Organization
Washington State Arts Commission

Project Title
Washington Certified Creative Districts Data Collection and Tracking Dashboard

Organizational Background
ArtsWA is Washington State’s arts agency. It was established by the legislature in 1961. Our mission is to nurture and support the role of the arts in the lives of all Washingtonians. We collaborate with and support artists, arts organizations and communities statewide to conserve, promote, and develop artistic resources. We promote and document the public value of the arts. We are dedicated to accountability and accessibility for all Washingtonians. We have four main programs:

• Public Art. We manage and protect the State Art Collection, a shared cultural resource.
• Grants. We provide grant opportunities to expand art participation statewide.
• Creative Districts. We support communities that connect arts and culture to economic development.
• Arts in Education. We support high quality, standards-based arts education as a part of K-12 basic education.

ArtsWA also hosts the annual Governor’s Arts and heritage Awards. We support the Washington State Poet Laureate, support the Creative Forces program, and collaborate with Humanities Washington to support the Center for Washington Cultural Traditions.

The Certified Creative Districts Program helps communities in Washington grow their local economies through arts and culture. Creative Districts are geographically defined areas where a concentration of artistic, cultural, and economic activity takes place. They can include cultural facilities, artists, creative industries and other businesses, such as retail and restaurants. ArtsWA provides a five-year state-certification to communities based on specific criteria. It is an endorsement of the activities that may already exist in a community, and a recognition of growth potential for the future.

Project Description
In order for Creative Districts to track their progress, they need a simple to use, uniform mechanism that will help them gather, sort and input data points. We need a customized dashboard created so that
these districts can get the data they need quickly, input it into an easy-to-use mechanism, and show projected change/growth over time, for the individual districts, as well as all of the districts in aggregate.

Travel Required?
No

Deliverables
We would like to have a customized dashboard or data-tracking tool created (ideally in Excel) that communities can use to:

• Input data for determined criteria
• Track data over the long term
• Compare and contrast data with other Creative Districts
• Be used by additional Creative Districts in the future as a data tracking tool

Ideally, this dashboard would be designed is such a way that some of the more difficult-to-find data points (such as taxable retail sales at the local level) can be imported easily from outside sources.

Key Tasks for Consultants
Research into types of data that are readily accessible by various communities (and from where); research into most appropriate design of dashboard; design of dashboard.