

# Reimagining the Civic Commons



## **Civic Commons Learning Journey: Portland and Seattle**

August 18-21, 2019



# Welcome

# Welcome to Civic Commons Learning Journey: Portland and Seattle

One of the best ways to learn is to see things in person and talk with the instigators who are bringing about change in their own communities. This Civic Commons learning journey offers exactly that.

We are so pleased to have you participate in this exploration of Portland and Seattle.

Thanks to many local hosts, over the next few days you'll have the opportunity to experience public places and neighborhoods that bring civic engagement and socioeconomic mixing to life. You will explore each city by foot, bike and bus, and have frank conversations with local leaders on the work they are pursuing, what works and what doesn't.

Leaders and community residents from many sectors including local government, design, urban planning and environmental sustainability will offer the context, successes and challenges they have faced in building and sustaining public places that foster communities where everyone has a stake and everyone belongs.

Along with active touring, we will also take time to reflect on and share how our experiences may influence our work at home.

And throughout you'll have a chance to appreciate local cuisine and reconnect with colleagues from other demonstration cities.

Come with a curious mind, ready for candid conversations. And leave inspired with new insights for your own work.

We look forward to learning together.



**Bridget Marquis**  
Director  
Civic Commons Learning Network



**Sarah Iannarone**  
Urban Policy & Best  
Practices Consulting



# Itinerary

## Sunday, August 18

Time	Activity	Location
11:45 AM	Meet in lobby of The Hotel Zags Portland	515 SW Clay St
12 - 1 PM	Lunch at Nel Centro The Portland Story: History & Context with Sarah Iannarone	1408 SW 6th Ave
1 - 1:30 PM	Bike fitting & rules of the road	
1:45 - 5:45 PM	Bike tour	
	Better Naito with Ryan Hashagen	1000 SW Naito Pkwy
	Human Access Project with Willie Levenson & Nathan Howard	Audrey McCall Beach
	Vera Katz Eastbank Esplanade with Roger Celler	SE Water Ave & SE Hawthorne Blvd
	Right 2 Dream Too with Keith Jones & Ibrahim Mubarak	999 N Thunderbird Way
	Dawson Park with Walter Robinson III	2926 N Williams Ave
	Rebuilding Center of Our United Villages & Mississippi Avenue redevelopment with Jackie Kirouac-Fram	3625 N Mississippi Ave
	June Key Delta Community Center with Quisha Light	5940 N Albina Ave
6 - 7:30 PM	Dinner at Oregon Public House	700 NE Dekum St
7:30 PM	Return to The Hotel Zags Portland	515 SW Clay St



## Monday, August 19

Time	Activity	Location
7:50 AM	Meet in lobby of The Hotel Zags Portland	515 SW Clay St
8:15 - 9:15 AM	Breakfast at Prosper Portland Public Policy & Civic Life in Portland with Joe Cortright	222 NW 5th Ave
9:30 - 10:30 AM	Building a Healthy Commons: Capital Investments & Beyond with Justin Douglas, Jennifer Yocom & Linda Robinson	222 NW 5th Ave
10:30 - 11:45 AM	Walking & Streetcar Tour: The Pearl District & Parks Sequence with Sarah Iannarone & Dan Bower	NW Everett St & NW 9th Ave
12 - 1 PM	Lunch at Ecotrust	721 NW 9th Ave
1:30 - 3:30 PM	Walking & Transit Tour: Exploring Spatial Inequality with Sarah Iannarone	SE Division Street
3:30 - 5 PM	Jade District: Building Trust Across Institutions & Ensuring Equity for All with Leslie Lum, Nick Sauvie, Thuy Tu & Tim Smith	8118 SE Division St
5:30 - 7 PM	Dinner at Wong's King	8733 SE Division St
7 PM	Return to The Hotel Zags Portland	515 SW Clay St

