

Elgin Stampede Community Hall: Keeping Community Heritage Alive

*****The Elgin Stampede Association, Inc. is a 501 (c) 3 non-profit organization, founded in 1946 and located in the community of Elgin in Union County, Oregon.*****

ELGIN STAMPEDE ASSOCIATION MISSION: The mission of the Elgin Stampede is to further the traditions of rural Oregon, as set forth by our founders almost eighty years ago. To this end, we promote civic participation, encourage cooperation with civic enterprise, and strongly support any and all activities that foster education, participation and appreciation for our rural heritage. To achieve this, we develop and improve our Stampede events and presence, provide our facilities to local and regional organizations, and diligently support the economy and identity of our rural community.

PROJECT VISION: The Stampeders and the surrounding communities are in dire need of a new facility to replace the 70-year-old structure that currently exists on the Stampede grounds in Elgin, Oregon. Our vision is to create a facility that furthers our mission, but most critically, meets the community's demand for an appropriately sized, safely constructed, ADA accessible, and environmentally efficient space. The new facility would better meet the significant needs of Federal, State and local organizations as well as the surrounding communities. It would serve as a resource that does not currently exist in size or scale in any of the many adjacent counties in Northeastern Oregon. The new Stampede Hall will be four times larger than the Elgin Senior Center. Lastly, this new multi-purpose building would enable increased utilization and lead to economic stimulus for our economically challenged rural region.

PROJECT REQUEST: The Elgin Stampeders, in partnership with the City of Elgin, will need at least \$2,000,000 to begin this project and a maximum of \$5,000,000 fully fund this project. The current funding strategy for this project is to deed the required land for the new Stampede Hall to the City of Elgin to enable the city of Elgin to apply for a \$1,500,000 Community Development Block Grant. The City must be in possession of the real property to apply per regulations of the program. The Stampeders have hired a surveyor and obtained a legal description for this transaction. The area where the Hall sits will be separated from the rodeo grounds and deeded to the City. Laura Eckstein Law is developing an agreement that would deed the real property back to the Stampeders after the 5-year CDBG use-moratorium ends, returning the land and the new facility to the Stampeders. This agreement also allows the Stampeders and various organizations to continue use of the facility for all of their needs. Due to the success the City of Elgin and Ducote Consulting have had applying for and completing block grant projects in recent years, both organizations feel they have a strong chance to obtain this funding. Preliminary meetings with Business Oregon officials and applications processing have already begun.

In order to close the funding gap for the remaining \$500,000 - \$3,500,000 to construct the Hall, the Elgin Stampeders and City of Elgin are reaching out to your organization and state and federal leadership, along with various others private donors to help bridge the gap. The Stampeders also have a substantial volunteer base that is committed to in-kind construction work and material donations.. The Stampeders have developed a preliminary budget based on an estimate from a local professional contractor to inform the estimated project budget. Through programs like the Congressional Community Project



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Funding/Congressional Direct Spending and your agency's support, the small town of Elgin is hoping to make this critical project happen.

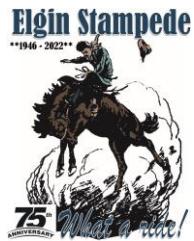
PROJECT SCOPE: An 11,000 sq ft regional multi-purpose conference center, comprised of event and meeting space, commercial kitchen, ADA restroom facilities and a Stampede museum. (For schematics, please see Appendix A.)

PROJECT NEED: The existing Stampede Hall is utilized by over thirty organizations annually, and we estimate it hosts five thousand people during those events. Additionally, the Elgin Stampede Association events host an average of nine thousand people annually, providing significant economic contribution to our community. As an organization, we would cease to exist without our multi-purpose building, as it provides the only viable space to operate. In turn, if the Elgin Stampede Association was not present in our community and region, countless volunteer, educational and civic enterprises would suffer the impact of not having a facility in which to meet, hold events and host organizationally-critical fundraisers. The relationship between the Stampederers and the community is truly mutually beneficial. Our facility is vital to the well-being of numerous organizations, as well as paramount in providing economic stimulus to our struggling rural economy.

The Stampede Hall is the **only** facility of its size, type, amenities and availability in most of the counties in Northeastern Oregon.

At present, the Stampede facilities are regularly used by the organizations listed below. Please note, this list is provided as an example and references only a small number of actual uses. (See Appendix B for a comprehensive list.)

