

I heartily support offering grants to theaters! The small local theaters have especially suffered with the months and months of closures due to COVID, and with seating restrictions even as the pandemic eases somewhat, they will continue to lose revenue. They cannot recover in this atmosphere, and I know of one local theater that has already closed permanently. I understand that movie theaters were not included in financial relief of any kind, though I still do not understand why they were overlooked. They've lost so incredibly much revenue in these long months. I am especially thinking of the risk to our local Salem Cinema. This theater is not a chain; it is run by a small business owner, a woman - which would I think qualify as a minority owned business. Yet Salem Cinema and other theaters have been ignored as if they magically had a huge reserve of operating funds. Their loss of revenue is far from over. They need some financial relief to survive.