

**2011 - 2012 Seattle City Council Green Sheet**

**Approved**

Tab	Action	Option	Version
95	4	A	2

**Budget Action Title:** Add \$300,000 GSF to Finance General for one-time capital project awards by the Office of Arts and Cultural Affairs in 2011 to Seattle arts and cultural organizations, and impose a budget proviso

Councilmembers: Budget Committee

Staff Analyst: Frank Video

Council Bill or Resolution:

**Budget Committee Vote:**

Date	Result	SB	BH	SC	TR	JG	NL	RC	TB	MO
11/12/2010	Pass 9-	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y

**Summary of Dollar Effect**

*See the following pages for detailed technical information*

	<b>2011 Increase (Decrease)</b>	<b>2012 Increase (Decrease)</b>
<b>General Subfund</b>		
<i>General Subfund Revenues</i>	\$0	\$0
<u><i>General Subfund Expenditures</i></u>	<u>\$300,000</u>	<u>\$0</u>
<i>Net Balance Effect</i>	<i>(\$300,000)</i>	\$0
<b>Total Budget Balance Effect</b>	<b>(\$300,000)</b>	<b>\$0</b>

**Budget Action description:**

This green sheet would add \$300,000 GSF in 2011 to Finance General for the Office of Arts and Cultural Affairs (OACA) to award one-time capital project funding in 2011 to Seattle arts and cultural organizations, and impose a budget proviso.

Unlike King County and the State, the City of Seattle has no formal capital facility funding program to which arts and cultural organizations can apply. King County's arts and culture capital program, managed by 4Culture, will have about \$1.2 million to award in Seattle and throughout the rest of county next year. Historically, they have been able to fund approximately 40% of their applicants and, of those, about 40% of the amounts requested.

It is the intent of the Council that to award these funds OACA will establish a capital program, in consultation with the Seattle Arts Commission, for arts and cultural facilities, including selection criteria and an open-to-the-public selection process. It is also the intent of the Council that OACA produce a report in 2011 on the feasibility of establishing an ongoing capital funding program for arts and cultural facilities.

\* Has Proviso

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2011 funding requests from three arts organizations currently conducting capital campaigns (Coyote Central, Taproot Theater, and Velocity Dance Center) are attached. These organizations may wish to apply for funding, along with others.

This green sheet would impose the following budget proviso:

“None of the money appropriated in the 2011 budget to Finance General for the Office of Arts and Cultural Affairs for arts and cultural facility capital projects may be expended until the Executive has executed contracts that include public benefits to be provided by the arts and cultural facility capital projects to be funded.”

<i>Tab</i>	<i>Action</i>	<i>Option</i>	<i>Version</i>
95	4	A	2

**Budget Action Transactions**

**Budget Action Title:** Add \$300,000 GSF to Finance General for one-time capital project awards by the Office of Arts and Cultural Affairs in 2011 to Seattle arts and cultural organizations, and impose a budget proviso

#	Transaction Description	Position Title	Number of Positions	FTE	Dept	BCL or Revenue Source	Summit Code	Fund	Year	Revenue Amount	Expenditure Amount
1	Create reserve for Office of Arts and Cultural Affairs to provide one-time capital project awards				FG	Reserves	2QD00	00100	2011		\$300,000



# TTC CAPITAL CAMPAIGN AND ARSON RESPONSE

19 OCTOBER 2010

**PREPARED FOR:** COUNCILMEMBER NICK LICATA

**BY:** SCOTT NOLTE  
TAPROOT THEATRE COMPANY

## I. **Mission / Profile**

*Taproot Theatre Company exists to create theatre that explores the beauty and questions of life while providing hope for our search for meaning.*

Taproot Theatre Company (TTC) is Seattle's largest mid-size professional theatre company, serving over 100,000 people annually with a 6-show Mainstage Season, Touring Programs and Acting Studio classes. Founded in 1976, TTC has grown in both size and influence due to hard work, passion and commitment to its mission.

An October 23, 2009 arson brought the TTC into a prominent place in the media and the public's awareness. As the largest and costliest of 14 fires set by a serial arsonist in the Greenwood District, the fire closed the theatre for 96 days and caused the total destruction of our "Eleanor Roosevelt Building" and the four cafes it housed.

***The economic damage of the recession combined with an arsonist's match, have created a "dark gap" at the district's main crossroads, cost jobs and prompted a vision to rebuild as soon as possible.***

## II. Goals/Objectives

This campaign will result in an innovative and cost-effective building that:

- **creates jobs** in the construction, architectural and design sectors, as well as on-going jobs for café employees, actors, technicians and teachers.
- **rebuilds on the site of a tragic arson**, making the street safe and bright
- **renews the vitality of the community's major crossroads**
- **expands TTC's ability to serve** Mainstage audiences and students of all ages

The new facility will house improved audience amenities, a 3,000 sq. ft. café, a new scene shop, a small theatre/rehearsal hall with dressing rooms, and the administrative offices.

## III. Summary of Project Budget & Schedule

The entire project, including construction, LEED certification, administrative costs, and mortgage retirement, is \$3.25 million.

Pacific Mobile & Modular:	\$1,800,000
Site Prep:	\$ 300,000
LEED Certification, Design, Engineering:	\$ 90,000
Theatre/Rehearsal Hall Equip:	\$ 100,000
Office/Lobby Furnishings & Equip:	\$ 20,000
Permits:	\$ 60,000
Contingency:	\$ 200,000
Mortgage Retirement & Reserve Fund	\$ 330,000
Finance Costs	\$ 200,000
Sales Tax:	\$ 150,000
Total:	\$ 3,250,000

- **Phase I:** pre-application design studies, civil engineering, and LEED consulting (currently underway). After acceptance of the overall design by the City of Seattle final construction plans and permitting will commence. Cost: \$700,000
- **Phase II:** the modules are constructed and pre-finished at the plant in Marysville, WA. The site in Greenwood is prepped for new foundation, geo-technical needs and utility hook-up. Cost: \$1.2 M

- **Phase III:** the modules are transported and assembled on-site. The theatre, lobby/café and offices are equipped. External LEED-features (i.e. landscaping) in and around the building are completed. Cost: \$1 M
- **Completion:** Summer 2011 (actual timing is contingent on Mainstage and Acting Studio programming)
- The balance of funds will be applied toward debt reduction, administrative costs, and the establishment of a reserve fund.

#### IV. **Financing**

Taproot Theatre has been in discussion with Viking Bank regarding a loan for construction, and has received information on financing from the City of Seattle's Office of Economic Development. Phase I is fully funded and designs are being finalized.

#### V. **Community**

TTC staff have met with representatives of the Greenwood Chamber of Commerce and Community Council, and been pledged their support. The project's unique modular design and response to the arson has been praised by the staff of Washington State's Arts Commission and Department of Commerce\*, 4Culture\*, and the City of Seattle's Office of Arts and Cultural Affairs.

(\* These agencies have made grants totaling \$580,000.)

#### VI. **Conclusion**

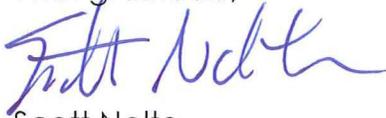
The Greenwood arson has created a unique opportunity for TTC to serve its community and constituency with new energy. This building project is an ideal solution at a critical time. It meets the community's need to heal from a tragic arson, restore economic vitality to Greenwood's downtown core, create jobs, and to improve Taproot Theatre Company's cultural contribution to the lives of audiences and students of all ages.

