



Creative Districts Invest in Economic Resiliency Across the State



Creative Districts support economic recovery across the state

The award-winning Creative Districts program helps cities designate hubs for creative sector jobs, tourist and cultural activities, housing, and more.

There are eight certified Creative Districts in Washington: **Chewelah, Edmonds, Issaquah, Langley, Olympia, Port Townsend, Tenino and Twisp.**

Despite COVID-19, there is strong, continued interest in our program from all corners of the state. Several communities are moving forward with their District planning. They recognize the value of Creative Districts to catalyze economic growth and help build local resiliency.

Funding is important to the success of Washington's Creative Districts. As new districts are certified, we will need to support them with investment in the communities they serve. This investment will allow Creative Districts to contribute to and guide communities as they recover from the coronavirus pandemic and economic recession.

Funds will go toward direct technical assistance, initial program grants, ongoing capacity-building and leadership training, and more.

Operating Budget Biennial

Request: \$197,600*

*Included in the Governor's Operating Budget

"A creative culture has a visible impact on communities through pride-of-place and community action, as well as an increased appreciation for diverse voices and faces. All of this creative energy leads to thriving communities that encourage new businesses to open, visitors to explore, and young people to stay. This is why the creative economy is pivotal to the ongoing success of rural communities throughout Washington"

Larah Ritchie, Vice President Chewelah Creative District

Washington Creative District Communities, November 2020

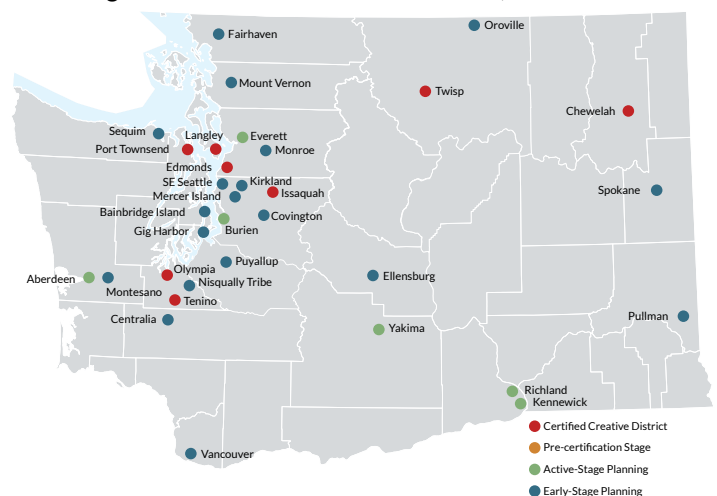


Photo above: visitors window shop in front of The Leader Gallery in Port Townsend, one of Washington State's eight Creative Districts. Photo courtesy The Leader Gallery.

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