Treasury Proposal: Infrastructure Funding for Polkadot Asset Hub #4 - Maintenance & Continuation of Public good Polkadot NFT marketplace

Proponent: Damsky, Chaotic CGO [15VmrRmgPhKMfBanjS5ei4dCcVL54GMLCfnVRryynSYzvyys]

Date: 14.10.2025

Requested Amount: $180,000 in $USDC

Short description: Critical maintenance funding for Polkadot's **open source** NFT marketplace serving 90,000+ NFTs and 1.14M monthly requests, ensuring zero disruption as Hub launches November 4th while maintaining indexers, APIs, and platform infrastructure the ecosystem depends on.

Project Category/Type: Infrastructure Open source

Previous treasury proposals:

- https://kusama.polkassembly.io/treasury/68
- https://kusama.polkassembly.io/treasury/107
- https://kusama.polkassembly.io/referenda/220
- https://polkadot.polkassembly.io/referenda/93
- https://polkadot.polkassembly.io/referenda/377
- https://polkadot.polkassembly.io/referenda/737
- https://polkadot.polkassembly.io/referenda/1262

Key links:

- https://beta.chaotic.art
- https://github.com/chaotic-art/app

---

1. Background
1.1. Context of the proposal
1.2. Problem statement
1.3. Introducing the Chaotic Team

Core Team
Development Team
Ambassadors
Artists
1.4. What we do differently
2. Proposal Details
2.1. Objectives
2.2. Solution
2.2.1 Critical Indexer Infrastructure
2.3. Milestones
Milestone 1: Infrastructure Maintenance
Milestone 2: New Features Development
Milestone 3: Platform Maintenance & Artist Support
2.4. Timelines
2.5. Budget Breakdown
3. How do Polkadot stakeholders benefit?
4. Why This Matters Now
5. Proposal Report
5.1. Quantitative Metrics:
5.2. Qualitative Metrics:
5.3. Communication:
5.4. Success Indicators:
6. Payment Conditions
6.1. Requests
6.2. Submissions
6.3. Accounts
6.4. Communications

1. Background



Chaotic is the open source NFT marketplace for Polkadot. We're the team that built and ran **KodaDot** for 5 years. When KodaDot's founder decided to conclude operations, we took ownership to ensure thousands of users, artists, and projects wouldn't lose their NFT home.

This proposal continues from KodaDot's one-year treasury proposal (#1262) which concludes in October 2025. After successfully delivering on that proposal, the founder chose to pursue other ventures. We've been building NFT infrastructure in Polkadot for **5 years** - we can't let it die now.

Why we're critical for Hub's success:

With Hub launching November 4th, we're positioned exactly where Polkadot is focusing - building products that use DOT directly. We're the only public good NFT marketplace on Asset Hub. Without us, Hub launches empty.

What we actually do:



Beyond the visible marketplace, we maintain the entire NFT data layer for Polkadot:

- **Indexers**: Track who owns what across multiple chains
- **APIs**: Free access for projects like Nova Wallet and Dotmemo
- **Infrastructure**: 1.14 million monthly requests, 0% error rate, 143ms response time
- **Storage**: 90,000+ NFTs served via our IPFS gateway (300k weekly requests)

What this proposal is about:

Maintenance funding to keep the lights on. Without it, Polkadot loses not just a marketplace, but 5 years of NFT infrastructure that projects depend on. This ensures zero disruption during the KodaDot → Chaotic transition and keeps critical services running for the ecosystem.

1.1. Context of the proposal

The timing is critical: KodaDot's treasury proposal (#1262, report) expires October 2025, giving us mere weeks to ensure continuity. This isn't a new ask - it's continuing essential services the ecosystem has funded for years, now under team ownership rather than single-founder control.

Chaotic represents not a new project, but the evolution and continuation of KodaDot's proven infrastructure under team ownership.

The sudden loss of this infrastructure would significantly impact the Polkadot NFT ecosystem.

