

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

I'm writing today to strongly support the request from the Osborn Aquatic Center for \$4 million to help with the structural repairs to the facility. I'm a parent of a current nationally-ranked Corvallis Aquatic Team swimmer and two younger swimmers who hope to match their brother's level of competition.

The Osborn Aquatic Center is a focal piece of not only Corvallis, but also the state-wide competitive youth swimming and water recreation community. Beyond providing much needed swim safety and recreation, Osborn is also one of only two indoor long course pools in Oregon, making it an important place for state and regional swimming competitions. High school teams at the local and state level utilize the pool for swimming and water polo championships. Thousands of athletes and their families have visited Corvallis and Osborn over the many, many years that the facility has been operating.

Since the closure of the facility, multiple activities have had to be relocated to different - often subpar - locations where participants have less enjoyable experiences. Over the last year, multiple parents from teams across the entire state (Bend, Lake Oswego, Portland, Newport, Eugene) have consistently asked about the condition of Osborn and when the facility will be functional again. Their thoughts often echo the same sentiment - Osborn is a great facility for competitors and audience members alike.

In all, this request hits both the economic improvements and safety needs of Corvallis, and the state-wide need of the aquatic sports community. Thank you for your time, and I'm more than available for any follow-up testimony or questions. Thanks.

- Cody Bye