- **Elgin Public Schools**
 - Relocation site for school district evacuation plan
 - Awards and Alumni Banquets
 - Fund Raising for FFA, FBLA, Grad Night, and Sports Teams
- **Oregon Department of Forestry**
 - Forest Fire Incident Command Center
- **U.S. Department of Forestry**
 - Forest Fire Incident Command Center
- **Union County Health Screening**
 - Annual Health Screening Event
- **City of Elgin**
 - Fire Department Training
 - Law Enforcement
 - Annual Community Clean-up Event
- **Northeast Oregon Community Connections**
 - Fundraising Events for Regional Food Bank
- **Cycle Oregon**
 - Gathering, registration, and parking facilities
- **Oregon State Police**
 - Annual contract for emergency use



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One notable use of the existing Stampede Hall is the number of funerals held in the facility. The Stampederers donate the space for that use, and also prepare a free meal after the service for the friends and family of the deceased. At times, these free meals feed in excess of two hundred people. This is a critically important effort, as it is the only space adequate enough for large funerals, and it truly demonstrates what a meaningful facility it is in our community.

OUR CHALLENGE – CURRENT BUILDING CONDITION: The existing Stampede Hall was built in 1952 by the volunteer founders of our organization. These individuals donated their personal time, money, and equipment to construct the facility, recognizing even then, the positive impact it would have on our community. While they built the best building they could build seventy years ago, the current condition of our facility is beyond renovation or repair. The existing Stampede Hall suffers from deteriorating roofing, ceiling and wall integrity and lacks ADA accessible egress, ingress, and restroom facilities. In addition, the facility has an environmentally inefficient heating and cooling system, as well as failing electrical and plumbing systems. The Stampederers take very seriously the maintenance and stewardship of our facilities, but the age and disrepair of our building means maintenance is ongoing, expensive and rarely effective. (For photographs of existing building conditions, please see Appendix C.)

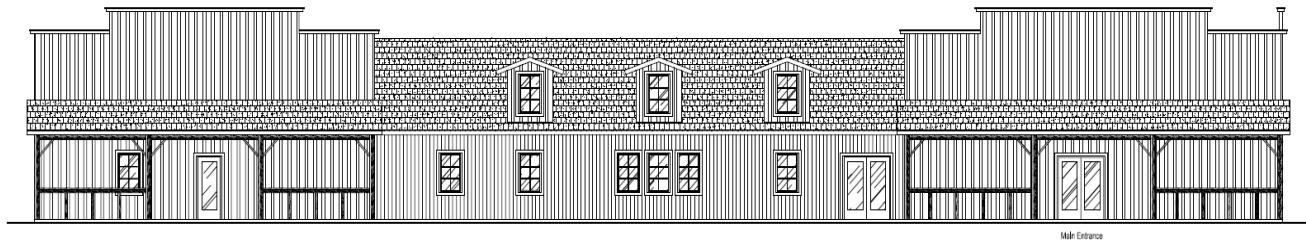
CONCLUSION: A \$2,000,000 – 5,000,000 investment will secure construction of a critically needed community facility. The investment will offer immeasurable benefits of vitality and economic opportunity to our struggling rural region.



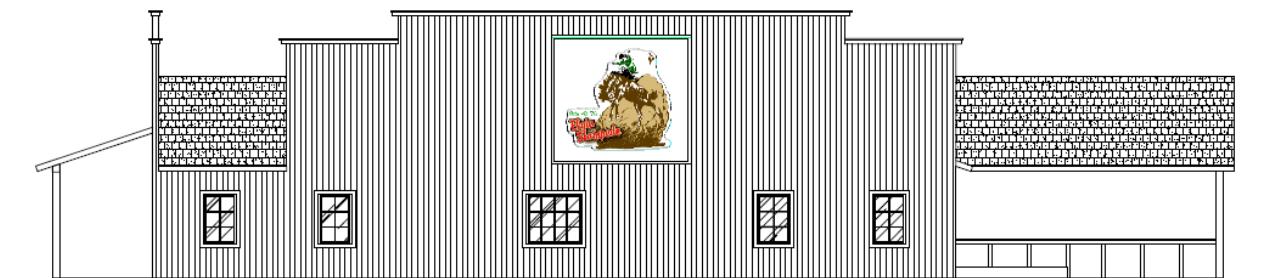
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APPENDIX A – NEW STAMPEDE HALL SCHEMATICS, PAGE 1 OF 2

