

WASHINGTON, DC---Congressman Earl Blumenauer, a long-time Mt. Hood Jazz Festival supporter, is pleased at the news that there will be a 2002 Mt. Hood Jazz Festival.

"This festival has been great for Gresham and the metro area," said Congressman Blumenauer. "I applaud the efforts of the people who made the continuation of this community event possible."

The Gresham/Mt. Hood Jazz Association has announced that the 2002 Mt. Hood Jazz Festival will be coming August 3-4, 2002 at the Gresham Main City Park, an intimate outdoor venue, at the intersection of Powell Boulevard and Main Avenue in Historic Downtown Gresham.

The Gresham/Mt. Hood Jazz Association is Gresham-based non-profit corporation, which has been formed to keep the Festival alive in east Multnomah County. This new organization has entered into a one-year licensing agreement of the name "Mt. Hood Jazz Festival." The Association's mission is to enhance the image of, to attract visitors to, and to bring arts and culture to the greater Gresham Area.

As an art form, jazz is an American genre. Jazz is deeply intertwined within the city of Gresham, which will continue with the dedication of Gresham leaders and hard work of the Gresham/Mt. Hood Jazz Association.

The greater Gresham Area has stepped forward to keep this community jazz festival viable and Congressman Blumenauer recognizes their efforts.