# Itinerary

## Tuesday, August 20

Time	Activity	Location
7:20 AM	Meet in lobby of The Hotel Zags Portland	515 SW Clay St
7:30 - 8:15 AM	Lawrence Halprin's Portland Open Space Sequence & Halprin Landscape Conservancy with Sarah Iannarone	SW 3rd Ave & SW Clay St
9 - 9:40 AM	Transit & Walking Tour: Accessible, Everyday Urbanism in Lents Town Center with Nick Christensen, Alan Taylor, Chad Rennaker, Holden Leung & Brian Lau	
10:30 - 10:50 AM	Arleta Triangle Project with Meghan Humphreys, Greg Raisman & Mark Lakeman	Woodstock Blvd & SE 72nd St
11 AM - 1:20 PM	Lunch at The Portland Mercado Bringing it Home: Discussion Session	7238 SE Foster Rd
1:30 PM	Return to The Hotel Zags Portland	515 SW Clay St
2:20 PM	Transport to Portland Union Station	800 NW 6th Ave
3 PM	Board Amtrak Cascades #518 to Seattle at Portland Union Station	800 NW 6th Ave
6:15 PM	Check in to Motif Seattle	1415 5th Ave
7 PM	"Dancing til Dusk" and Picnic at Westlake Park	401 Pine St

# Wednesday, August 21

Time	Activity	Location
7:20 AM	Meet in lobby of Motif Seattle	1415 5th Ave
8 - 8:30 AM	Breakfast at Yesler Community Center with Seattle Parks Executive Leadership Team	917 Yesler Way
8:30 - 9:30 AM	Creation of the Seattle Metropolitan Park District with Ken Bounds, Thatcher Bailey & Christopher Williams	917 Yesler Way
9:35 - 10 AM	Yesler Terrace Park with Michael Shiosaki	903 Yesler Way
10:15 - 10:30 AM	Danny Woo Community Garden	620 S Main St
10:45 - 11 AM	Hing Hay Park	423 Maynard Ave S
11:15 - 11:30 AM	City Hall Park with Victoria Schoenberg & Lisa Nelson	450 3rd Ave
11:30 AM	Pike Place Market	85 Pike St
12 PM	Victor Steinbrueck Park with Victoria Schoenberg	2001 Western Ave
12:30 - 1:45 PM	Lunch with Guest Speaker	1001 Alaskan Way
2:15 - 3:30 PM	Presentation & Walking Tour: Waterfront Seattle Initiative with Heidi Hughes	1400 Western Ave
3:30 PM	Depart for airport or train station	



# Important Information

## What to Wear

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The attire for the trip is business casual, with an emphasis on casual. Summers in Portland and Seattle are lovely with an average highs in the 70's and 80's, and lows in the upper 50's. We'll be out and about throughout the trip, so feel free to wear nice shorts or jeans and definitely your favorite walking shoes. You may want a light jacket for evenings and an umbrella just in case we hit a shower.

## Contacts

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### **Bridget Marquis**

443-562-1699

bmarquis@u3advisors.com

### **Sarah Iannarone**

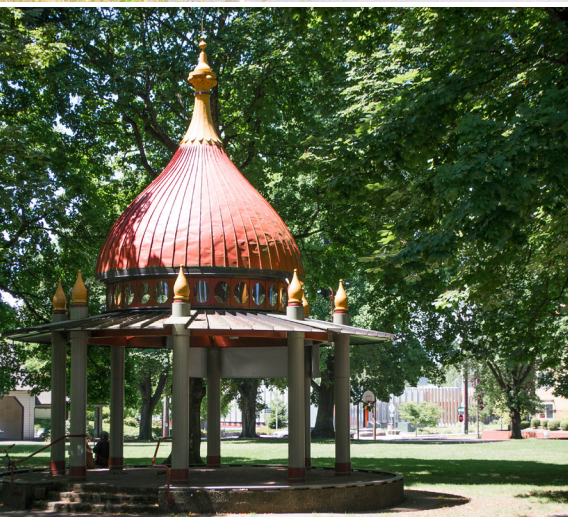
503-975-0240

ss.iannarone@gmail.com

## Social Media

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When you share insights and images on social media from our explorations, please tag **@CivicCommonsUS** and use hashtag **#CivicCommonsUS**.



# Our Local Hosts: Portland



## **Dan Bower** • Portland Streetcar

Dan Bower is the Executive Director of Portland Streetcar, Inc. (PSI) - a private non-profit organization that provides operating assistance to the City and TriMet for the Portland Streetcar. He is responsible for building community and political support to maintain operations funding and advance system expansion. Prior to joining PSI, Dan worked with the Portland Bureau of Transportation for twelve years, and most recently managed its Active Transportation Division, responsible for walking and biking projects and initiatives. The streetcar is "development-oriented transit" that has had remarkable impacts on equity in development, connecting underserved community members with premier urban landscapes and gathering spaces.