For these reasons Taproot Theatre Company requests that the City of Seattle financially participate in this project. The City has made allocations for capital projects to major arts organizations in Downtown and Seattle Center as well as outliers like ArtsWest. We

would like the City to consider an allocation of \$300,000 specifically to help build upon the ashes, create jobs and be proactive against any further decline in the Greenwood District.

Councilmember Conlin, *Thank You* for your thoughtful consideration and assistance in seeking the support of the City. Please feel free to contact me if I can answer any questions or clarify any points of concern.

With gratitude,



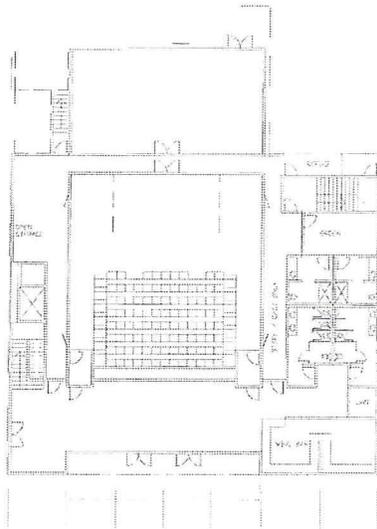
Scott Nolte

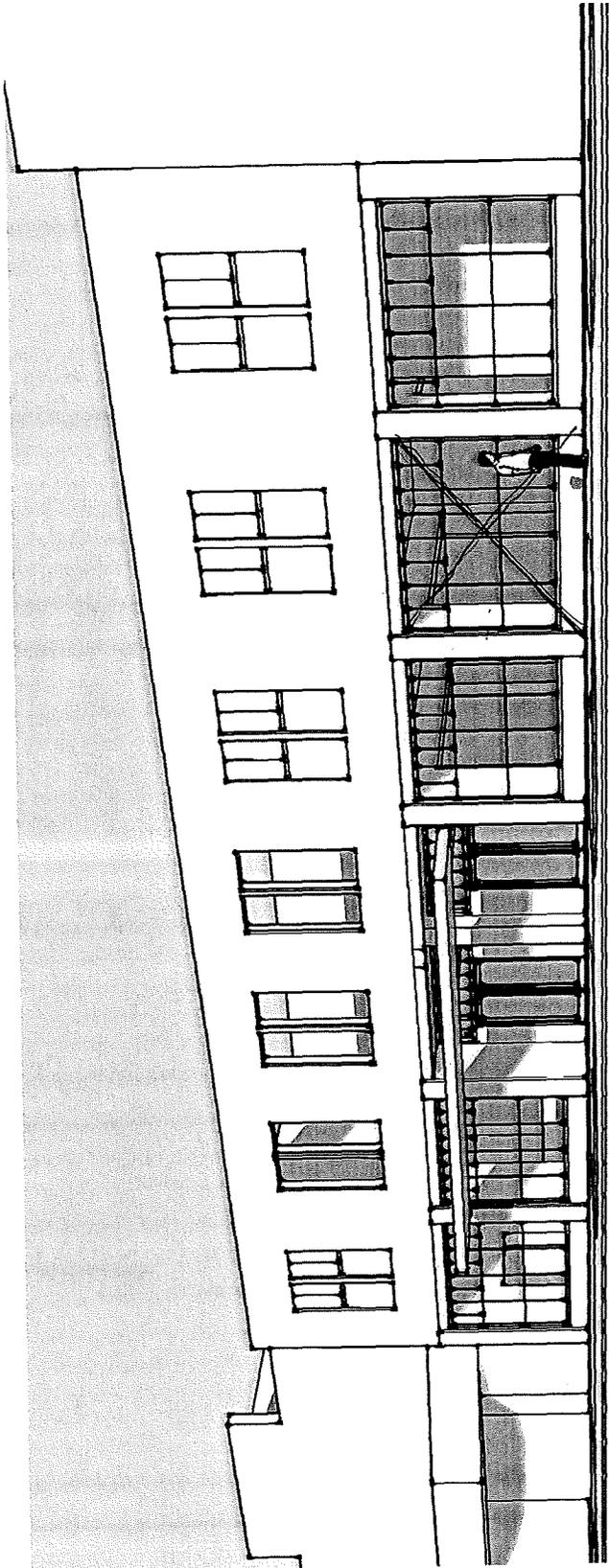
Producing Artistic Director

(206) 781-9705 - Office

(206) 669-0766 - Cell

[scott@taproottheatre.org](mailto:scott@taproottheatre.org)

