



## Columbia Center Makerspace Expansion

- The Columbia Center is owned by the Columbia Learning Center Foundation (CLCF).
- Today, the Makerspace occupies 525 square feet of the building and is used for a wide variety of reasons, including youth, families and adults learning, practicing and expanding creative skills; small business and entrepreneurs prototyping and testing equipment and machine parts; people learning new skills that would help them forward their careers; being in community with others who have common interests, and others.
- The City rents the Library and Makerspace spaces until 2035, when ownership will transfer to the City. The City provides all facility maintenance for the Center and funds all utilities.
- Two offices in the building will soon be vacated by CCET and SBDC and the CLCF needs to rent/lease it.
- A total of 741 square feet will then be vacant
  - the large room adjacent to the Makerspace (525 square feet), and
  - the small bow-front office (216 square feet).
- There is also a “server” room (an additional 162 square feet), which will be used by the CLCF for storage.
- In response to community demand, the library aspires to expand into these spaces to accommodate enthusiastic community interest in the arts, i.e., spinning, quilting, knitting, painting, the paper arts, etc.
- Having two work/teaching spaces means we could run our one-on-one appointments, open hours, and classes concurrently, and expand participation in our current offerings.
- Moving our existing art-related equipment (the “A” in STEAM), i.e., sewing machine, serger, Cricut, and art materials and equipment, into the additional space, would allow us to provide more space for these activities, and would also provide much needed space for frequently used equipment, i.e., the 3D printers, Glowforge hand tools and coding equipment such as Raspberry Pis (the “STEM” in STEAM) in the existing space.
- The library has been offered a free quilting frame (10’ x 5’, \$2,000 approximate value). St. Helens has a large and active quilting guild, who are very interested in addition to other members of the public, so we are confident that it would get much use. There is no other space in the building for it.
- The small bow-front office could be used as a recording “studio,” and to store materials (books, DVD, etc.) related to makerspace activities. It could also have a small desk for staff.

- Using the existing telescope wall/door would also decrease the noise, dust and other byproducts coming from equipment such as the Glowforge laser printer and the CNC router.
- All renovations and additional furnishing would be funded using outside sources.
- The requested rent is \$1/square foot. In this scenario, annual rent/lease maximum would be \$8,892. The CLCF has said this is negotiable.