

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Partners for Parks Submits Grant Application for H-Barn Restoration Project

LAKEWOOD, WA – August 27, 2026 — Partners for Parks (PFP) is committed to helping the City of Lakewood restore the historic H-Barn at Fort Steilacoom Park into a multi-use and multi-generational community facility for education, arts, wellness, community gatherings, special events, and celebrations.

Their most recent effort included the submission of a major grant application that could provide up to **\$2.8 million** toward the project. This grant would help close the funding gap needed to complete the \$12 million dollar project (\$10.2 million for construction and \$1.8 million for design, engineering and construction management).

At its August 17, 2026, meeting, the Lakewood City Council approved a 15-year agreement with Partners for Parks which showed their support for the development of this facility. This partnership agreement was necessary to satisfy eligibility requirements for the 2027–2029 Building for the Arts and Culture (BAC) grant program. This grant is only available to federally recognized tribes and nonprofit organizations. Partners for Parks is a 501 ©3 non-profit organization.

“We are grateful to the Lakewood City Council for its partnership and support of this important community project,” said Sally Saunders, Partners for Parks President. “The opportunity to compete for this grant funding brings us one step closer to preserving and restoring the historic H-Barn for future generations.”

The City of Lakewood has committed over \$4 million in funding from various sources. Partners for Parks has raised almost \$3 million dollars towards their \$3.5 million commitment towards this effort and continues to actively pursue fundraising opportunities and community support to advance the restoration of the historic H-Barn. Partners for Parks recently received a \$200,000 anonymous donation to be used as a match for any new contributions. This match program is part of a recent fundraising surge which ends October 2026. If you are interested in learning more about this project or donating towards this effort, please check out our website at www.partnersforparks.net

About Partners for Parks

Partners for Parks is a nonprofit organization dedicated to enhancing, preserving, and supporting parks and recreational opportunities in the Lakewood community. Through public-private partnerships, fundraising, and community engagement, the organization works to develop and sustain projects that enrich the quality of life for residents and visitors alike.