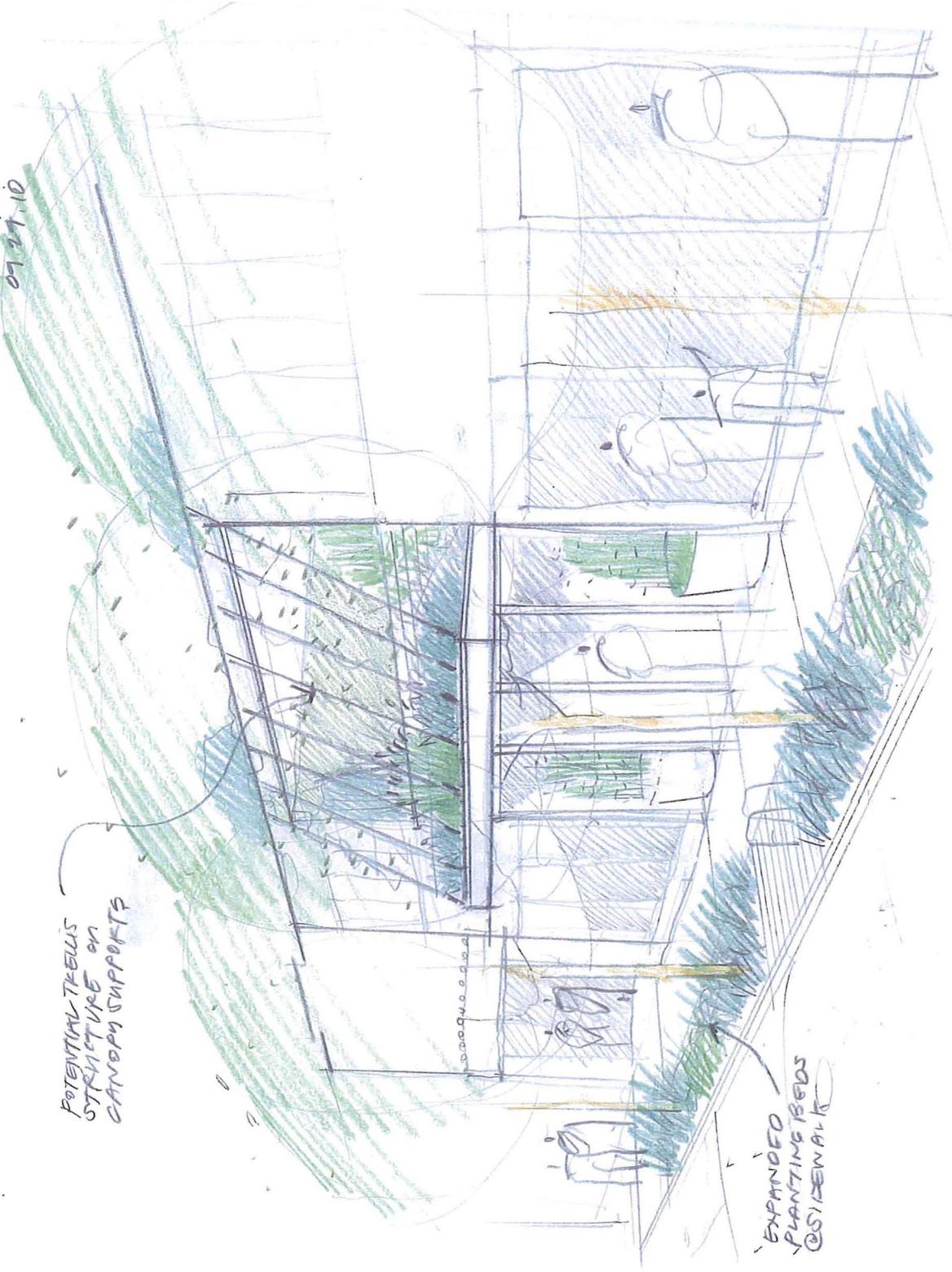


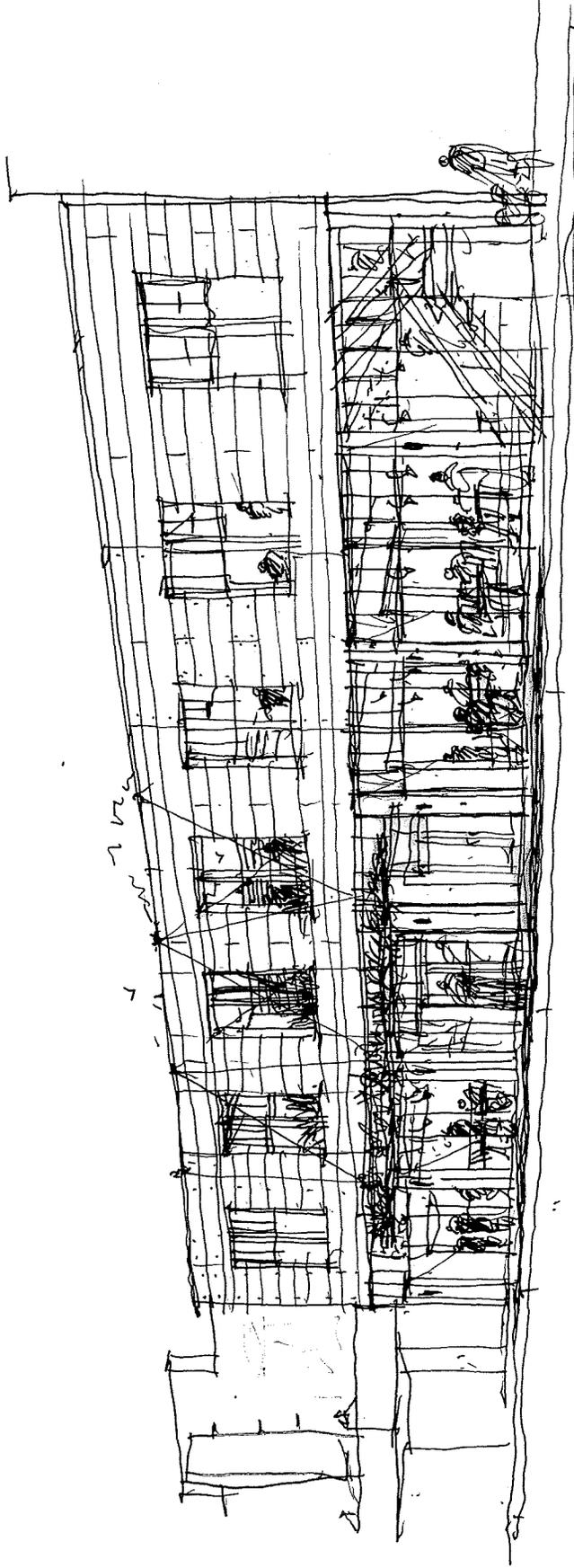


TAPROOT 1  
07.27.10

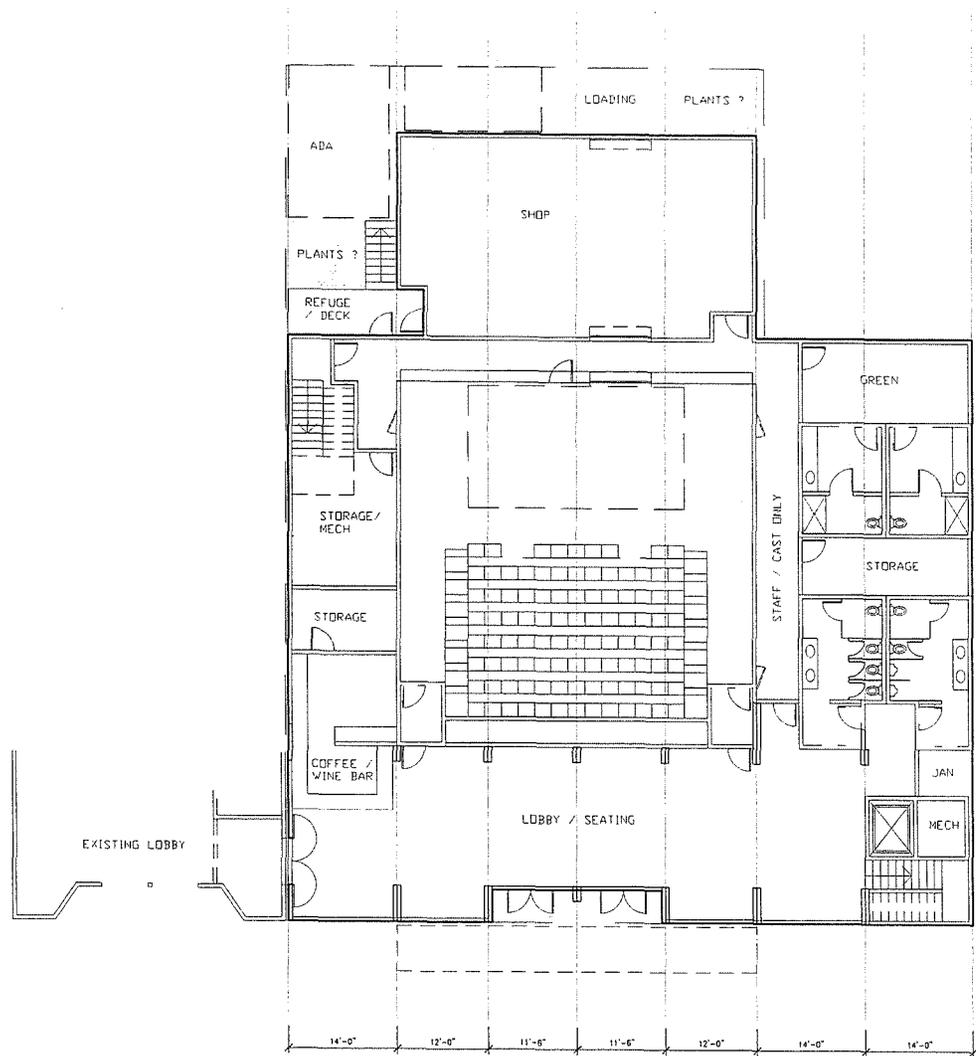
POTENTIAL TRELLIS  
STRUCTURE ON  
CANOPY SUPPORTS

