

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

Dear Committee Members,

I am writing in support of the request for state funding for the necessary repairs to the Osborn Aquatic Center in Corvallis. I am a Masters swimmer with Corvallis Aquatic Team (CAT) and also serve on the board of Oregon Masters Swimming (OMS).

Osborn Aquatic Center is a vital year-round resource for the Corvallis community and the state-wide swimming community that provides a wide range of affordable programs serving groups across many age groups and abilities. These include both youth and adult learn to swim programs, fitness classes for adults, youth and Masters swim teams and meets, Special Olympic and Senior Games events and safety programs such as lifeguard and community CPR training.

In the competitive swimming domain, Osborn is one of the few indoor facilities in the state that can accommodate different course lengths (25 yd or 50 m), is centrally located and has the capacity to host large championship meets. As such, Osborn is an important resource for the competitive swimming community, both youth and Masters, in the state that regularly draws participants from throughout the region which in turn provides a positive impact on the local economy.

Osborn serves the Masters community on a daily basis with multiple CAT Masters practices and lap swimming. In addition, Osborn is in the regular rotation for the Oregon Masters Swimming Spring Association meet that draws approximately 200 swimmers to the area with an associated positive economic impact on businesses such as hotels and restaurants.

Losing this facility will add pressure to an already over-used group of community pools in the state that support community health, safety and wellness for people of all ages, as well as the competitive swimming community.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this input and I hope that you will support preserving this important community and state resource.

Christina Fox  
CAT Masters swimmer  
OMS Board member