



Re: Is Major League Baseball running the government?

From Janice Greene <info@votegreene.com>

Date Mon 5/12/2025 9:35 AM

To john martin <jmartinnoj@hotmail.com>

Cc April.Berg@leg.wa.gov <april.berg@leg.wa.gov>; Katharine.Gillen@leg.wa.gov <katharine.gillen@leg.wa.gov>; Brandy.Donaghy@leg.wa.gov <brandy.donaghy@leg.wa.gov>; Jessica.Thom@leg.wa.gov <jessica.thom@leg.wa.gov>; Lillian.Ortiz-Self@leg.wa.gov <lillian.ortiz-self@leg.wa.gov>; Samantha.Cruz-Mendoza@leg.wa.gov <samantha.cruz-mendoza@leg.wa.gov>; megan.dunn@snoco.org <megan.dunn@snoco.org>; lharris@mukilteowa.gov <lharris@mukilteowa.gov>

Dear Mr. Martin,

Thank you for your thoughtful message and for raising your concerns regarding the future of the Everett AquaSox and Funko Field. I appreciate the level of detail and thought you have brought to this discussion, and I respect your commitment to civic engagement on a matter that affects both our city's economy and community identity.

As a candidate for Mayor, I believe Everett must always weigh major capital decisions carefully, ensuring that public investments align with long-term community benefit, fiscal responsibility, and local values. Like many residents, I want to see the AquaSox stay in Everett. They're a part of our city's history and an accessible source of family-friendly fun. At the same time, we must remain mindful of budget realities and prioritize public transparency as we assess the best path forward.

You have made a strong case for refurbishing the existing stadium, and I understand the desire to preserve public resources and protect existing partnerships with the Everett School District. As the city continues exploring its options, I believe the public deserves a clear, detailed comparison of costs, funding sources, and community impacts—including the potential effect on essential services like public safety, libraries, and infrastructure.

Should I be elected, I will ensure that any decision regarding the stadium is guided by community input, fiscal discipline, and a broader vision for inclusive economic growth.

Thank you again for your advocacy and for keeping this conversation grounded in civic engagement. I look forward to continuing the dialogue.

Respectfully,

Janice R. Greene
Candidate for Everett Mayor
www.votegreene.com | info@votegreene.com

From: john martin
Sent: Sunday, May 11, 2025 12:30 PM

To: info@votegreene.com

Cc: April.Berg@leg.wa.gov; Katharine.Gillen@leg.wa.gov; Brandy.Donaghy@leg.wa.gov; Jessica.Thom@leg.wa.gov; Lillian.Ortiz-Self@leg.wa.gov; Samantha.Cruz-Mendoza@leg.wa.gov; megan.dunn@snoco.org; lharris@mukilteowa.gov

Subject: Is Major League Baseball running the government?

Mayoral Candidate Janice Green

Everett, Washington

info@votegreene.com

Dear Mayoral Candidate Janice Green,

Everett faces three stadium options:

- 1.) Do nothing and wait to see if Major League Baseball is bluffing.
- 2.) Build a new stadium downtown requiring numerous eminent domain acquisitions, costing \$100-\$130 million dollars, and having the Aquasox and Major League Baseball pay rent to the City of Everett.
- 3.) Refurbish the current stadium — Funko Field — on Everett School District property, have the AquaSox and Major League Baseball continue paying more than \$100,000 per year in rent to the Everett Public School District, and after Funko Field is refurbished, establish an increased rental rate to be paid to the Everett Public School District based on the new fair market rental value of Funko Field.

Refurbishing Funko Field would cost far less than building an entirely new stadium as proposed by the City of Everett. After refurbishing Funko Field, rent is still paid to the Everett Public School District.

Support Refurbishing Everett Memorial Stadium - Funko Field - in Everett, Washington.

Oppose the construction of a New Baseball Stadium in Downtown Everett, Washington.

As a Mayoral Candidate for the City of Everett, you can act now.

Contact the full Everett City Council today at:

DL-Council <Council@everettwa.gov>;

Contact the Full Snohomish County Council today at:

contact.council@snoco.org

Contact the State of Washington's Capital Projects Advisory Review Board (CPARB) today at:

communications@des.wa.gov

or call 360-407-8200

To contact individual (CPARB) Members, see:

<https://des.wa.gov/about/committees-groups/capital-projects-advisory-review-board-cparb/member-information-and-bios>

I encourage you to take a stand on this issue and act now.

