

What is the Pearl District Neighborhood Association?

Together, Building Community for All



We are renters, homeowners, workers, students and business owners who collectively volunteer to make the Pearl District a unique and attractive place to live, work and play. Together, we are creating and building a spirit of community and a shared sense of ownership and well-being for all.

We come together from all walks of life and diverse backgrounds to share our common dreams and concerns. We operate at a grassroots level to advocate for the Pearl District community by working with the City of Portland, neighboring communities and many others for the benefit of all.

Our Impact

- Started from a railroad yard with no housing to a vibrant mixed use community with some 7000 residents.
- Advocated for low income and family size apartments with approximately 30% of its population residing in affordable housing.
- Operates a *Foot Patrol* program with 50 volunteers to help ensure safety in public areas, report graffiti and criminal behavior, remove litter from public areas, and to serve as ambassadors to the neighborhood.
- Initiated the volunteer-led *Graffiti Busters* program with donated supplies and support from the City of Portland's *Graffiti Abatement Program*. Recently collaborated with four other neighborhoods to clean up graffiti in downtown.
- Raised over \$200,000 to purchase and install 150 City approved tamper proof trash cans that were donated to the City with the City taking responsibility for collection and maintenance which had previously been an unsustainable volunteer activity.
- Runs a *Clean Team* program with 60 volunteers picking up litter weekly in seven established zones.
- Operates a *Cigarette Butt Remediation Program*, permitted by PBOT, that collects and recycles cigarette butts.
- Established and maintains pet waste stations and supplies which are funded by sponsorships.
- Our *Emergency Preparation Committee* has helped to establish disaster protocols in some 35 buildings.
- During Covid, funded the purchase of 5000 masks that were distributed to affordable housing residents.
- To help support 80 *Pearl District* eateries during Covid, established the *Bringing Back Business Program* that funded the purchase of gift certificates which are awarded to all Portland residents in a free drawing.
- In collaboration with its neighboring *Old Town Community Association*, led a yearlong *Homeless Task Force* with multiple participants from the Mayors' office, JOHS, social service agencies, people with lived experience and numerous other stakeholders leading to 55 recommendations to remediate our homeless crisis. The work of a subsequent *Implementation Committee* was halted by Covid.
- Successfully advocated for and supported the establishment of the *Harbor of Hope Navigation Center*.
- Established an *Ambassadorship Program* to enhance greater engagement with all individuals and groups.
- Held a *Livability Summit* with City and County leaders with the theme of *Communities and Government Working Together* attended by over 500 community members.
- Working in relationship with the Pearl District Business Association to support its endeavors to remain in business by offering Clean Up Services and "walk bys" for welfare checks.
- Works closely with PBOT to help address traffic, bicycle and pedestrian safety.
- Meets with developers to ensure that the growth in the Pearl District is done in the best manner possible and with as little disturbance as possible as it relates to noise and traffic closures.