

HISTORIC JACKSONVILLE INC.

May 8, 2025

Dear Joint Subcommittee on Capital Construction:

I urge you to recommend funding HB 3191, the Cultural Advocacy Coalition of Oregon's proposed 2025 Cultural Resource Economic Funds grant package. Historic Jacksonville's "Museum without Walls" is one of the 14 projects included in the bill.

Jacksonville's economy is heavily based on cultural tourism with heritage being a significant portion. Our "Museum without Walls" project recognizes that the entire National Historic Landmark District, the first on the West Coast, is the museum. The conversion of Jacksonville's 1881 Old City Hall into an ADA accessible base provides a central location for introducing people to the multiple ways to explore it. Interactive exhibits will share the history of a town whose existence defies the odds and the people who made it so; highlight previously marginalized individuals; incorporate current and emerging technology; offer external links to other resources and information; and will be periodically updated with fresh content.

We're also enthused about Salem's aviation museum; Astoria's proposed hall that will share Oregon maritime history; Joseph's Maxville Townsite proposal for highlighting the Black immigrant experience; the Warm Springs museum Tribal permanent exhibit; Portland's Mass Timber Experience Center that will speak to the health of the forests that make up almost half of the state; and all the other projects that will enhance the richness of Oregon's culture and heritage.

We feel very fortunate to live in a state that recognizes how much cultural opportunities contribute to both economic vitality and livability and whose government and residents support them through entities such as CACO, the Oregon Arts Commission, the Oregon Cultural Trust, and the one-of-a-kind in the U.S. state tax credit for cultural donations.

Thank you in advance for recommending funding these 14 projects that will have broad economic impact and expand access to culture across the state.

Best regards,



Carolyn Kingsnorth
President
Historic Jacksonville, Inc.

Historic Jacksonville, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, federal tax ID 46-4338965.