## **Kimberly Branam** • Prosper Portland

Kimberly Branam is Executive Director of Prosper Portland and responsible for the overall leadership and management of the city's economic development and urban renewal agency. In her previous position as Deputy Director, Ms. Branam oversaw the delivery of programs and initiatives within the Central City, Neighborhood and Business & Industry Divisions to further the agency's strategic objectives. Ms. Branam came to Prosper Portland after spending four years leading Mayor Sam Adams' economic development agenda, first as then-Commissioner Adams' Senior Policy Director for Economic Development & Workforce Development and then as Director of Economic Development in the Mayor's Office. In this latter role, Ms. Branam oversaw the development, adoption and implementation of the City's first economic development strategy in 15 years on the Mayor's behalf.





### **Nick Christensen • Lents Neighborhood; Metro**

Nick Christensen is a resident of the Lents neighborhood. He was on the board of the Lents Neighborhood Association from 2009-13, including a 3½ year stint as Chair. Nick was a journalist living in Hillsboro in 2009, and a recent transplant from Las Vegas, when he decided to buy a house. He found a bungalow in Lents with a front porch and a basement and a finished attic. He fell in love with it immediately – it had all the quirky charm that had been missing in his late-century ranch-house youth. In 2010, Nick started working in the Communications Department at Metro, where he supports the Metro Council on communications, particularly with the media.



### **Joe Cortright • City Observatory; Impresa**

Joe Cortright is President and principal economist of Impresa, a consulting firm specializing in regional economic analysis, innovation and industry clusters. Over the past two decades he has specialized in urban economies developing the City Vitals framework with CEOs for Cities, and developing the city dividends concept. Joe is also a thought leader and director of City Observatory, a website and think tank devoted to data-driven analysis of cities and the policies that shape them. Joe's work casts a light on the role of knowledge-based industries in shaping regional economies. Prior to starting Impresa, Joe served for 12 years as the Executive Officer of the Oregon Legislature's Trade and Economic Development Committee. When he's not crunching data on cities, you'll usually find him playing petanque, the French cousin of bocce.

# Our Local Hosts: Portland



## **Roger Celler** • City of Portland Bureau of Transportation

Roger has been Bicycle Coordinator for the City of Portland since 2000 and has been with the city's Bicycle Program since 1994. Roger has 24 years' experience managing bicycle capital, planning and policy projects. He possesses in-depth knowledge of design, policy, planning and maintenance relating to bicycle transportation and has contributed to the implementation of hundreds of miles of bikeways, numerous innovations to Portland's streets and to the successful evaluation of their effect. He is the principal author of Portland's Protected Bicycle Lane Planning and Design Guide and he continues advising a multi-city effort to refine a national urban bicycling design guide.

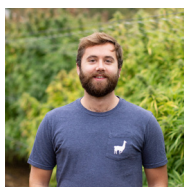
## **Stephen Green** • Oregon Public House

A recovering banker and venture capitalist, Stephen was born to live in Portland, coming into this world an hour after the Portland Trailblazers won their first and only NBA championship. He has worked tirelessly to support, connect and grow under-represented founders on the west coast for almost two decades. Stephen spends his time helping area startups with access to capital. As well as serving on a number of boards, including the Oregon Growth Board, Black Investment Corporation for Economic Progress (BICEP), Built Oregon, Oregon Public House and the Governor's Small Business Advisory Cabinet. Stephen currently works as Director of Operations for Pensole Footwear Design Academy, the world's only footwear and apparel design school.



### **Ryan Hashagen • Better Block PDX**

Ryan Hashagen is a volunteer with Better Block PDX and a Professional Tricyclist based in Portland, OR. As a member of Better Block PDX team, Ryan enjoys working to connect, collaborate, and facilitate Tactical Urbanism projects with a wide range of organizations, businesses, and agencies. Professionally, Ryan has founded and run several tricycle-based businesses in Canada & the U.S. and specializes in using commerce to activate and reclaim public space. He won the Cargo Messenger World Championship in 2003 & 2004 in Seattle & Edmonton and loves working and playing in the street.



