

Submitter: Michael Silva

On Behalf Of:

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

Measure, Appointment or SB5531
Topic:

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 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.

Supporters of the Lane Ice Center have recently been involved in a large fundraising effort to replace the ice making equipment and ice surface chilling system. It was wonderful to see our community come together to support our ice rink and be a part of the solution to keep ice sports in our community. Just one year ago we faced the possibility that the rink would not reopen, but in the Fall of 2024, the ice rink opened with all new ice making equipment and a stellar season followed. Now we face another threat with the roof needing major repairs.

As a parent, this rink has become more than just a place for my daughter to skate—it's become a second home for both of us. It's where she's grown in confidence, built resilience, and found a passion that truly lights her up. And for me, it's a place where I've watched her flourish. The coaches, the community, the opportunities—this rink has quietly changed our lives. To see it struggle because of a leaking roof would be heartbreaking. This facility matters. And it deserves to be preserved.

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

Best Regards,
Mike Silva