



Public Works for a Better Government

May 3, 2018

Public.Resource.Org Receives 3-Year Grant From Arcadia

Public.Resource.Org (“Public Resource”) is pleased to announce that it has received a grant of US\$1.5 million from Arcadia, a charitable fund of Lisbet Rausing and Peter Baldwin, in support of our work in India and continued support for our work on edicts of government around the world.

Public Resource is non-profit corporation founded in 2007 that seeks to make governmental and public resources available to the public throughout the world, such as public safety codes enacted into law. Since its creation, Public Resource has been responsible for making numerous government databases available, including 14,000 hours of video of Congressional Hearings, 8 million non-profit tax returns from the Internal Revenue Service, and the historical opinions of the U.S. Court of Appeals.

Arcadia began supporting Public Resource with yearly grants of \$100,000 in 2014. These grants were instrumental in establishing open access to key public safety codes on 3 continents. With this new grant, support is being provided at \$500,000 per year for 2018-2020, enabling Public Resource to continue and expand our work.

Through Arcadia (www.arcadiafund.org.uk), Lisbet Rausing and Peter Baldwin support charities and scholarly institutions that preserve cultural heritage and the environment and promote open access. Since 2002, Arcadia has awarded more than US\$500 million to projects around the world.

For the period 2018-2020, Public Resource has two aims. We are continuing to fight for public access to legally mandated public safety codes. Cases are now awaiting decisions in the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 11th Circuit and the DC Circuit as well as before the High Court of Delhi in New Delhi.

Our main focus during this period will be our work in India, where we maintain 4 very popular collections of materials that were previously unavailable to the public. We began with technical knowledge: 19,000 key public safety standards mandated by the Bureau of Indian Standards. Since then, Public Resource has added 400,000 books in a Public Library of India, has been collecting all the Official Gazettes for the country and the 29 states, and maintains a carefully-curated collection of high-quality scans of books relating to Indian independence and books published by the Government of India in the Hind Swaraj collection. Our work is also investigating steps to make scientific knowledge and traditional knowledge much more broadly available to the people of India, particularly students.

“I am thrilled that Arcadia has shown such faith in our work,” said Carl Malamud, President of Public Resource. “Arcadia’s commitment to promoting open access throughout the world is inspirational. We quite simply could not do the work we are doing without their support.”