### **Nathan Howard • Human Access Project**

Nathan Howard is the co-founder and President of East Fork Cultivars, an OLCC-licensed CBD focused craft cannabis farm and a USDA Organic craft hemp farm. Therapeutic-focused craft cannabis and hemp and public service are Nathan's core passions. When he isn't running his small business, or involved in local political organizing, volunteering and policy work fill his time. Nathan was recently a Senior Policy Advisor to Portland Mayor Ted Wheeler. He was Ted's Deputy Campaign manager for Mayor and prior to that he served as the Interim Executive Director at The Bus Project. He's also served as the Oregon Senate Finance Director and was Chief of Staff to Senator Mark Hass.



# Our Local Hosts: Portland



## **Meghan Humphreys • Arleta Triangle Project**

Meghan Humphreys is a Board Member of the Mt Scott Arleta Neighborhood Association and the Neighborhood Coordinator for the Arleta Triangle Project, which she has led with her neighbors since 2005. She works as Development Manager at New Buildings Institute and has experience in corporate, foundation, and individual fundraising, business development, marketing, communications and public relations. Prior to joining NBI in 2018, Meghan was the Director of Workplace Activities at EarthShare Oregon for 14 years, where she managed charitable giving campaigns in workplaces to benefit more than 100 Oregon and national environmental nonprofits. She also serves on the steering committee of the Corporate Sustainability Collaborative in Portland.



## **Sarah Iannarone • Urban Policy & Best Practices Consultant**

A strategic thinker, urban policy expert, and compelling storyteller, Sarah Iannarone helps leaders from around the world and across sectors solve their most vexing challenges in urban sustainability and livability. Sarah has over ten years of experience curating field-based learning experiences for high-level delegations from across the globe seeking policies and best practices in regional smart growth, urban development, vibrant placemaking, and community building. In addition to hosting study tours for executive-level delegations visiting Portland, she designs study trips for Portland's leaders to cities worldwide. Sarah also presents regularly on urban policies and best practices to diverse audiences at home and abroad and has consulted with local governments and civic leaders in Canada, China, Korea, and Brazil. Sarah is faculty at the Wayfinding Academy, an innovative 2-year college rethinking higher education for social change.



**Keith Jones • Lloyd Community Association; Friends of the Green Loop**

Keith is active in the Portland community and urban planning scene as a board member of Lloyd Community Association, Northeast Coalition of Neighborhoods & Friends of the Green Loop, a volunteer with the Human Access Project, Portland Bridge Swim & Axiom Events, and a member of the Geological Society of Oregon Country. Keith is the Director of Community Design for Amplified, a Portland-based Environmental UX company. Keith's interest is in urban innovation, specifically around community-led initiatives that bring together businesses, non-profits, and the public. Keith believes in participating in your community with the intention of making it better than you found it.



**Jackie Kirouac-Fram • ReBuilding Center of Our United Villages**

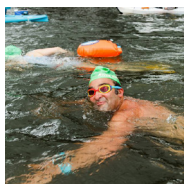
Jackie Kirouac-Fram has spent her career helping nonprofits thrive through stakeholder engagement, strategic collaboration, and continuous improvement toward equity and inclusion. Since March 2019, she has served as Executive Director at the ReBuilding Center, a nonprofit that supports community resilience in Portland by providing access to affordable home improvement materials and skills-building classes in repair and reuse, and diverts more than 1,800 tons of material from landfills each year. Prior to this position, she was Vice President at FOCUS St. Louis, a nonprofit civic leadership education organization, where she directed program development, fundraising, marketing, and member and alumni relations. Jackie has a Ph.D. in American Studies from Saint Louis University, where she published at the intersection of urban policy and racial equity. She believes in the power of communities to drive policy change toward social justice.

# Our Local Hosts: Portland



## **Mark Lakeman** • City Repair Project

Mark is a national leader in the development of sustainable public places. In the last decade he has directed, facilitated, or inspired designs for more than three hundred new community-generated public places in Portland alone. Through his leadership in Communitecture, Inc., and its various affiliates such as The City Repair Project (501(c)3), The Village Building Convergence, and the Planet Repair Institute, he has also been instrumental in the development of dozens of participatory organizations and urban permaculture design projects across the United States and Canada. Mark works with governmental leaders, community organizations, and educational institutions in many diverse communities.



