



CITY OF ASTORIA

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February 26, 2025

Ways and Means Committee

RE: Letter of Support for Consejo Hispano's Capital Funding Request

To whom it may concern,

I am writing this letter to express my strong support for the capital funding request submitted by Consejo Hispano for assistance in their purchase of a building in Astoria, Oregon. Consejo Hispano has been an essential partner to the City of Astoria since the organization's founding twenty years ago and their efforts on various projects and initiatives have been a benefit to the Latinx community on Oregon's North Coast. This opportunity serves the interest of our community by repurposing a large structure into a vibrant community asset to be named Casa Mariposa.

Consejo Hispano is a reputable and effective organization that works to promote economic empowerment, community self-determination, and cultural appreciation on Oregon's North Coast. Their mission is to support community well-being by ensuring people can: provide for themselves and one another, build intergenerational wealth, and stay connected to their culture. Their vision is to foster resilient, prosperous, and powerful Latinx communities in which youth and families flourish. Their goals are to:

- Build access and opportunities for advocacy and leadership.
- Expand access to resources ensuring equitable outcomes.
- Increase awareness, experiences, and understanding of Latinx culture.

Consejo Hispano has been providing high-quality programs and services to the Latinx community, such as their summer enrichment program, digital and financial literacy workshops and classes, tax preparation, emergency preparedness education, cultural celebrations, crisis information and referrals, COVID vaccination outreach, education and clinics, and so much more.

I have witnessed firsthand the positive impact that Consejo Hispano has made on the lives of many Latinx in Astoria. They have helped community members improve their education, health, income, and civic participation; as well as preserve and celebrate their culture and heritage. Consejo Hispano has earned the trust and respect of the community as a whole.

I also know that Consejo Hispano faces many challenges and limitations due to their current property situation. They are currently renting a small space that does not meet their needs. They are currently vulnerable to displacement that may affect the availability and affordability of rental space. This is an opportunity to give a deserving organization a home in Astoria that will be an asset to the whole area.

I urge you to consider approving their funding request and provide them with the financial support they need to move forward with this project.

Thank you for your consideration and interest in this project.

Scott Spence | Astoria City Manager