Best Regards,

John E. Martin
425-361-2854
jmartinnoj@hotmail.com

CC

Representative April Berg District 44
April.Berg@leg.wa.gov
Representative Brandy Donaghy District 44
Brandy.Donaghy@leg.wa.gov
Rep. Lillian Ortiz-Self District 21
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Snohomish County Councilmember Megan Dunn
megan.dunn@snoco.org <megan.dunn@snoco.org>;
Mukilteo City Councilmember Louis Harris
lharris@mukilteowa.gov

From: john martin <jmartinnoj@hotmail.com>

Sent: Sunday, May 11, 2025 9:30 AM

To: Council@everettwa.gov <Council@everettwa.gov>; contact.council@snoco.org <contact.council@snoco.org>; communications@des.wa.gov <communications@des.wa.gov>

Cc: gserikbayeva@gmail.com <gserikbayeva@gmail.com>; MGunn@everettsd.org <MGunn@everettsd.org>; smsilver27@gmail.com <smsilver27@gmail.com>; kyungeund@gmail.com <kyungeund@gmail.com>; terryjoelnorris@gmail.com <terryjoelnorris@gmail.com>; lylanderson@gmail.com <lylanderson@gmail.com>; nickinlakecity@gmail.com <nickinlakecity@gmail.com>; kyle11389@yahoo.com <kyle11389@yahoo.com>; cmcmurrey@sbcglobal.net <cmcmurrey@sbcglobal.net>; davidacox604@gmail.com <davidacox604@gmail.com>; Craigp.smith@outlook.com <Craigp.smith@outlook.com>; namuntz@aol.com <namuntz@aol.com>; mrsmith9469@gmail.com <mrsmith9469@gmail.com>; robpatton16@aol.com <robpatton16@aol.com>; mfdeacy@yahoo.com <mfdeacy@yahoo.com>; Jovellelee427@outlook.com <Jovellelee427@outlook.com>; rich.braun53@gmail.com <rich.braun53@gmail.com>; shell625@msn.com <shell625@msn.com>; mikerizzo64@gmail.com <mikerizzo64@gmail.com>; petertvincent@yahoo.com <petertvincent@yahoo.com>; kiwiandcrow@gmail.com <kiwiandcrow@gmail.com>; benatbranch@gmail.com <benatbranch@gmail.com>; christimarie12@hotmail.com <christimarie12@hotmail.com>; rmsapi@gmail.com <rmsapi@gmail.com>; elsiemscharff@icloud.com <elsiemscharff@icloud.com>; jolevin@icloud.com <jolevin@icloud.com>; Nick.Hammons@sno.wednet.edu <Nick.Hammons@sno.wednet.edu>; ewoerfil@gmail.com <ewoerfil@gmail.com>; Mary@sullivanpllc.com <mary@sullivanpllc.com>; nicole@sullivanpllc.com <nicole@sullivanpllc.com>; Mary@sullivanpllc.com <mary@sullivanpllc.com>; maggie@mcmanusbrothers.biz <maggie@mcmanusbrothers.biz>; tskes@yahoo.com <tskes@yahoo.com>; Katie Wilson

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Subject: Re: Is Major League Baseball running the government?

In a letter dated February 15, 2024 to the City of Everett Planning Department, Michael T. Dunn, Executive Director of Facilities and Operations at Everett Public Schools, indicated:

"...the facility is planned to meet the new MiLB requirements for a High-A Minor League baseball stadium..."

In addition to an MLB point of view, equity demands that we it is also look at it from a professional baseball players point of view - MLBPA.

<https://www.mlbplayers.com/history>



HISTORY | MLBPA Players

www.mlbplayers.com

From: john martin <jmartinnoj@hotmail.com>

Sent: Saturday, May 10, 2025 10:26 AM

To: Council@everettwa.gov <Council@everettwa.gov>; contact.council@snoco.org <contact.council@snoco.org>; communications@des.wa.gov <communications@des.wa.gov>

Subject: Is Major League Baseball running the government?

Dear Everett City Council, Snohomish County Council, and the State of Washington's Capital Projects Advisory Review Board (CPARB),

Is Major League Baseball running the government?

Cheney Stadium in Tacoma, Alta Vista Stadium in Spokane, Gesa Stadium in Pasco and Funko Field in Everett all get State of Washington money to live up to Major League Baseball standards.

