



STURGEON BAY
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Door County Granary to Receive Rehabilitation Funds

The Sturgeon Bay Historical Society Foundation is pleased to report that its Door County Granary project is earmarked to receive \$3.3 million in funds from the recently passed federal spending bill. “Our team has been working with Senator Tammy Baldwin’s office since April on this package, and we were thrilled to receive news that we remained in the budget. The Door County Granary is one of the last, if not the last, wooden grain elevator on the Great Lakes and, therefore, has national significance. It will also bring economic benefits to the City of Sturgeon Bay as a community center and agricultural museum,” said Laurel Hauser, president of SBHSF.



*Door County Granary design rendering.
Image by LA DALLMAN Architects.*

In addition to a museum, a renovated Granary will include access to the upper-level grain bins and the 75-foot-tall head house, as well as provide a community gathering space with a catering kitchen, a terrace with views of the water, tugboats and bridges, and public restrooms on the west-waterfront. The overall cost of the project is approximately \$6.3 million.

“We are extremely grateful to the many donors who have contributed to the success of this project,” said Hauser. “We are also grateful to the volunteers who have worked tirelessly on the effort for the past five to seven years, and to the Sturgeon Bay city council for its support. We are excited to be part of a revitalized downtown waterfront for all to enjoy. With this funding, we join other worthy organizations like

the Door County Maritime Museum which was awarded \$1.75 million in public funds earlier this year.”

Door County Granary Project Manager Nicole Matson said that the federal grant will allow SBHSF to complete phase one of its project, to open for business, and to fulfill its development agreement with the City of Sturgeon Bay. “We will be moving full-steam ahead to open as soon as possible. We do expect fundraising to continue in phase two, which provides the upper-level access.”

Located on the waterfront since 1901, the Teweles and Brandeis Granary, as it was once known, was in use, either as a grain elevator or as part of the Door County Co-op feed mill until the early 1990s. It was slated for reuse as part of a 2013 waterfront redevelopment plan. In 2017 when a hotel was planned for the site, the City’s common council at the time voted to have the building dismantled. The Granary was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 2018. To save the structure, the Historical Society moved it twice before raising enough funds through private donations to relocate it back to its original home where it stood for nearly 120 years.

“The silhouette of a grain elevator, like that of a lighthouse, is unmistakable and iconic,” said Matson. Being able to tell a story that otherwise would have been lost to history makes the hard work well worth it.”

More information on the Door County Granary can be found at www.doorcountygranary.org.

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