamic city.

I strongly urge you to support PSU's **Capital Construction request for \$85 million in Article-G Bonds** to build PSU's new Performing Arts and Culture Complex. And as a neighbor of the current site, I'm not worried about the construction. I'm looking forward to having a beautiful site to walk to with restaurants and multiple venues.

Thank you for your consideration and your commitment to serving our city.

Sincerely,

Helen Ying