

Submitter: Colin Phifer

On Behalf Of:

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

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB5531

Dear Capital Construction Subcommittee,

I am writing to show my support for the Lane County Coalition of Recreation, Arts, and Athletics (CoRAA). I am a supporter of Frozen Ice Sports and the Lane Amateur Hockey Association, and CoRAA is helping us replace the roof at the Lane Ice Center, which is currently leaking and has been leaking for a number of years. Band-Aid fixes have kept water off the main ice surface, but these efforts are becoming harder to make water collection successful. Continued deterioration could cause the closure of the entire facility.

Closure of the facility would be a large negative. Especially after FIS and its community partners and with the cooperation with Lane County completely replaced the ice making equipment and ice surface chilling system in the summer of 2024. The ice rink is a community jewel and almost any day there's ice in the rink, you'll see kids and adults skating and playing. It's a source of pride and a source of happiness for many of us here in Eugene, Oregon and beyond! We host youth and adult hockey tournaments and it's a driver off economic development locally. Unfortunately, the rink has been allowed to deteriorate and the roof leaks. It's embarrassing to have large garbage cans around the rink to catch the water that is leaking. It's a problem that needs immediate attention.

As with all legislative sessions, I know that many difficult decisions will need to be made, but I encourage you to support CoRAA.

- All projects in CoRAA have preventative healthcare benefits (both physical and mental),
- Positive economic development impact,
- Will greatly enhance the quality of life here in Lane County. And
- Are shovel ready, can begin as soon as funds received and will complete each project without additional funds needed.

The groups that make up CoRAA have raised \$21 million dollars and are requesting \$6.34 million to COMPLETE seven important capital projects, in both urban and rural areas of Lane County.

Thank you for your time and service to Oregonians and for your support of this important coalition.

Colin Phifer