

March 1, 2023

Senate Human Services Committee 900 Court St. NE Salem Oregon 97301

Dear Committee Members:

RE: SB 606 - Oregon Nonprofit Modernization Act

The Vanport Placemarking Project asks you to pass SB 606, the Oregon Nonprofit Modernization Act. Your support is critical to the health of the nonprofit sector and the communities they serve.

The program's mission is to recognize the thousands of years of Native American presence and the significant history of Vanport, once Oregon's 2nd largest city, that was washed away in the Flood of 1948. Our goals are to install historic markers at the only physical, visible remains of Vanport which is a small concrete slab of a 750 seat theater, to apply for historic site designation on the National Register, to create a site specific, unique land acknowledgement of the Native American presence, development of an Augmented Reality app), the design of four 7'x12' banners on the grandstands at Portland International Raceway, a sculpture installation, and 3 audio boxes with stories and music related to the site.

We have received funding from foundations and Federal, State, and City sources. Most challenging to me have been understanding the relationships between bureaus and the sometimes conflicting and difficult guidelines. In a recent Conversations with Funders webinar many people expressed the same concerns of complex and confusing applications, low administrative rates, and losing staff because of late payments and inability to pay staff.

By passing SB 606 it will assist nonprofits in their work to assist the State in helping Oregonians by:

- Requiring a minimum administrative rate of 10 percent or higher
- Eliminating reimbursement as a form of payment for state grants
- Requiring disbursement of contract funds within 30-days of signed contract
- Creating the Nonprofit Workforce Retention Fund to provide grants for nonprofits to help maintain and prevent employee turnover.
- Creating free training for nonprofit contractors to understand contracting and reporting requirements. Create a task force to determine equitable wages, and create administrative policies, statutes, and funding levels that lead to sustainable government/nonprofit partnerships in order to improve the current processes.
- Working with NAO and their resources in developing and staffing the task force.

Vanport Placemarking Project appreciates your consideration of SB 606. Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Executive Director info@vanportplaces.org

Maryhelen Kincaid

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