

Submitter: Sean Fitzpatrick
On Behalf Of: Consejo Hispano and Casa Mariposa
Committee: Joint Committee On Ways and Means Subcommittee On Capital Construction
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB5701

The Honorable Senator Fred Girod
The Honorable Representative Rob Nosse
Capital Construction Co-Chairs

Gentlemen,

As Mayor of Astoria, I am writing to express my support of Casa Mariposa, a request to the sub-committee to help the community in Astoria purchase and repurpose an old church, which would help stabilize the service community on the North Coast.

Casa Mariposa is a win in multiple directions for our community. The historic sanctuary building was designed by pioneering female architect and native born Astorian Ebba Wicks Brown for Zion Lutheran Church- Later Peace Lutheran Church- during her most prolific period. As a long-time neighbor of the church, I watched membership dwindle at the once vibrant Peace Lutheran. Our community lost several vital services that Peace Lutheran provided to the community, including Loaves and Fishes, and a critically needed childcare/daycare facility. A few years ago, the building was all but abandoned as the few remaining members of Peace Lutheran folded into First Lutheran church, located a few miles away in Uppertown.

This location is one of many former church locations in Astoria in need of repurposing. Having Consejo Hispano in the former church/now Casa Mariposa will help to bring life back to that portion of our downtown, while providing vital services that are greatly needed by their underserved clientele. In the atmosphere that we are currently facing in Oregon and on the North Coast, Casa Mariposa needs your support now more than ever.

The staff of Consejo Hispano who operate Casa Mariposa are competent, committed and passionate members of our community. I ask that you join me in supporting the staff and clientele of Consejo Hispano by helping them to purchase a permanent and stable home from which to provide services, while benefiting our entire community.

Thank you in advance for your support!

Sincere Regards,

Sean Fitzpatrick, Mayor

City of Astoria