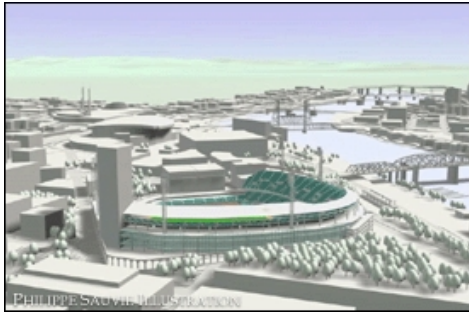


One Faction of Portland Effort Still Hopes

Written by The Staff

Friday, 22 September 2006 08:52



While baseball is in one of its healthiest states, and relocation a remote possibility, one part of what was originally the Oregon Stadium Campaign and the MLB to Portland effort still clings to the hope of MLB in the city some call "Bridgetown".

The Portland Baseball Group believes that one club will relocate out of their region within a year, and they are working to get around Portland Mayor Tom Potter who has been opposed to public assistance in the effort to fund a new stadium should an MLB team become available.

The article mentions that, "For now, the city of Portland is the only negotiating entity with a potential owner," but that potential owner has never been made public.

PBG is planning to augment Senate Bill 5 that was passed into law in 2003. SB5, while tied to certain safeguard provisions, would earmark executives and players' Oregon income taxes that all employees that work in the State of Oregon pay, to help fund a new stadium. The bill is capped at \$150 million. This would include not only home, but away teams, as well.

As reported, [M]embers are working with legislators on a potential new bill for the January 2007 legislative session that would include other area governmental bodies – perhaps Multnomah County officials, or Clark County in Southwest Washington – that might be more enthusiastic about helping land a big league club.

“Nothing has been drafted at the state level, but if we get the right proposition in front of us, it’s in Oregon’s interest to ensure we have as many folks we could get to the table as possible,” says Ryan Deckert, the state senator from Beaverton who co-sponsored Senate Bill 5 three years ago. “If an owner is really interested, you hate to limit yourself to one person. We just want to take a look at that.”

It should be noted that SB5 specifically states that any major league stadium that would be constructed would have to be within Portland city limits.

([Portland Tribune](#))

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[For information on the Portland proposal.](#)

[For mass modeling animation of one of the Portland site proposals.](#)