

CASCADE PUBLIC MEDIA LEGISLATIVE OUTREACH FOR THE CAPITAL CAMPAIGN: JANUARY 2023

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Letter Template

Subject: Building for the Arts / Cascade Public Media

I am writing today on an urgent matter. Governor Inslee’s proposed capital budget does not include full funding of the Building for the Arts program. As a supporter of Cascade Public Media (KCTS 9 and Crosscut), **I am asking for your support of the full \$18 million in funding for the Building for the Arts program.**

After a thorough vetting process, the Department of Commerce has recommended thirty-two projects for funding totaling \$18 million. **Cascade Public Media’s capital project is one of them. The organization has no choice but to move because the land lease with the City of Seattle at their current building is expiring. To ensure that essential public media services of PBS member station KCTS 9 and local online journalism site Crosscut can continue reaching millions of people in Washington State, the organization must move to a new building by the end of 2023. The Department of Commerce has recommended a \$1 million grant for Cascade Public Media’s capital project. The Building for the Arts grant is critical to the success of Cascade Public Media’s \$40 million capital project.**

The long history of the Building for the Arts program and successful track record of completed projects should allow you and other state legislators to feel comfortable supporting this request and know that we are good stewards of these public dollars. The rigorous screening process ensures that all the projects are vetted, that they are in good financial standing and will be completed in a timely manner. All these projects help to lift up our community and others around the state that are still reeling from the COVID pandemic. They will help to create jobs and ongoing revenue at the state and local level. Please include \$18M in funding for the Building for the Arts program in your final capital budget proposal.

Thank you for your ongoing support of the cultural community and work on behalf of the people of Washington State.

Sincerely,