1.2. Problem statement

Without continued maintenance funding:

1. **Service Disruption**: Hub launches November 4th without any NFT marketplace - a critical missing piece
2. **Infrastructure Collapse**: 1.14 million monthly requests fail, Nova Wallet and other projects lose NFT data access and have to spin up their own indexers
3. **Data Loss**: 90,000+ NFTs become inaccessible, 5 years of indexed blockchain data disappears
4. **Ecosystem Damage**: No alternative exists - rebuilding would cost way more, with likely untrusted team coming to the ecosystem.

1.3. Introducing the Chaotic Team



Core Team

- **Luuu** - Founder, CEO
    - Digital artist and Web3 innovator with deep understanding of creator ecosystems.
    - Curator of Polkadot NFT galleries and active contributor to the Polkadot ecosystem.
    - Leads artist onboarding, education, and community building across the network.
    - https://github.com/JustLuuuu

- **Damsky** - Growth Lead
    - 5 years in Polkadot ecosystem, Web3 & community growth
    - Led initiatives for major Ethereum & Polkadot projects
    - Focuses on ecosystem partnerships, growth and social media strategy

- **Viki Val** - Backend infrastructure maintenance
    - Full-stack developer with extensive Polkadot expertise
    - Early NFT infrastructure developer on Kusama
    - Leads technical architecture and development

    - https://github.com/vikiival

- **Exez** - Design Lead
    - UI/UX design
    - User experience optimization
    - Interface architecture

Development Team

- **Preschian** - Full-stack/DevOps
    - Backend services and infrastructure
    - System durability and performance
    - Service reliability and optimization
    - https://github.com/preschian

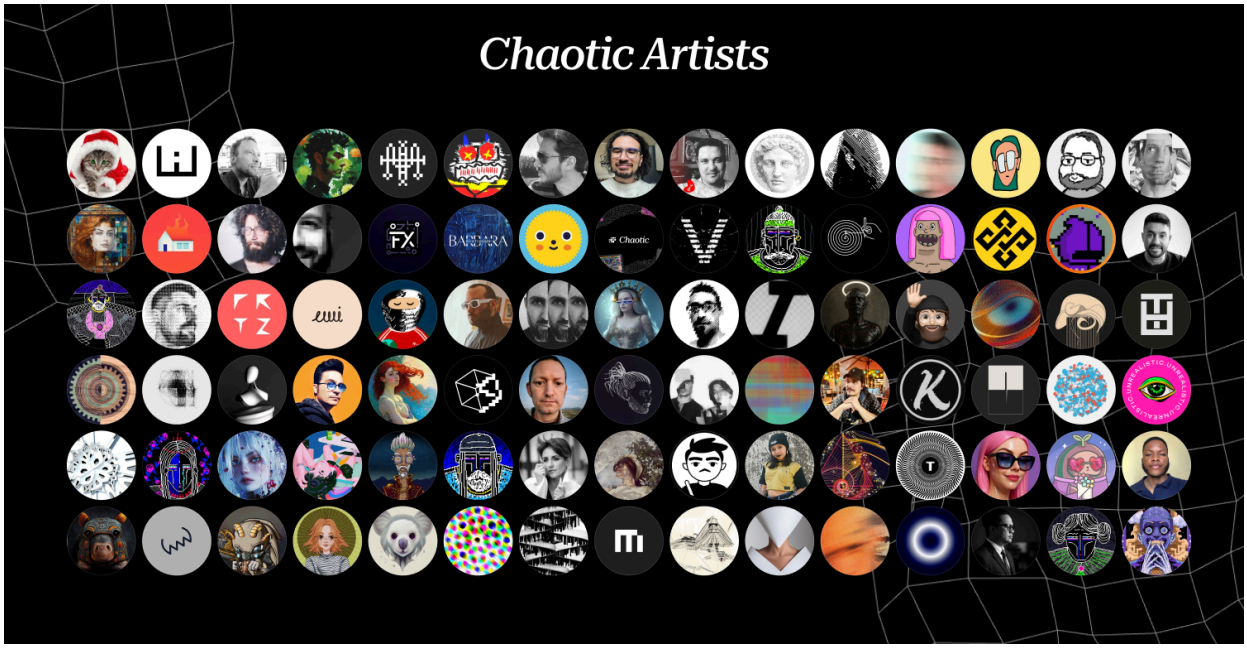
- **Jarsen** - Full-stack
    - Frontend development
    - Feature implementation
    - User interface optimization
    - https://github.com/Jarsen136