## **Willie Levenson** • Human Access Project

Willie Levenson is the Founder and Ringleader of the not-for-profit organization, Human Access Project (HAP). Willie also founded The Big Float, an annual float and party on the Willamette River as well as the River Hugger Swim Team, a daily summer advocacy swim. In 2018, The Big Float's eighth year, over 5,000 people participated and 60% of people stated it was their very first time in the Willamette River. To pay the bills Willie is Co-Owner of a women's swimwear company called Popina Swimwear, now in its 13th year of business.



**Leslie Lum • Jade District Policy & Equity Subcommittee; City of Portland Bureau of Planning and Sustainability**

An urban designer with Portland Bureau of Planning since 2008, Leslie's design expertise and keen problem-solving skills benefit the entire BPS District Planning team. She is an expert in displacement risk and mitigation. Her experience building and sustaining relationships helps address the needs of under-served and under-represented communities throughout the city. Leslie brings many years of experience with the Housing Authority of Portland (now Home Forward), Portland Impact (now Impact Northwest) and other nonprofit organizations in Eugene and Los Angeles. Since the late 1990s, Leslie has worked alongside many communities and neighborhoods, including what is now New Columbia.

**Ibrahim Mubarak • Right 2 Survive**

Ibrahim Mubarak has been a renowned leader in the activist community for over 25 years. As a champion for Houseless Rights, he has dedicated himself to improving the many struggles of the disenfranchised and houseless community. Ibrahim co-founded Dignity Village in the late 1990's and in 2010, on World Houseless Awareness Day, he co-founded Right 2 Survive and a rest area called Right 2 Dream Too. Right 2 Survive is a group of houseless, formerly houseless people and their allies and supporters, intended to educate the houseless about unjust laws established to criminalize the houseless communities for exercising their civil, constitutional and human rights. He has held various board positions, and is currently a co-chair on Portland Jobs with Justice, Chairperson of WRAP and Executive Director of Right 2 Survive.

# Our Local Hosts: Portland



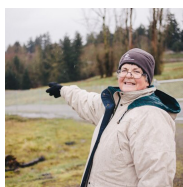
## **Walter Robinson III • Portland African-American Leadership Forum; Urban League**

Walter Robinson II has worked in the finance, non-profit and public sector in Portland for the past six years. This year, he founded WLR Consulting that works with companies and organizations to build equitable strategies that lead to social change. Previously he served as an Engagement and Program Specialist with the Joint Office of Homeless Services. He was responsible for engaging culturally specific partners and the LGBTQ community to find solutions to combat homelessness in Multnomah County. During his time there, he assisted with the successful opening of public spaces during inclement weather and managed the Office's legislative priorities. Prior to this, Walter was a constituent relations liaison and policy adviser for Multnomah County Commissioner, Jules Bailey. He manages and facilitates the BMA Summer Youth Experience, a culturally specific professional development program tailored for young African American men. Walter serves on the Basic Rights of Oregon Board, Portland African American Leadership Forum and was previously the Chair of the City Club of Portland Friday Forum Committee.



### **Greg Raisman • Portland Bureau of Transportation**

Over the past decade, Greg Raisman has been among the most influential Portland professionals involved in livable streets, active transportation, and traffic safety. His projects establish transportation systems that provide independence for all ages and abilities, strengthen business, and engage people with each other and their city. Professional accomplishments include implementing original concepts for transportation engineering, municipal programs, and strategic planning for America's most livable and bike-friendly city. Greg's work has been recognized for improving public health, addressing historic transportation equity problems, and protecting the natural environment. Greg has built partnerships with cities across Europe and North America that have resulted in large-scale repurposing of streets as public places. His leadership in creating engineering principles, developing public policy, and designing and delivering public process has resulted in Portland's Neighborhood Greenway network. He helped craft America's most comprehensive Safe Routes to School program, led the installation of the first bicycle corral in a Portland commercial district, and facilitates major community-building projects known as Intersection Repair Projects where residents can install large street paintings.



