



Campaign for the Arts

The Arts District and CFA by the Numbers

(\$ millions)

The Arts District Project

Project Costs

Mount Baker Theatre Phases I & II	\$11.3
New Whatcom Museum Art & Children's Facility	17.0
Total Estimated Project Costs	\$28.3

Sources of Funds

Public Facilities District (sales tax rebate)	\$23.3
Private Funding	
Whatcom Museum Society	1.0
CFA – Capital Funds	4.0
Total Estimated Project Funds	\$28.3

CFA Goal

CFA – Capital Funds	\$4.0
----------------------------	--------------

Operating Endowments	
Whatcom Museum of History & Art	3.0
Mount Baker Theatre	1.2
Campaign Expenses	0.4

Total*	\$8.6
---------------	--------------

**CFA funds are held and managed by the Whatcom Community Foundation*

What are the funding sources for the Arts District enhancements?

The Arts District is a public-private partnership. The funds are a combination of **public monies** and **private contributions**. In the case of the Arts District, the State began rebating a portion of the sales tax collected in Bellingham and Whatcom County in 2002. (The rebate will continue until 2027.) Those funds are used to pay off bonds issued by the City of Bellingham to cover the Arts District project expenses to which the PFD has committed. The private community efforts of the CFA and the Whatcom Museum Society include funds contributed by individuals, families and businesses, as well as grant funds. The public dollars already committed match the \$8.6 million private fundraising goal at a ratio of 2:1.

The other projects underway in the District – improvements to the American Museum of Radio and Electricity and the relocation and enhancement of the Pickford Film Center – are being funded through the capital campaigns of those organizations.

Why doesn't the CFA goal match the PFD's Arts District Project Budget?

The CFA is contributing \$4 million to the capital costs of the project (i.e., the bricks and mortar); that money is a portion of the PFD's Arts District budget projections. In addition to raising capital funds, the CFA is helping to grow the operating endowments of each organization. These endowed funds support the operations of the Museum and Theatre in perpetuity, ensuring that the community be able to enjoy these architectural assets as well as the wonderful happenings that take place inside them.

Lastly, in order to successfully meet our \$8.6 million goal the CFA must expend some funds for campaign staff, materials and related fundraising expenses.