Major League Baseball (MLB) has a policy that Minor League (MiLB) teams have to pay a fine if their stadium isn't up to snuff. And unless new stadiums are built or existing stadiums renovated, teams threaten to leave local communities.

Taxpayers are made to pay for MLB approved stadium facilities.
Cities are held hostage.

In Everett, a new \$100-\$130 million stadium is in the works.

If the AquaSox pay the fine, they can continue renting Everett Memorial Stadium and keep paying more than \$100,000 per year in rent to the Everett Public School District.

Are cities afraid teams will leave?

Is Major League Baseball holding the cities hostage?

Organizations that hold other organizations hostage are often called terrorists.

Is Major League Baseball an economic terrorist?

Maybe it's time for citizens to start running their government, instead of letting Major League Baseball do it.

John E. Martin
Mountlake Terrace
425-361-2854
jmartinnoj@hotmail.com

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Tacoma Rainiers president Aaron Artman told The News Tribune...fixing up stadiums can be costly for cities and counties... "If we don't get our facilities compliant, Major League Baseball has the right to take the franchise and relocate it, as well as in the meantime subject us to fairly significant fines."

<https://www.thenewstribune.com/news/local/article288442277.html>

Other recipients of the state's ballpark bonding budget, approved unanimously by the Washington Senate and House in April 2023, include Spokane, Pasco and Everett, according to the Tri-Cities Area Journal of Business.

<https://www.chronline.com/stories/big-win-for-tacoma-baseball-cheney-stadium-gets-some-love-with-3-million-state-grant,340267>

Minor League Baseball's future in Everett faces three options: Refurbish the current stadium — Funko Field — on Everett School District property; build a new field and stadium downtown across from the Angel of the Winds Arena; or watch another city provide a new home, spurring the departure from the city of the AquaSox, the Seattle Mariners' High-A affiliate.

Build it or they could leave: Among those watching is the big league itself, Major League Baseball, which has forced similar conversations across the U.S. and Canada.

<https://www.heraldnet.com/opinion/editorial-keep-aquasox-in-everett-with-a-downtown-ballpark/>

A Grip on Sports: Avista Stadium has to be upgraded as MLB mandates changes it will never help fund.

Major League Baseball is really good at coming up with ways to spend other people's money. Whether it is players – the owners have locked them out as the two parties try to write a new operating agreement – or taxpayers in America's smaller towns, the billionaires who run baseball love to put their hands in our pockets.

<https://www.spokesman.com/stories/2022/feb/08/grip-sports-avista-stadium-has-be-upgraded-mlb-man/>

With the city of Pasco's help, the renewed lease means about \$5 million in improvements at the stadium at 6200 Burden Blvd. will occur over the next two years to comply with Major League Baseball requirements.

So the team and Pasco — which is investing \$1.9 million — are rearranging the clubhouse to get as close to the square footage the MLB requires.

Hillsboro and Eugene — two franchises in the same league as the Tri-Cities — might have problems down the road with their player development licenses (PDLs) if they don't renovate their ballparks.

According to Kevin Richard of Ballpark Digest, the Hillsboro Hops want to build a new \$120 million ballpark, while the Eugene Emeralds' potential \$85 million ballpark project at the local fairgrounds, has stalled.

<https://www.tricitiesbusinessnews.com/articles/4806-city-dust-devils-pitch-in-to-make-5-million-in-stadium-upgrades>

Support Refurbishing Everett Memorial Stadium - Funko Field - in Everett, Washington.

Oppose the construction of a New Baseball Stadium in Downtown Everett, Washington.

Contact the full Everett City Council today at:

DL-Council <Council@everettwa.gov>;

Contact Individual Everett City Council Members:

Scott Bader <SBader@everettwa.gov>; Judy Tuohy <JTuhoy@everettwa.gov>; Mary Fosse <MFosse@everettwa.gov>; Paula Rhyne <PRhyne@everettwa.gov>; Donald Schwab <DSchwab@everettwa.gov>; Elizabeth Vogeli <EVogeli@everettwa.gov>; Ben Zarlingo <BZarlingo@everettwa.gov>; Angela Ely <AEly@everettwa.gov>;

Contact the Full Snohomish County Council today at:

contact.council@snoco.org

Contact Individual Snohomish County Council Members:

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Support the Stadium Rebate Bill

<https://martinmusic.biz/martin-music/washington-state-stadium-rebate-bill/>

<https://martinmusic.biz/contact/king-county-stadium-rebate-bill/>