



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Release Date: May 30, 2023

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The St. Helens Main Street Alliance is pleased to announce that it has been awarded two prestigious Oregon Main Street Revitalization Grants, reinforcing the commitment to build high quality, livable and sustainable community that will grow St. Helens' economy while maintaining our sense of place. These 2 reimbursement grants of \$200,000 each, will support significant projects along our beautiful Main Street corridor. The funded applications best convey the ability to stimulate private investment and local economic development, fit within the community's long-range plan for downtown vitality, and address community need.

The Houlton Hollow Project, located midtown, on the corner of 12<sup>th</sup> and Columbia, is a new construction project owned and operated by Hubbard Construction. This project will have seven one-bedroom apartments, three ADA accessible street level units and four on the second level. The project will also include a 1000 sq foot retail space named Hubbard's, which will be built out and operated as a specialty grocery, wine and kitchen goods store, which will create several new jobs. The Houlton Hollow Project will contribute to the revitalization of our community by being a convenient, walkable, and bike-friendly place to live, work and play, and will complement and support the existing businesses in the neighborhood.

The second award is for the new site of Crooked Creek Brewery, located in the Riverfront District, at 343 S. 1st St, this is a rehabilitation and renovation of the restaurant building and second-story lodging unit. The goal of this project is to stop deterioration while maintaining the integrity of the building while giving it a fresh, inviting look guided by the City's architectural design standards for the Riverfront District. Additionally, refurbishing the building to relocate and expand the Crooked Creek Brewery tasting room and adding a restaurant will enhance local livability and economic vitality.



The Oregon Main Street Revitalization Grant program was created during the 2015 legislative session and is administered by the Oregon State Historic Preservation Office. The legislation established a permanent fund for the Oregon Main Street Revitalization Grant and provided an initial infusion of funds from the sale of lottery bonds. The legislature included the Oregon Main Street Revitalization Grant in the lottery bond package approved in 2021. If funded by the 2023 state legislature, there will be future grant rounds in the 24-25 biennium. The funds must be used to award grants to participating Oregon Main Street Network organizations to acquire, rehabilitate or construct buildings to facilitate community revitalization. The program also requires that at least 50 percent of the funds go to rural communities as defined in the bill.

Our local program, the St. Helens Main Street Alliance follows the Main Street Approach™, an asset-based economic development strategy. It is a comprehensive, incremental approach to sustain and enhance historic downtowns and traditional commercial neighborhoods based on the district's unique heritage and attributes. Main Street organizations are locally driven, funded, organized, and run.

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