

## City of Keizer

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Lore Christopher, City Councilor

May 7, 2025

Joint Committee on Capital Construction Oregon State Legislature 900 Court St. NE Salem, OR 97301

Subject: Strong Support for SB 5531 – Funding Request for Synthetic Turf Complex Completion

Dear Members of the Joint Committee on Capital Construction,

I am writing to express my strong support for allocating \$750,000 through SB 5531 to complete the final phase of the synthetic turf complex, including paving the parking lot and reconstructing the equipment building. This project, located within a regional park, serves over 200,000 community members in Salem, Keizer, and the surrounding areas, providing essential recreational and health benefits for residents of all ages.

This funding is critical to:

- Completing a Fully Functional Facility One phase is complete, and a second phase is funded. The
  final investment will ensure the complex reaches its full potential, creating a safe, accessible, and
  high-quality recreational space for all.
- **Supporting Public Health and Well-Being** Access to quality athletic facilities encourages physical activity, reduces health risks, and promotes mental well-being across all age groups.
- Expanding Recreational Opportunities The synthetic turf complex provides year-round access for youth sports, adult leagues, school programs, and community events, benefiting thousands of local residents.
- **Boosting Economic Impact** Well-maintained recreational facilities attract tournaments, events, and visitors, supporting local businesses and generating revenue for the region.
- Fulfilling a Community Need Representative Mannix has identified this request as his top priority, highlighting the broad community support and importance of this investment for Salem and Keizer residents.

The Joint Committee on Capital Construction has the opportunity to ensure this project is successfully completed, reinforcing Oregon's commitment to accessible recreation and community well-being. I respectfully urge you to include this funding request in SB 5531 to finalize this vital project.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I appreciate your leadership in supporting initiatives that strengthen our communities.

Sincerely,

Lore Christopher Keizer City Councilor #5