- **Hassnian** - Frontend
    - Cross-functional development
    - Services and indexing
    - Technical integration
    - https://github.com/hassnian

Ambassadors

- **Arkain**
    - Generative art & creative coding (JavaScript, p5.js)
    - Code troubleshooting & Code Checker expertise
    - Onboarding and supporting new artists
- **Dan**
    - Digital Artist with 4 years experience in NFTs
    - Onboarding and Supporting new Artists
    - Education/awareness of Polkadot NFTs in Africa through events

Artists



1.4. What we do differently

The Web3 Foundation and Parity are now laser-focused on products that create DOT demand and prove the ecosystem works. That's exactly what Chaotic is: a working product on Asset Hub that drives real DOT usage.

From KodaDot to Chaotic - here's what changes:

1. **Speed first:** We rebuilt everything from scratch. The platform is 5x faster. No more waiting for pages to load.
2. **Actually sell NFTs:** We have a 90%+ sellout rate for collections. We don't just list NFTs - we help artists succeed.
3. **Focus on what works:** We're only building on Asset Hub (where the action is) instead of spreading thin across every parachain.
4. **Community ownership:** The team owns this now, not a single founder. We're here for the long term.
5. **Public good commitment:** We only survive through treasury funding, which means we work for the ecosystem, not for profit.
6. **PolkaVM ready:** When Polkadot gets smart contracts (coming soon), we're already prepared. This means Ethereum-style NFTs will work here.

2. Proposal Details

2.1. Objectives

1. Ensure zero-downtime transition from KodaDot to Chaotic operations

2. Maintain critical indexing infrastructure serving the entire ecosystem
3. Preserve API services that multiple projects depend on
4. Provide platform stability and security updates
5. Support existing users during the transition

2.2. Solution

Our maintenance proposal focuses on three essential areas:

2.2.1 Critical Indexer Infrastructure

The backbone of Polkadot's NFT data layer

- SubSquid Indexers: Multiple indexers processing 285k+ weekly requests across chains
- Multi-chain Coverage: AssetHub, Kusama, and related chains
- Performance: Sub-second queries, 143ms average response time
- Reliability: Maintain 0% error rate and 99.9% uptime
- Cost: ~$5,000/month hosting that we cannot sustain without funding

2.2.2 Core Infrastructure & APIs

- Uniquery API: TypeScript SDK for developers (used by Nova Wallet, Dotmemo)
- IPFS Gateway: 300k weekly requests serving 90,000+ NFTs
- Caching Layer: 54% cache hit rate, handling 1.14M monthly requests
- Pricing Feeds: Real-time DOT/KSM price data for ecosystem projects

2.2.3 Platform Maintenance & Artist Support

- Maintenance: Bug fixes (48hr critical), runtime updates (72hr), security patches
- User Support: KodaDot → Chaotic migration, documentation, community help
- Artist Fund: $2,000/month to onboard 30+ artists ($12k total)
- New Features: Mass Mint V2, Traits/Rarity systems, Advanced Filtering
- PolkaVM Ready: Preparing for smart contract support

2.3. Milestones



Milestone 1: Infrastructure Maintenance

Component	Deliverable
SubSquid Indexers	• Maintain indexers (AssetHub, Kusama) processing 285k+ weekly requests • Used by Nova Wallet, Dotmemo and other ecosystem teams
API Operations	• Keep Uniquery TypeScript SDK operational • Maintain pricing APIs • Handle 1.14M total monthly requests
IPFS/CDN	• Maintain gateway serving 90,000+ NFT metadata files • Process 300k weekly IPFS requests • 143ms average response time
Platform Migration	• Complete KodaDot → Chaotic migration • Migrate all user data and collections • Zero downtime during transition
Infrastructure & Operations	• SubSquid indexers: 285k+ weekly requests, $600/month ($3,600 total) • Vercel hosting: Platform deployment, $500/month ($3,000 total) • Stellate caching: API layer, 1.14M monthly requests, $250/month ($1,500 total) • Cloudflare CDN: DDoS protection, $150/month ($900 total) • IPFS server: 90,000+ NFTs, 300k weekly requests, $50/month ($300 total)

Milestone 2: New Features Development

Note: All features listed below are entirely new developments not included in KodaDot's previous open source repository. Additionally, any existing KodaDot features will be migrated to Chaotic at no extra cost as part of our commitment to ecosystem continuity & treasury.

