

Submitter: Lindsay Farrimond
On Behalf Of: Osborn Aquatic Center
Committee: Joint Committee On Ways and Means Subcommittee On
Capital Construction
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB5531

I am advocating for Osborn Aquatic Center. I grew up in Corvallis. Earned my liquid degree certificate by completing all 10 levels of swim lessons and have my picture on the wall. My kids both took lessons there and my son earned his picture on the wall too. I was a member of the Corvallis Aquatic Team for 10 years as well as a CHS swimmer for 4 years. All of this was done at Osborn. I have countless memories swimming in this pool. I can't even fathom the idea of it not being a focal point for the city. What will all of these kids do? There are not enough comparable options around for swimming lessons. The covid backlog has been bad enough. Having Otter Beach during the summer is pivotal for many families to keep cool during the summer.

Osborn is:

- 1 of 2 indoor facilities in the state with a long course pool
- 1 of 2 indoor facilities in the state that can hold large competitions/ championships for swimming (for all ages from 5-100yrs, adaptive and reg competition), water polo, etc
- used by OSAA to hold high school district and state championships for water polo and swimming for multiple districts and 5A/4A/3A
- centrally located in the state for ease of accessing across the state
- one of few facilities in the state that has accessibility for adaptive swimming
- with so many rivers and the ocean in Oregon, safe, monitored water spaces need to be prioritized in order to teach water safety skills and provide safe places for residents to cool off and recreate

From a Corvallis perspective:

- hosts 700 swim lessons/week
- events at Osborn bring in \$1.5M to the Corvallis community
- employs >100 hourly wage employees (important for high school & college students)
- warm pool which is good for therapy and keeping toddlers warm as they become water comfortable/safe
- hosts various groups: ROTC for skills training/drills, Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts for badge certifications, scuba diving certifications, underwater hockey, etc