

Cultural Plaza Project

8.8 Million Opportunities

Did you know that **8.8 MILLION** cars drive past the Lincoln City Cultural Center on Highway 101, each and every year? Amazing, but true.

What do they see now? The historic Delake School, still lovely but surrounded by crumbling sidewalks, broken pavement, ailing trees and rusty fencing...

The Lincoln City Cultural Plaza project will transform our broken-down schoolyard into the most creative and pedestrian-friendly welcome mat on the central coast. With meandering paths, engaging art, fresh landscaping and parking that is easy and safe, the Plaza will send a message to the world: creative things are happening here. *Come in!*

Cultural Plaza Project

Designed in cooperation with the landscape architect firm Shapiro Didway, the Lincoln City Cultural Plaza project will create a pedestrian-friendly envelope around the building, with safe and attractive spaces at every entrance.



Other features include:

- A meandering path that will be ADA compliant as well as convenient for vendor vehicles;
- New patios on the south and east, in the most protected and sunny locations;
- An outdoor classroom for activities like raku kiln firing and children's classes;
- Dedicated spaces for public art installations, immediate and in the future;
- Gathering places with seating and decorative paving, including a custom-built location for the annual community Christmas tree;
- Adequate lighting for evening use, throughout the parking and pedestrian areas;
- Redesigned traffic flow and parking area, with islands and other upgrades required by city code.

Current Status

The Lincoln City Cultural Center was awarded \$1.5 million in Oregon Lottery funds for the Cultural Plaza Project in 2019, only to see the COVID-19 pandemic disrupt Lottery funding and cause the award to be rescinded.

Request

We are requesting that the \$1.5 million for the Lincoln City Cultural Center be restored.

Thank you for your consideration and for your continued support of culture and the arts on the Oregon Coast.





March 25, 2021

Honorable Kate Brown
Office of the Governor
900 Court Street NE, Suite 254
Salem, OR 97301

Re: **Cultural Resource Economic Fund Award reinstatement for Lincoln City Cultural Plaza**

Dear Governor Brown:

At this very crucial time of economic recovery, the Lincoln City City Council urges your **support** for the Lincoln City Cultural Plaza and its request for a reinstatement of the Cultural Resource Economic Fund award. The Legislature's approval of the CREF allotment of \$1.5 million, originally awarded in 2019, would have a transformational effect on this property, the surrounding neighborhood, the health of the nonprofit Lincoln City Cultural Center, and the life of our rural community.

The Cultural Plaza project will bring increased accessibility, safer parking, night lighting and improved vendor access to the grounds of the Lincoln City Cultural Center (LCCC). When it is complete, the Plaza will be a more expansive venue for art, music, classes and markets, and provide economic support for hundreds of small business owners who rely upon this resource. It will increase the capacity of the Cultural Center to serve the community and fulfill its mission: to enrich the life of Lincoln City with arts and cultural events.

Through local donors and grants from the City of Lincoln City, the Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians, Oregon Community Foundation and others, \$250,000 has already been raised for the redevelopment of the exterior grounds and improvements to the landmark 1929 DeLake School building. The plaza project design and engineering has already been completed and is ready for implementation.

The LCCC Board of Directors has navigated the nonprofit through an unforeseen pandemic, developed not only a budget but also a new schedule with a plan to move forward. If the CREF funds are assured, the LCCC will move forward with Phase 1 in spring of 2022, and Phase 2 in spring of 2023. We urge you to re-authorize of these Lottery funds, and to restore the \$1.5 Million award to the Lincoln City Cultural Plaza during this Legislative session.

Sincerely,

Judy Casper, Council President
Lincoln City City Council

cc: Honorable Dick Anderson (District 5 – Senator – Lincoln City)

cc: Honorable David Gomberg (District 10 – Representative – Central Coast)