EXPANDED  
PLANTING BEDS  
@ SIDEWALK



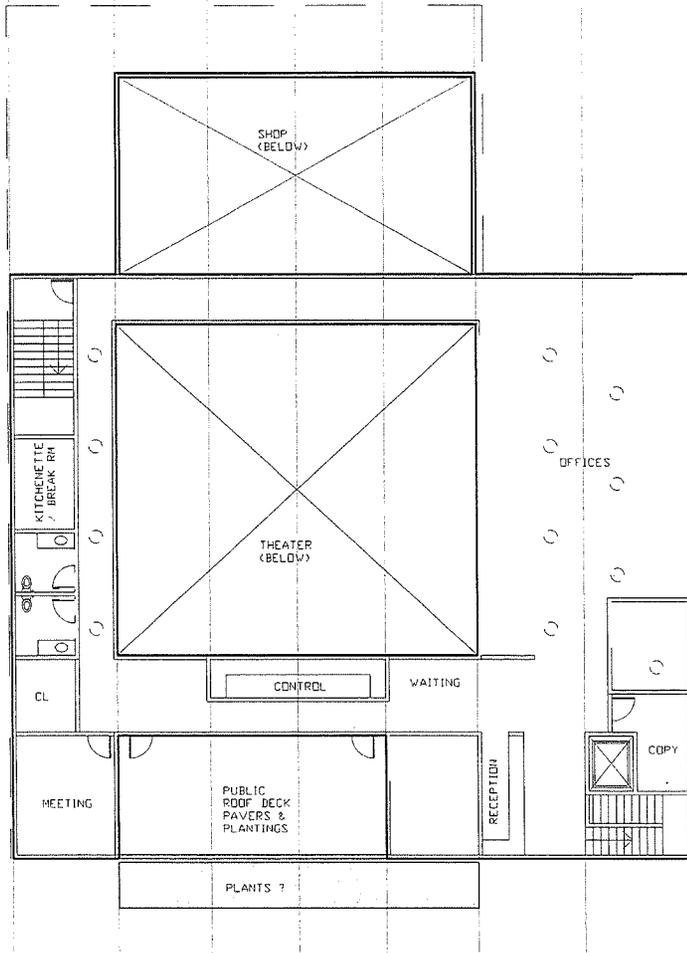


Small example  
of primary school

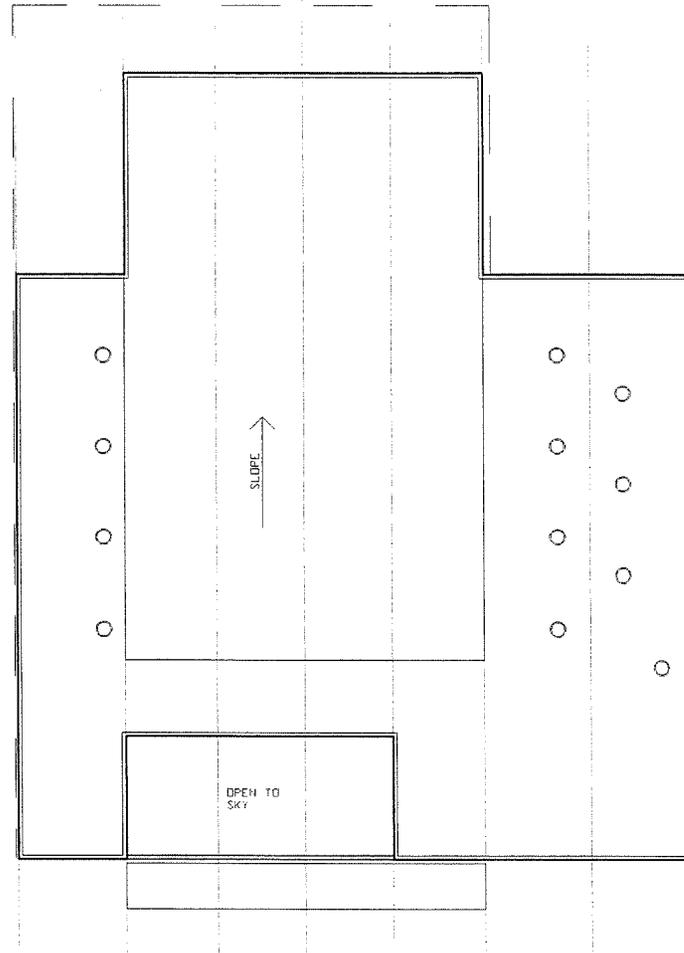


SCHEME C LVL 1  
 $\frac{1}{16}'' = 1'-0''$

F0210



SCHEME C LVL 2  
 $\frac{1}{16}'' = 1'-0''$



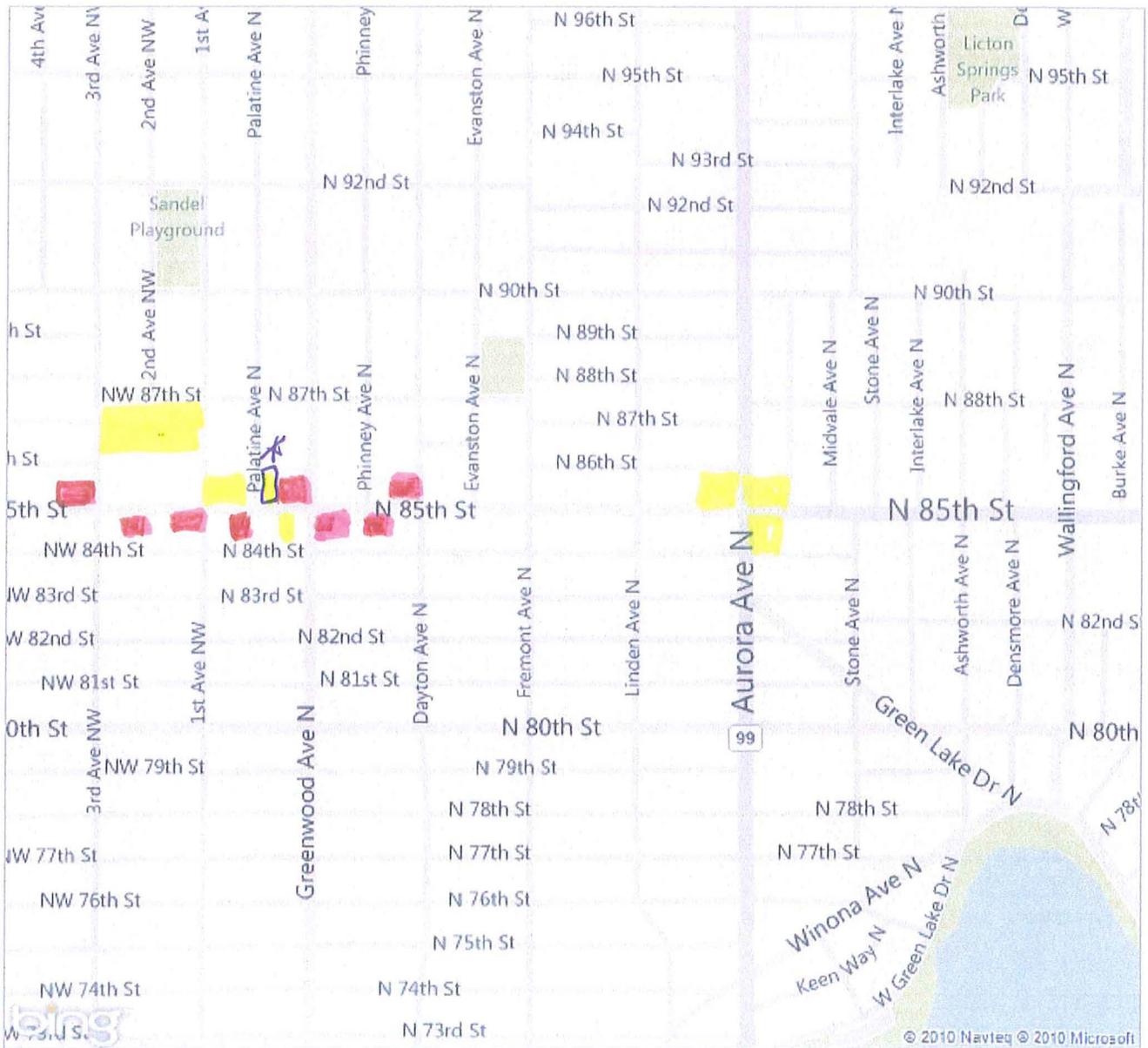
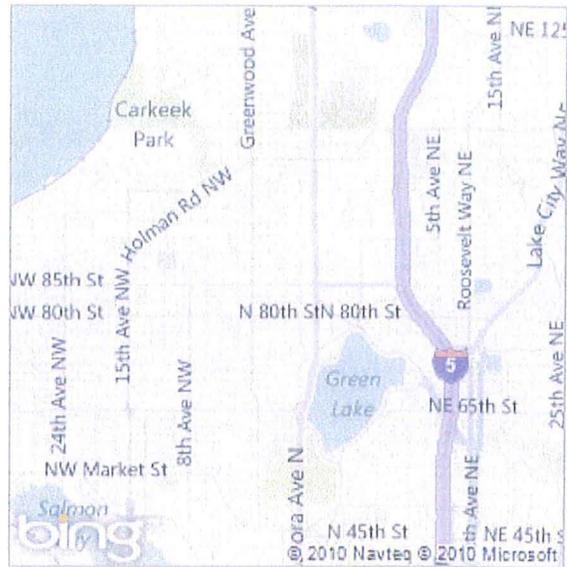
SCHEME C ROOF  
 $\frac{1}{16}'' = 1'-0''$

*7 Oct 10*

### Bing Maps

N. 85th Street: I-5 to 3rd NW.  
 1) **Businesses open past 6:00P** 2) **Vacant Storefronts**  
*\* Taproot Theatre*

 **FREE!** Use **Bing 411** to find movies, businesses & more: **800-BING-411**



## OPENING DOORS - Campaign for COYOTE CENTRAL



AT 23<sup>rd</sup> & CHERRY

**Coyote Central has served over 10,000 Seattle youth, of all ethnic & economic backgrounds, since 1986**

- Working in apprenticeship settings with professional artists, welders, animators, filmmakers, glassblowers, photographers, web designers and more who are great mentors and role models
- Building creative problem-solving skills, vocational skills, and self-expression
- Figuring out who they want to be and where they fit into the world
- Engaging in their community through making public art for sites in their own neighborhood

### PROPOSAL:

**Youth arts center at 23<sup>rd</sup> & Cherry – a permanent home for Coyote – that will provide:**

- Constructive engagement for young adolescents aged 10 to 14 in out-of-school time
- A facility dedicated to adolescents at a key stage in their development – an age group often neglected
- A location in the heart of the Central District with a high profile and easy access
- New life & youthful energy for the Cherry Street corridor in a building that has lain vacant for 4 years
- A professional kitchen for the 360 hours of instruction in the culinary arts that Coyote provides each year, as well as expanded programming for building the vocational skills of underserved youth
- A community resource for rehearsals, exhibits, meetings and celebrations

### Why this project will succeed

#### Economics

- A purchase price 40% below cost of property 2 years ago (\$1.2 million down to \$525,000)
- Construction led by a Coyote board member / developer who has rallied low or no-cost design and construction services from vendors inspired by the project
- Economic projections showing that outright ownership of its own facility will represent a considerable cost savings for Coyote over existing rental fees as well as providing potential earned income through rental of the kitchen and event spaces

#### Organizational Readiness

- 24 years of gradual and steady growth, from 96 enrollments in 1<sup>st</sup> year to 1,385 last year
