



City of Keizer

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Adam J. Brown, City Manager

Date: May 7, 2025

To:

The Honorable Fred Girod, Co-Chair
The Honorable Rob Nosse, Co-Chair
Joint Subcommittee on Ways and Means On Capital Construction
Oregon State Legislature
900 Court St NE
Salem, OR 97301

Subject: Request for Inclusion of \$750,000 in Capital Budget for Keizer Rapids Synthetic Turf Project

Dear Co-Chairs Girod and Nosse,

I am writing to respectfully request that the Joint Subcommittee on Capital Construction add an appropriation of \$750,000 in the upcoming capital construction budget in Senate Bill 5531 to support the final phase of the Keizer Rapids Park Synthetic Turf Project. Our new multi-use fields are used for both youth and adult, male and female, soccer, football, rugby, and lacrosse.

The new synthetic fields have become a regional recreational hub for the mid-Willamette Valley region. We opened the two fields on October 1, 2024 and they have been wildly popular as the only multi-sport synthetic turf in Marion County outside of the high school football fields. With the amount of rain in the Willamette Valley, youth and adult sports are difficult to play outside of summer. This facility allows year-round access.

The City of Keizer and Marion County have spent over \$4 million to get the gates open and the kids playing. Phase II of the project will be under construction shortly to add bathrooms. We do not have funding for Phase III which is to pave the parking lot and add a storage building for the equipment.

We are now hosting youth and community sports activities year-round, regardless of weather conditions. This improvement not only supports the health and well-being of our community through increased physical activity but is also generating regional economic benefits through sports tourism and events.

This project has broad community support and aligns with statewide goals to invest in sustainable, multi-use recreational infrastructure. The synthetic turf eliminates mowing and irrigating making it a fiscally responsible and environmentally conscious investment.

This facility provides equitable access to quality recreational facilities for all Oregonians. Recently our facility manager was told, "Thank you for adding this facility, our high school (in the Salem Keizer School District) can now have a women's lacrosse team." Now that team has a place to play. I urge the subcommittee to support this impactful request and include the \$750,000 in the capital construction bill.

"Pride, Spirit and Volunteerism"

Thank you for your service and for your consideration of this request. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or would like additional information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'AJ Brown', with a stylized, cursive script.

Adam J. Brown, ICMA-CM