



Astoria Downtown Historic District Association

Encouraging community involvement and investment in preserving the character of historic downtown Astoria while promoting its health and future.

P.O. Box 261 · Astoria, OR 97103
www.astoriadowntown.com

25th July 2024

Re: Support for the Columbia River Maritime Museum Mariner's Hall Project

Dear Cultural Resources Economic Fund Review Panel,

The Astoria Downtown Historic Development Association (ADHDA) enthusiastically supports the Columbia River Maritime Museum's Mariner's Hall project. An accredited Main Street organization since 1986, ADHDA is a non-profit organization whose mission is to preserve and advance historic downtown Astoria's culture and character through inspired partnerships, historic preservation and community engagement to support a vibrant and resilient economic future for all Astorians. We believe this project is in direct line with our mission.

Occupying Chinookan land and with a population of just over 10,000, Astoria's rural economy relies primarily on fishing, logging, manufacturing, art and tourism, resulting in a community that is resourceful and a working class that is proud of its maritime past, present and future. The Columbia River Maritime Museum has always exemplified this, serving not only as a museum, but as an educational center, tourist destination, workshop hub, research facility, library and lighthouse, if you will, of maritime heritage. It welcomes visitors, locals, veterans, Coast Guard families, students, educators, enthusiasts, individuals who work in the maritime industry, Indigenous peoples, and anyone who wishes to learn a little (or a lot) more about the maritime culture, art and history of where the Columbia River greets the Pacific Ocean.

Fundamental to Astoria's economy and identity, the Museum's expansion and construction of the Mariner's Hall will only increase its reach and purpose, revitalizing downtown while reaffirming its commitment to the community. Investment in this project is an investment in who we are and the stories we want to share with others. We encourage the Cultural Resources Economic Fund Review Panel to support the Columbia River Maritime Museum's Mariner's Hall.

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