- Successful, growing program that needs more space to accommodate waiting lists & expand programming, especially for hardest-to-reach kids in the Central District, South End, & all over the city
- Strong board of directors; efficient staff with low overhead; comprehensive strategic and financial planning; and more than two decades of experience with successful programming

#### Results

- Youth programs with a proven record of success that are ready-to-go: a sure thing
- A facility projected to be open and full of kids by Spring 2011: immediate return on investment

**Capital Campaign Goal (for purchase, construction, equipment & campaign): \$1.4 million**

#### Funding to date:

- \$50,000 4Culture (out-of-cycle grant; invited to apply for next full cycle, spring 2011)
- \$40,000 D.V. and Ida J. McEachern Charitable Trust
- \$10,000 Raikes Foundation
- \$190,000 Coyote Board Member pledges
- \$185,000 Pro bono and reduced cost construction and design services
- \$243,000 Building for the Arts (pending Governor's signing of the 2011-2013 Capital Budget)

**Funding Criteria:** Youth & Families; Arts; Education; Central District revitalization

**Request from the City:** \$125,000

# velocity

DANCE CENTER

1621 12th Avenue, Suite 100 • Seattle, WA 98122 • 206.325.8773 • velocitydancecenter.org

Dear City Council Members:

October 26<sup>th</sup>, 2010

On behalf of the staff, board, and artistic community that Velocity Dance Center represents, thank you for considering a one-time allocation of funding to support Velocity's continued presence on Capitol Hill.

## Background

Established in 1996, Velocity Dance Center has come to be recognized both as a cornerstone of Seattle's dance community and as a significant contributor to the national and international field of dance.

In 2007, an ownership change at the Odd Fellows Building in the Capitol Hill neighborhood resulted in rent increases that forced out Velocity and all other nonprofit tenants, most of them arts businesses.

Community response to the loss of these businesses led to the formation of the Cultural Overlay District Advisory Committee. In 2009, it delivered recommendations to the City on how to improve neighborhoods while minimizing the displacement of arts activities. The Council has endorsed the committee's recommendations, *which call for more City support for arts-related businesses.*

In March of 2010, Velocity Dance Center successfully completed the first phase of our capital campaign and moved the organization to 1621 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue (between Pine and Olive), taking only a one day break from classes and inviting the community to parade with us to our new long-term home.