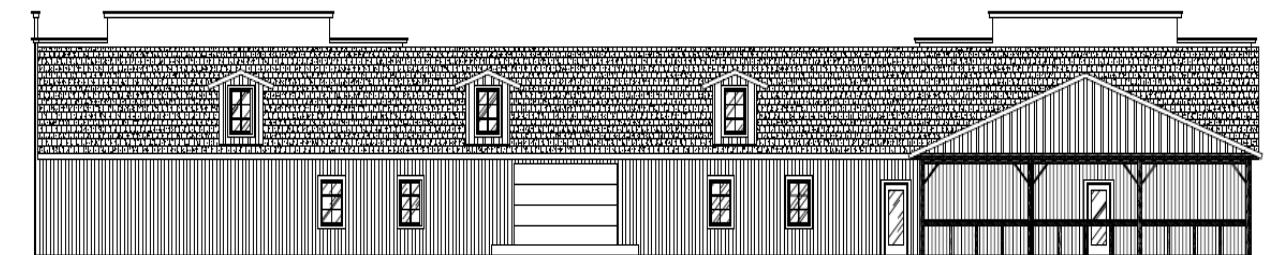
FRONT ELEVATION



SIDE ELEVATION



BACK ELEVATION





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APPENDIX B – STAMPEDE HALL USAGE

Elgin Public Schools

- Relocation site for school evacuation plan
- Award Banquets
 - FFA
 - Sports Teams
- Prom
- Fund Raising
 - Sports Teams
 - Cheerleaders
 - FBLA
 - Grad night – banquet

Chamber of Commerce and Women's Service Club

- Fund raising

Little League Baseball

- Fund raising

Friends of the Opera House

- Fund raising

Middle School Philadelphia Trip (Imbler and Elgin)

- Fund raising

Elgin High School Alumni

- Provide facilities for the banquet

Mounted Shooters

- Demonstrations and Entertainment

EOU College Rodeo

4-H

- Classes and individual training

Local Gatherings

- Weddings
- Funerals
- Receptions

- Birthday parties
- Fund raising for those in need

Cycle Oregon

- Gathering, registration and parking facilities

Oregon Dept. of Forestry

- Incident command center for forest fires

U.S. Forest Service

- Incident command center for forest fires

Oregon State Police

- Annual agreement for their emergency use

Oregon Cattlemen

- Meetings
- Banquets and gatherings

Community Connections

- Mud volleyball fundraiser for local food banks

Union County Health Screening

- Annual Event

Lions Club

- Community chili feed following the annual Christmas light parade
- Riverfest – Annual Community Celebration

City of Elgin

- Annual clean-up day drop off site

Breast Cancer Awareness

- Fund raiser for "Tough Enough To Wear Pink Night"

Miscellaneous

- Free overnight parking for trucks and trailers



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APPENDIX B, CONTINUED – PHOTOS OF STAMPEDE HALL USAGE

The Stampede Hall is used by countless organizations, governmental agencies and civic enterprises. Its size, full kitchen, ample room for parking, and regular availability provides a unique facility that is not found in many of the counties surrounding our community. As seen in the pictures below, we fill our facility to capacity numerous times throughout the year.



Lines of people the length of the building waiting to get into an event



The funeral of a local youth



Cattlemen's Banquet



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APPENDIX C - CURRENT BUILDING CONDITIONS, PAGE 1 OF 2

The existing 70-year-old building is suffering from inadequate exterior finishes and a proper building envelope to prevent moisture and other weather elements from causing damaging water infiltration. Recent attempts at maintaining the building have resulted in space-disruptive pillars for ceiling support, and significant additional issues still exist in the aging foundation and ongoing wall separation.

Sagging roofline, deteriorating foundation



Deteriorating door thresholds



Side of building deterioration - missing siding



Water infiltration



Cracking foundation



Separating trusses



Wall separation



Disruptive ceiling braces



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APPENDIX C - CURRENT BUILDING CONDITIONS, PAGE 2 OF 2

The existing facility also contains ancient plumbing systems, resulting in continually clogged drainage and costly ongoing maintenance. The Stampede Hall hosts hundreds of people at events throughout the year, but suffers from inadequate restroom facilities, with single toilets in both restrooms.

