

SEATTLE TIBETAN COMMUNITY CENTER PROJECT



Tibetan Association of Washington

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Tibetan Association of Washington seeks to raise \$325,000 with which to pay down the mortgage of the Seattle Tibetan Community Center. The total cost of the project is expected to be \$1.6 Million.

ORGANIZATION HISTORY

Founded in 1991, the Tibetan Association of Washington is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization of Tibetans in the greater Puget Sound region. Its board members consist of volunteers and elected members.

VISION

The Seattle Tibetan Community Center will serve as a multi-faceted center to facilitate the preservation of Tibetan language, history, traditions and culture, to support local Tibetans' educational, economic, health and social needs, and to increase awareness about Tibet.

FUNDING AVENUES

- Local Tibetan community
- Other Tibetan Communities
- Communities of Concern
- WA State Capital Budget
- Local, State & Fed. Grants
- Public/Private Grants

PROJECT COSTS

- Project Cost: \$1.6 million
- Funding target: \$325,000
- Payment terms TBD

PROJECT TARGET

- Lot size: .7 to .9 acres
- Bldg. sq. footage: 7,400
- Parking: 35 spots

TIMELINE



BACKGROUND/ COMMUNITY NEEDS ASSESMENT

In 2016-2018, a rigorous needs assessment was undertaken to identify community needs given the growth of the local Tibetan community and identify the value for such a center.

What we learned -

- Our Tibetan YOUTH are struggling to maintain their identity, language and culture. Many of them cannot speak their native tongue and without a place for them to gather for focused and structured educational programs, there is danger that they will loose their cultural identity.
- Our ADULT working Tibetans are immigrants who need language, educational and skill assistance to navigate the various and complex resources available as they raise families and enhance their quality of life.
- Our Tibetan SENIORS face everyday challenges of navigating and accessing local services that is only amplified with language and cultural barriers.

CONCLUSION

A desire for a mixed-use flexible space that can serve a changing and growing community. An activity and learning center for not just the Tibetan community but also a research center - a go to place for all things Tibetan. The center will serve as a gathering place to celebrate Tibetan culture, hold events, permanent classrooms for learning, and a place to build and stabilize the local Tibetan community socially, culturally and economically.

BENEFITS OF THE PROJECT

- Tibetan Language & Culture School
- Tibetan Community Development
- Annual Tibetan Summer Camp
- Buddhist Studies
- Tibetan Research Center
- Human and Social Service Support Center
- Senior Programs
- Advocacy
- Local Economic Development
- TibetFest
- Events, etc..

VALUES

Community values to guide the community center -

- ~ Preservation of Tibetan language, history, art and culture ~ For all ages
- ~ Celebrate diversity and inclusion ~ Learning center for students and adults ~ Youth and senior programs ~ community collaborations