## Velocity's Economic Impact

*Velocity puts approximately \$200,000 in the pockets of independent artists every year through teaching and choreographic opportunities.* There is simply no other arts agency in the Pacific Northwest providing as many income earning opportunities for contemporary dance artists.

Velocity also has and will continue to provide critical rehearsal, workshop, and performance space to many partner organizations including critical Seattle institutions such as the Central District Forum for Arts and Ideas, Seattle Theater Group, On the Boards, and Cornish College of the Arts to name a few.

As an anchor tenant on 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Velocity Dance Center drives economic activity in our neighborhood, drawing 15,000 artists and audience members to our area for classes, performances, rehearsals and community. The increased traffic Velocity brings to the neighborhood boosts sales in restaurants, shops and bars, allowing employers to create more jobs in our neighborhood.

Because of this, when **Velocity reached out to neighboring businesses** for support, we were grateful and humbled by the outpouring of response we received in just a few days. Supporters include:

12th & Olive Wine Co.

Caffé Vita

Big Marios

Cafe Argento

Capitol Hill Chamber of Commerce

Capitol Hill Housing

Capitol Hill Block Party

Century Ballroom and the Tin Table

Linda's, Kings, and Odd Fellows Cafe

Neumo's, Moe Bar, and Pike Street Fish Fry

Via Tribunali

Seattle Theater Group

University of Washington Dance Program

I've included their letters of support in this packet. Thank you again for considering supporting Velocity Dance Center, Seattle's internationally renowned dance community, and keeping the Capitol Hill neighborhood culturally diverse and vibrant.

Sincerely,



Kara O'Toole, Executive Director

**To all concerned:**

In direct response to the increased "traffic" on 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue due to the opening of my neighbors facility I have added 2 new employees; both Seattle residents and extended my hours of service! Anything I or the city can do to support and encourage Velocity should be embraced! They have brought much needed positivity to my neighborhood.

Please feel free to call me personally with any questions.



Steven D. Brown C.S.W.

**12th and Olive Wine Company**

1125 East Olive St.(at 12th Ave)

Seattle WA 98122

206.329.2399



## CAFFÈ VITA Coffee Roasting Co.

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1005 E. Pike, Seattle, WA 98122  
(206) 550.3212 (Direct) • (206) 834.5482 • fax (206) 709-4447  
www.caffevita.com

To Whom It May Concern:

It is my pleasure to write a letter in support of Velocity Dance Center located on 1621 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue in Seattle's Capitol Hill neighborhood. As General Counsel for Caffe Vita Inc., at 1005 East Pike Street, I am delighted to have Velocity Dance Center as a neighbor and community partner.

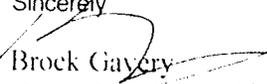
As an anchor tenant on 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Velocity Dance Center drives economic activity in our neighborhood by drawing artists and audiences to our area for classes, performances, rehearsals and community. Velocity constituents frequent our business as a direct result of Velocity Dance Center's presence on 12<sup>th</sup> Ave.

Established in 1996, Velocity Dance Center has come to be recognized both as a cornerstone of Seattle's dance community and as a significant contributor to the national and international field of dance. In 2007, an ownership change at the Odd Fellows Building in the Capitol Hill neighborhood resulted in rent increases that forced out Velocity and all other nonprofit tenants, most of them arts businesses. Community response to the loss of these businesses led to the formation of the Cultural Overlay District Advisory Committee. In 2009, it delivered recommendations to the City on how to improve neighborhoods while minimizing the displacement of arts activities. The Council has endorsed the committee's recommendations, which call for more City support for arts-related businesses.

At Caffe Vita, we are excited that Velocity Dance Center was able to remain in the Capitol Hill neighborhood. In 2010, Velocity completed the first phase of its capital campaign to relocate to a newly renovated leased facility on 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue. It provides significantly subsidized rental space to local dance professionals, extends educational resources to professional dancers and choreographers, and offers groups such as Seattle Theater Group, Central District Forum on Arts and Ideas, and On the Boards support to produce and present their own programs there. The facility is active seven days a week, from early in the morning until late in the evening—bringing potential [customers/patrons] to our business.

Caffe Vita urges the City to continue to support arts related businesses like Velocity because they are economic drivers for our area. Please accept this letter as formal recognition of the value of Velocity Dance Center in helping our neighborhood be diverse, dynamic, and economically sustainable.

Sincerely,

  
Brock Gayery  
General Counsel  
Caffe Vita, Inc.

10/15/2010



Dear Council Members:

I'm writing in support of Velocity Dance Theater on Capitol Hill. As a fellow business owner of a couple of businesses in the neighborhood, I feel it is very important that we find ways to keep businesses like Velocity in the community.

Velocity is anchor tenant on 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue, and drives economic activity in our neighborhood by drawing artists and audiences to our area for classes, performances, rehearsals and community. But more importantly, organizations like Velocity draw a certain type of person to our neighborhood, a type that is threatened with being pushed out of the area with new development that cares more about short term dollars than the style, vibe and substance of this area of Seattle – the very things that has made the area popular and economically successful. Arts organizations, their artists and their patrons make the neighborhood vital.

Big Mario's Pizza and the Capitol Hill Block Party urge the City to continue to support arts related businesses like Velocity because they are economic and cultural drivers for our area. Please accept this letter as formal recognition of the value of Velocity Dance Center in helping our neighborhood be diverse, dynamic, and economically sustainable.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David Meinert". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a horizontal line crossing through the middle of the letters.

David Meinert

October 26<sup>th</sup>, 2010

To Whom It May Concern:

It is my pleasure to write a letter in support of Velocity Dance Center located on 1621 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue in Seattle's Capitol Hill neighborhood. I have owned my café for over six years and have seen the impact of Velocity's dedication and new energy, making 12<sup>th</sup> Ave a destination area. I am delighted to have Velocity Dance Center as a neighbor and community partner.

As an anchor tenant on 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Velocity Dance Center drives economic activity in our neighborhood by drawing artists and audiences to our area for classes, performances, rehearsals and community. Cafe Argento has been able to provide discounts to staff & students of Velocity, which has dramatically increased our volume—it's a perfect win-win partnership.

Established in 1996, Velocity Dance Center has come to be recognized both as a cornerstone of Seattle's dance community and as a significant contributor to the national and international field of dance. In 2007, an ownership change at the Odd Fellows Building in the Capitol Hill neighborhood resulted in rent increases that forced out Velocity and all other nonprofit tenants, most of them arts businesses. Community response to the loss of these businesses led to the formation of the Cultural Overlay District Advisory Committee. In 2009, it delivered recommendations to the City on how to improve neighborhoods while minimizing the displacement of arts activities. The Council has endorsed the committee's recommendations, which call for more City support for arts-related businesses.

I am excited that Velocity Dance Center was able to remain in the Capitol Hill neighborhood. The facility is active seven days a week, from early in the morning until late in the evening—bringing customers to my business. In addition to the amount of foot traffic Velocity has brought, visiting dance companies and other art institutions have shown interest in visiting Seattle more often due to the warm reception they encountered on Capitol Hill and in Seattle.