Feature	Deliverable
Mass Mint V2	• Complete UX redesign for bulk operations • Support 1000+ NFTs per batch • New collection management interface • Bulk mint, burn, airdrop, buy, list

Traits System	• Creator-defined attributes during minting • Bulk trait assignment tools • Trait statistics and distribution
Rarity System	• Creator sets rarity tiers during minting • Automatic rarity display on NFTs • Rarity-based sorting and filtering
Advanced Filtering	• Multi-attribute search by traits, properties, description keywords • Price range filters (min/max, last sale) • Collection analytics dashboard • Smart sorting options

Milestone 3: Platform Maintenance & Artist Support

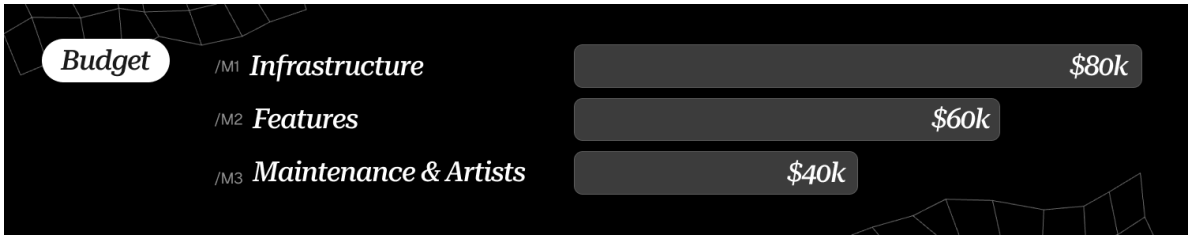
Component	Deliverable
Ongoing Maintenance	• Daily platform monitoring and uptime management • Bug fixes within 48 hours for critical, 1 week for minor • Frontend updates and UI improvements • Database optimization and performance tuning • Regular dependency updates
Runtime Compatibility	• Polkadot runtime upgrades within 72 hours • Asset Hub integration updates • Kusama compatibility maintenance • Breaking change migrations • Version compatibility testing
User Support	• Direct user support via Telegram • KodaDot → Chaotic migration assistance • Bug report triage and response • Feature request documentation • FAQ and help documentation
PolkaVM Preparation	• Review and update Chaotic's backend architecture to support PolkaVM's RISC-V based execution for smart contracts, focusing on native integration with Polkadot and Kusama Asset Hubs • Integration research of PolkaVM and compatibility with current infrastructure stack • Optimize for PolkaVM's performance benchmarks (e.g., faster execution than

	legacy VMs), including Ethereum compatibility via EVM stack for seamless Solidity contract deployment
Artist Fund	• $2,000/month deployed ($12k total) • 30+ new artists onboarded • Collection launch support • Technical assistance • 90%+ sellout rate maintained

2.4. Timelines

Milestone	Hours per Dev	Team Size	Duration	Status	Budget (USD)
1. Infrastructure Maintenance	400 hrs	5 devs	6 months	Ongoing	$80,000
2. Feature Development	300 hrs	5 devs	6 months	Ongoing	$60,000
3. Platform Maintenance & Artist Support	200 hrs	5 devs	6 months	Ongoing	$40,000
TOTAL			**6 months**		**$180,000**

2.5. Budget Breakdown



Tasks	Hourly Rate	Total Hours	Costs
Milestone 1: Infrastructure Maintenance	$40	2000 hrs	$80,000
Milestone 2: New Features Development	$40	1500 hrs	$60,000

Milestone 3: Platform Maintenance & Artists	$40	1000 hrs	$40,000
TOTAL COSTS		**4500 hrs**	**$180,000**

Note: This represents minimum viable funding. Additional features and expanded artist support would require supplementary proposals.

