



December 10, 2024

Mayor Scholl
Councilor President Chilton
Councilor Gundersen
Councilor Hubbard
Councilor Sundeen
City of St. Helens
265 Strand Street
St. Helens, OR 97051

Dear Mayor and City Council,

The St. Helens Public Library Board is writing in support of the Makerspace expansion project. We have seen increasing interest and support from our community with over 110 users in the past seven weeks since reopening. Another positive number is the multiple users in all age groups: adults, youth and children.

The Makerspace currently includes equipment that spans quite a few individual disciplines with quilting, 3D printing, Glowforge laser cutter, die cutter, fast photo scanners and cardboard maker tools.

The additional space would facilitate a myriad of new programs (currently not possible in our limited footprint). Here are a few examples:

- 3D printing for small business projects
- Developing marketing plans and materials
- A new quilt making series using a donated long-arm quilter
- Robotics club for middle school kids
- Home construction classes

The Makerspace concept is growing nationally, and St Helens is already benefitting from being on the front side of this growth curve with the trained staffing to teach users and utilize these diverse creative opportunities.

Please consider these opportunities and positive energy the Makerspace offers our community members as you address the budgetary needs of the city.

Sincerely,

St. Helens Public Library Board
Aaron Martin, President