

City Presentation, 11-9-2015

Good Evening Mayor Nerhing and Members of the Council

I am Ken Cage, President of the Marysville Historical Society, and I have resided at 1269 Beach Ave since 1965.

Tonight, I am here on behalf of the Historical Society requesting financial Support by the City towards the completion of our Museum/Townhall, now under construction.

We are asking the City to invest \$50,000 as a donation to the completion of the Marysville Historical Society/Marysville Rotary Club Museum-Townhall project.

Our Society was formed in 1974 by a group of citizens, led by Valda and Gary Bloom, local business owners. Since that time. The Society has been active in bringing together items of historical significance for the greater Marysville area, related to its founding in 1878 by James Comeford. The Society has spent the last fifteen years, along with the Marysville Rotary Club and the Norwesco Telephone Pioneers Club, working through various attempts to get a facility that we could call home. About four years ago, the Society formed a relationship with Rotary and the Telephone Pioneers, with the Common Goal of a facility that would fit all our needs. The end result is a facility that will surely become one of the key gathering places in Marysville. Be it weddings, family and class reunions, local performances, class field trips, traveling art or history presentations, or any other such events, our Museum/Townhall will fit the needs. The list of possible events is endless as is the opportunities for local residents and visitors from outside our community to interact with this facility. We have had great success in raising funds from the community, but we need your help in closing out the project and getting us to our March 19, 2016 Grand Opening.

While our request is for a donation, we believe what you will really be doing is investing in one of the most significant community projects of our time. The value this brings to our community will be realized now and for generations to come. Local events will bring our residents together, helping to build those bonds that strengthen a community. Other events will bring visitors in from outside our Community allowing them to experience the flavor and

pride of Marysville. Those visitors will shop in our stores and some will even stay as guests in our hotels, adding to the success of our local businesses. The significance of this facility cannot be understated! The connectivity of this facility with the existing Rotary Ranch and the pioneer Gehl home in Jennings Park will elevate the combined venue as a desired destination in Snohomish County.

This is where we are at. The building is up, interior framing, wiring, and sprinklers are installed; the heat pumps and plumbing is roughed in. The contract for insulation has been signed. Sheet rock and painting will quickly follow and may be completed by years end, or shortly thereafter. That will leave about two months for flooring and interior finish work, which will get us to final occupancy. Then the displays and furnishing for the Townhall and overlapping historic display areas can be put in place. The exhibit spaces will always be evolving, as we rotate exhibits in and out. We have already received significant outside funding pertaining solely to some exhibits and those funds cannot be comingled with our general capital finds.

Our donation request is based on applying current financial support and our capital needs to get us to our targeted opening in March. We believe this request is very reasonable based on the value returned to the Marysville Community. We have had private donors give at or above this level as has the Marysville Rotary Club, who committed \$250,000 to the project. This is a significant project that is being brought in at a cost far below the ending value at completion. It is a community facility raised by the members of the community and we believe strongly that the City of Marysville should stand proudly on our donor wall as being one of those community contributors that made it happen.

Thank you for listening and thank you for your time. Are there any questions.