I urge the City to continue to support arts related businesses like Velocity because they are economic drivers for our area. Please accept this letter as formal recognition of the value of Velocity Dance Center in helping our neighborhood be diverse, dynamic, and economically sustainable.

Sincerely,



Faizel Khan

Cafe Argento  
1125 E Olive Street  
Seattle, WA 98122

October 15, 2010

Dear Council Members,

*I'm writing today to call attention to the amazing work of the Velocity Dance Center and to the vital contribution that the Center makes in the Capitol Hill community.*

*Capitol Hill is proudly known as a neighborhood that supports the arts. On any given day of any given week in our neighborhood a patron of the arts would be able to take in a show, catch a limited release indie film, attend readings, see the best in burlesque or attend a gallery show. We are keenly aware of the role of arts business in the economic vitality of a neighborhood. The arts bring patrons and customers to the Hill. Once they are here in our neck of the woods we do our best to show them why we consider ourselves to be a shining example of what an urban neighborhood has to offer.*

*The challenge in being known as an arts neighborhood is making sure that the arts businesses have places to do what they do best - create art. Velocity, in their new location on 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue, has made an investment in our community that cannot be overstated. In locating their permanent home in such a central location they have made a commitment to generations of dancers to come that Capitol Hill is a place that respects and reveres the art of dance. As a community partner they have created an arts space that is vibrant, healthy and inviting. Our entire community benefits when such spaces thrive.*

*I'm sure that all of you know how important civic attention to the arts is in our city. And I know that you are all keenly aware of the economic limitations in our current environment. I wanted to take just a moment of your time to point out the connections between the arts and the economic vitality of our neighborhoods. Velocity Dance center is a prime example of how residents, businesses and organizations are strengthened by the presence of the arts in our communities. It is in Capitol Hill interest - indeed, the City of Seattle's interest - that their continued growth and success is supported by all of us.*

Thank you,

Michael Wells

Interim Executive Director

Capitol Hill Chamber of Commerce

capitol hill  
housing

*neighborhoods within reach*

October 15, 2010

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to lend my enthusiastic support to the Velocity Dance Center, one of Capitol Hill's most successful arts organizations. In a neighborhood shaped by creativity and change, Velocity has emerged as an anchor on 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue, and a leader in programming for dancers and artists in Seattle and beyond.

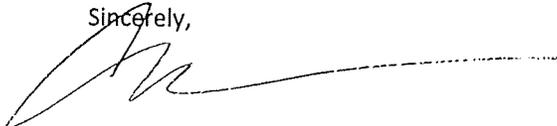
Thanks to smart and responsible leadership, Velocity has grown from a small dance studio founded in 1996 to a thriving and successful arts center. When Velocity was forced to leave the Oddfellows Building due to rent increases, they forged ahead to create a new space on 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue. Capitol Hill Housing, through our 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue Initiative, is deeply committed to the success of this commercial district. We are excited that Velocity Dance Center was able to remain in the Capitol Hill neighborhood, especially at a time when arts funding is decreasing even as community demand for arts and art spaces is growing.

Community response to the loss of arts and nonprofits led to the formation of the Cultural Overlay District Advisory Committee, in which Capitol Hill Housing staff have played a prominent role. In 2009, the Committee delivered recommendations to the City on how to improve neighborhoods while minimizing the displacement of arts activities. The Council has endorsed the committee's recommendations, which call for more City support for arts-related businesses.

In a tough economic climate, Velocity Dance Center drives activity in our neighborhood by drawing artists and audiences to our area for classes, performances, rehearsals and community. In 2010, Velocity completed the first phase of its capital campaign to relocate to a newly renovated leased facility on 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue. It provides significantly subsidized rental space to local dance professionals, extends educational resources to professional dancers and choreographers, and offers groups such as Seattle Theater Group, Central District Forum on Arts and Ideas, and On the Boards support to produce and present their own programs there. The facility is active seven days a week.

It's this kind of thriving activity that defines Capitol Hill as a place where people come together to live, work, and play. Small businesses and the arts in our neighborhood need ongoing support if they are to continue their contributions to the rich urban fabric of Capitol Hill. On behalf of Capitol Hill Housing and the 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue Initiative, I urge the City to continue its support of local endeavors like Velocity because they—in diverse, unique, and creative ways—help create the vibrant and engaged communities that make Seattle great.

Sincerely,



Chris Persons  
Executive Director

LINDA'S TAVERN - SMITH  
KING'S HARDWARE - ODDFELLOWS CAFE+BAR

1101 E Pike St, Suite 201 Seattle, WA 98122

To Whom It May Concern:

It is my pleasure to write a letter in support of Velocity Dance Center located on 1621 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue in Seattle's Capitol Hill neighborhood. As the owner of several restaurants on Capitol Hill, I am delighted to have Velocity Dance Center as a neighbor and community partner.

As an anchor tenant on 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Velocity Dance Center drives economic activity in our neighborhood by drawing artists and audiences to our area for classes, performances, rehearsals and community. This impact is a vital to neighboring businesses like ours.

Established in 1996, Velocity Dance Center has come to be recognized both as a cornerstone of Seattle's dance community and as a significant contributor to the national and international field of dance. In 2007, an ownership change at the Odd Fellows Building in the Capitol Hill neighborhood resulted in rent increases that forced out Velocity and all other nonprofit tenants, most of them arts businesses. Community response to the loss of these businesses led to the formation of the Cultural Overlay District Advisory Committee. In 2009, it delivered recommendations to the City on how to improve neighborhoods while minimizing the displacement of arts activities. The Council has endorsed the committee's recommendations, which call for more City support for arts-related businesses.

At Linda's Tavern, Smith & Oddfellows Cafe+Bar we are excited that Velocity Dance Center was able to remain in the Capitol Hill neighborhood. In 2010, Velocity completed the first phase of its capital campaign to relocate to a newly renovated leased facility on 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue. It provides significantly subsidized rental space to local dance professionals, extends educational resources to professional dancers and choreographers, and offers groups such as Seattle Theater Group, Central District Forum on Arts and Ideas, and On the Boards support to produce and present their own programs there. The facility is active seven days a week, from early in the morning until late in the evening—bringing potential customers to our restaurants.

I urge the City to continue to support arts related businesses like Velocity because they are economic drivers for our area. Please accept this letter as formal recognition of the value of Velocity Dance Center in helping our neighborhood be diverse, dynamic, and economically sustainable.

Sincerely,



Linda Derschang  
Principle Owner  
Linda's Tavern - King's Hardware - Smith - Oddfellows Cafe+Bar

NEUMOS  
MOE BAR  
PIKE STREET FISH FRY  
925 e pike st. seattle.wa 98121

To Whom It May Concern:

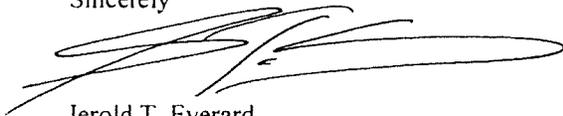
I am writing this letter in support of Velocity Dance Center located on 1621 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue in Seattle's Capitol Hill neighborhood. As the founder and owner of these NEUMOS businesses I am delighted to have Velocity Dance Center as a neighbor and community partner.