3. How do Polkadot stakeholders benefit?

- **Ecosystem Continuity**: No disruption to NFT operations on Asset Hub
- **Data Availability**: Continued access to indexed NFT data across chains
- **Developer Support**: Uninterrupted API access for dependent projects
- **Cost Efficiency**: Maintaining existing infrastructure vs. rebuilding ($500k+)
- **User Confidence**: Smooth transition preserves ecosystem trust

4. Why This Matters Now

The Hub launches November 4th. Polkadot is consolidating activity on Asset Hub as the center of the ecosystem. An empty Hub would signal failure. We're ready with:

- 90,000+ NFTs already live
- Active user base ready to migrate
- Infrastructure other projects depend on
- Proven team with 5 years experience

The KodaDot maintenance proposal concludes October 2025. Without immediate continuation:

- Indexers shut down within weeks (no funding for hosting)
- APIs go offline
- Years of NFT data becomes inaccessible
- Ecosystem loses its only NFT marketplace

This is about ecosystem credibility. Gavin Wood's new product focus requires working products on Hub from day one. We're not asking for R&D funding - we're a working product that needs maintenance to survive.

5. Proposal Report

5.1. Quantitative Metrics:

Metric Category	Target	Measurement Method
Indexer Performance	• 99%+ uptime for all indexers • <500ms query response time • 285k+ weekly requests processed	Automated monitoring with Grafana dashboards
Platform Stability	• Zero critical outages • <48hr bug resolution time • 99.9% API availability	Uptime monitoring, incident tracking system
Infrastructure Efficiency	• <10% month-over-month cost increase • Data integrity 100% • IPFS gateway 6.1 GB/s throughput	Cost analysis reports, performance benchmarks
User Impact	• Zero service disruptions • Maintained support for 90k+ NFTs • 1M+ monthly API calls served • Volume, amount of NFTs hosted, number of collections	Usage analytics, user feedback tracking

5.2. Qualitative Metrics:

Metric Category	Evaluation Method
Maintenance Quality	Monthly review of resolved issues and system improvements
Ecosystem Impact	Feedback from projects using our infrastructure and APIs
Migration Success	User satisfaction surveys during KodaDot → Chaotic transition
Documentation	Clarity and completeness of maintenance logs and guides

5.3. Communication:

Every two months, upon completing each milestone, we will:

- Submit a maintenance report detailing:
    - Indexer performance metrics and uptime statistics
    - Infrastructure costs and optimization efforts
    - Resolved issues and system improvements
    - API usage statistics and reliability metrics
- Update our public GitHub repository with maintenance logs
- Share progress reports with the Polkadot community via forums
- Host community calls for direct feedback and questions

5.4. Success Indicators:

Milestone	Key Success Metrics
1. Indexer Infrastructure	• All indexers operational • Zero data loss incidents • Performance benchmarks met
2. Platform Maintenance	• API uptime >99.9% • Security vulnerabilities patched • Bug backlog cleared
3. Ongoing Support	• Smooth user experience • Community satisfaction • Cost optimizations achieved

As a public good for Polkadot, all our maintenance work remains transparent and open source, allowing the community to verify our progress and ensuring accountability in delivering value to the ecosystem.

6. Payment Conditions

6.1. Requests

The total requested amount for the completion of milestones 1-3 is **$180,000**. This critical maintenance funding will ensure:

- Seamless transition from KodaDot to Chaotic operations
- Uninterrupted service for 90,000+ NFTs and their owners
- Continued operation of indexers processing 800,000+ weekly requests
- Preservation of essential NFT infrastructure for the Polkadot ecosystem

This funding will ensure Chaotic continues to serve as a public good for the Polkadot ecosystem, maintaining critical NFT infrastructure during this transition period.

6.2. Submissions

Upon completion of each milestone, we will submit:

- Detailed maintenance reports with performance metrics
- Infrastructure cost breakdowns and optimizations
- Links to open-source code updates
- Community feedback integration documentation

6.3. Accounts

The Polkadot account address of the proposer is:

15VmrRmgPhKMfBanjS5ei4dCcVL54GMLCfnVRryynSYzvyys

This account has verified on-chain identity.

6.4. Communications

The project manager can be contacted at:

cryptodamsky@gmail.com

The proposer is also available on Telegram under the handle:

https://t.me/damskyftw