As a member of the CODAC that was formed in part to address the loss of organizations such as Velocity Dance Center from the Odd Fellow's Hall, I am keenly aware of the value these organizations bring to our neighborhood. I know that Council has as well because it endorsed our recommendations. It is the vibrant mix of diverse arts, cultural and entertainment that has kept our neighborhood booming even in an economic downturn. As an anchor tenant on 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Velocity Dance Center drives economic activity in our neighborhood by drawing artists and audiences to our area for classes, performances, rehearsals and community. Those people frequent our establishments.

We are excited that Velocity Dance Center was able to remain in the Capitol Hill neighborhood. In 2010, Velocity completed the first phase of its capital campaign to relocate to a newly renovated leased facility on 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue. It provides significantly subsidized rental space to local dance professionals, extends educational resources to professional dancers and choreographers, and offers groups such as Seattle Theater Group, Central District Forum on Arts and Ideas, and On the Boards support to produce and present their own programs there. The facility is active seven days a week, from early in the morning until late in the evening—bringing business to us and activating the streetscape which in turn supports public safety.

We urge the City to continue to support arts related businesses like Velocity because they are economic drivers for our area. Please accept this letter as formal recognition of the value of Velocity Dance Center in helping our neighborhood be diverse, dynamic, and economically sustainable.

Sincerely



Jerold T. Everard  
Founder/Owner





To Whom It May Concern:

It is my pleasure to write a letter in support of Velocity Dance Center located on 1621 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue in Seattle's Capitol Hill neighborhood. As General Counsel for Via Tribunali, L.L.C. at 1016 East Pike Street, I am delighted to have Velocity Dance Center as a neighbor and community partner.

As an anchor tenant on 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Velocity Dance Center drives economic activity in our neighborhood by drawing artists and audiences to our area for classes, performances, rehearsals and community. Velocity constituents frequent our business as a direct result of Velocity Dance Center's presence on 12<sup>th</sup> Ave.

Established in 1996, Velocity Dance Center has come to be recognized both as a cornerstone of Seattle's dance community and as a significant contributor to the national and international field of dance. In 2007, an ownership change at the Odd Fellows Building in the Capitol Hill neighborhood resulted in rent increases that forced out Velocity and all other nonprofit tenants, most of them arts businesses. Community response to the loss of these businesses led to the formation of the Cultural Overlay District Advisory Committee. In 2009, it delivered recommendations to the City on how to improve neighborhoods while minimizing the displacement of arts activities. The Council has endorsed the committee's recommendations, which call for more City support for arts-related businesses.

At Via Tribunali, we are excited that Velocity Dance Center was able to remain in the Capitol Hill neighborhood. In 2010, Velocity completed the first phase of its capital campaign to relocate to a newly renovated leased facility on 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue. It provides significantly subsidized rental space to local dance professionals, extends educational resources to professional dancers and choreographers, and offers groups such as Seattle Theater Group, Central District Forum on Arts and Ideas, and On the Boards support to produce and present their own programs there. The facility is active seven days a week, from early in the morning until late in the evening—bringing potential [customers/patrons] to our business.

Via Tribunali urges the City to continue to support arts related businesses like Velocity because they are economic drivers for our area. Please accept this letter as formal recognition of the value of Velocity Dance Center in helping our neighborhood be diverse, dynamic, and economically sustainable.

Sincerely

Brock Gavery  
General Counsel  
Via Tribunali, L.L.C.  
206-834-5482

October 23, 2010

To: City of Seattle

Re: Your Support of the Velocity Forever Capitol Campaign

Thank you for taking the time to read my letter. I have been a resident and business owner in Seattle for ten years. During that time I have, of course, come across many aspects of our City that are worth bragging about. After the gorgeous nature all around us, the most astounding factor in our City is the quality of dance choreography and dancers that we produce. Truly, we are in the top four dance cities in North America if not in the top two. That happens here because the arts are supported by the people and institutions in this city.

Velocity was established in 1996. Since then, it has come to be recognized both as a cornerstone of Seattle's dance community and as a significant contributor to the national and international field of contemporary dance. It provides a focus for training, collaboration and performance that creates a melting pot of talent. This kind of center needs to be where the dancers themselves are concentrated and that is Capitol Hill.

Capitol Hill is an expensive place to rent but we can't let our City be run solely by a market economy. If we want to thrive and not only live here, we need to keep our arts fresh so we attract creatives and wealth and expression to our City.

Unlike King County and the State, the City of Seattle has no formal capital funding program for arts facilities to which Velocity can apply. As Velocity embarks on phase two of its capital campaign, there is renewed urgency on maintaining sufficient operating costs.

As a City citizen and business leader, I encourage you to support the Velocity Forever Capitol Campaign so that Velocity can continue to support and nurture our dance community at a reachable location. In my opinion, it is as dire to our City as public transportation and public safety. If we neglect any of them our quality of life suffers.

Thank you again for your time.

Shango Los  
**Fourthfold Visions**  
9400 Ravenna Ave NE Suite 8  
Seattle, WA 98115

From: Molly Scott <MScott@Cornish.edu>  
Subject: **Velocity Dance Center**  
Date: October 26, 2010 1:25:09 PM PDT (CA)  
To: "Budget@seattle.gov" <Budget@seattle.gov>  
Cc: "shannon@velocitydancecenter.org" <shannon@velocitydancecenter.org>

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to support the allocation of \$50,000 of City of Seattle funding for capital projects to Velocity Dance Center (VDC). VDC is the center of contemporary dance training in Seattle, and an important resource for emerging choreographers and performers throughout the city. VDC's unique and visionary artist support programs, including NextFest NW, The Bridge Project, SCUBA (a touring arts program for Seattle choreographers), Under Construction, Choreographer-in-Residence, have all been designed to support the opportunities for the growth and development of Seattle dance artists. VDC provides training not only for dancers and performers, but also provides opportunities for teachers to develop and mature. VDC supports all levels of dance-making, and is as dedicated to community access as it is to artistic excellence. Velocity – it's core leadership and all the many participants and users of this warm and dedicated facility – has weathered incredible challenges over the past few years with the loss of their spaces in the Oddfellows IOOF building and their relocation to their new Capital Hill headquarters. Velocity Dance Center absolutely deserves and needs this support from the City of Seattle. VDC is a grass roots organization with incredible staying power and a dedication to the growth and development of human beings through movement arts. Over the course of its history it has demonstrated vigor, vision, and integrity. VDC is a school, a training program, a creative forum, an arts center, a center for the exchange of ideas, and a community home. VDC opens it's doors to anyone interested in exploring or witnessing dance, and practices with passion and integrity the act of non-discrimination. VDC brings a diverse roster of fascinating artists to the city, and works to support Seattle artists in touring nationally and performing locally.

I have personally been engaged in the organization over many years as an artist/choreographer, as an audience member, and as a former trustee.

Thank you for supporting Velocity Dance Center and the development of its new home.

All the best,

Mary Sheldon Scott (Molly)  
Artistic Director/Choreographer/Visual Artist  
Scott/Powell Performance  
[www.scottpowell.org](http://www.scottpowell.org)  
[www.marysheldonscott.com](http://www.marysheldonscott.com)