### **Linda Robinson • Friends of Gateway Green**

Born in Portland and a resident of East Portland since 1974, Linda is a community organizer with a passion for meaningful civic engagement. While Linda has many volunteer interests, her work has focused on parks. As a founding member of the East Portland Parks Coalition, she now leads that group and chairs the Parks Committee for the Hazelwood Neighborhood Association, after serving on the Portland Parks Board for seven years. Linda enjoys gardening, quilting, photography, birding and bicycling.



# Our Local Hosts: Portland



## **Nick Sauvie** • ROSE Community Development

Nick Sauvie is the founding Executive Director of ROSE Community Development, a nonprofit organization that has been working to revitalize outer southeast Portland neighborhoods since 1992. ROSE has developed more than 430 affordable housing units and a variety of other community development projects, including park construction, support for in-home child-care providers and Baby Booster, a new initiative to support pregnant women and families with young children. Prior to joining ROSE, Nick was a VISTA Volunteer and Community Organizer for Southeast Uplift Neighborhood Program.



## **Alan Taylor** • Zoiglhaus

Alan was named one of the nation's best "unsung brewers" by All About Beer magazine in 2015. He caught the brewing bug while he was a student at Linfield College, and it followed him to Germany, where he studied linguistics. Switching tracks, he instead went to brewing school at the prestigious VLB Berlin. When he returned, he worked for a number of larger breweries, including Full Sail and Widmer Brothers. In 2013 he was brought on as head brewer at PINTS Brewing Company. In 2018 PINTS underwent the transformation into Ascendant Beer Company. He also oversees the operations of Zoiglhaus Brewing Company in Portland and Ponderosa Brewing Co in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Taylor's breadth of experience and guidance is reflected in the dynamic beers featured across all three brewing platforms, from the authentic German styles of Zoiglhaus all the way to the thoughtful and intriguing small-batch beers from Ascendant Beer Company.



### **Mychal Tettah • Oregon Public House**

Mychal is a Principal Management Analyst at Portland Bureau of Transportation. He's led the implementation of over \$80M worth of transportation investments over 4 years. This portfolio includes a wide range of project types and scopes and he works closely with all aspects of capital project planning, development and delivery for the Portland Bureau of Transportation. He was formerly CEO of the Community Cycling Center, a community-focused bike shop, and launched the Village Market, Portland's first and only non-profit grocery store, located in New Columbia, the nation's largest affordable housing campus.



### **Thuy Tu • Thuy Tu Consulting**

Thuy Tu has twenty years of experience as Senior Transportation Planner and Civil Engineering Project Manager. She is an innovative collaborator, progressive communicator, educator and believes in people-focused urban design concepts and methods. She graduated from Benson Polytechnic High School and earned a Bachelor's Degree in Civil Engineering from the University of Portland where her studies were focused on traffic and transportation. Now the principal and founder of her own consulting firm, she has been an adjunct professor at the University of Portland and the Portland Campus of the University of Oregon's School of Architecture and Allied Arts, and worked/works as a mentor of project management and civil engineering for the Portland State University Student Chapter of Engineers without Borders. Thuy has also led a course on Master Planning for Resiliency for the Lents Community and Vision Planning for 82nd Avenue.

# Our Local Hosts: Seattle



## **Thatcher Bailey** • Seattle Parks Foundation

Thatcher has provided leadership, planning, major fundraising and advocacy initiatives as CEO for Seattle Parks Foundation since 2010. He has founded and/or served as leader and board chair of several Seattle-area nonprofits, including organizations focused on public space, health, arts and culture, and community philanthropy. He is currently on the board of City Parks Alliance.



## **Ken Bounds** • Seattle Parks & Recreation

Ken retired in 2007 after 31 years with the City of Seattle. His last eleven years were spent as Superintendent of Parks and Recreation. Ken served on a variety of local and national boards, including the City Parks Alliance, Mountains to Sound Greenway, Washington Wildlife and Recreation Coalition. He led the city in securing over \$230 million from voter approved levies resulting in new parks, community centers, swimming pools and over 350 acres of open space. He received honors from local and national associations. He currently serves on the board of the Seattle Parks Foundation and is a Washington State Park Commissioner.

# Our Local Hosts: Seattle



## **Heidi Hughes** • Friends of Waterfront Seattle

Heidi is the Executive Director of Friends of Waterfront Seattle, the non-profit partner to the City of Seattle to realize its future waterfront park in 20 acres of public space opening upon the city's central shoreline with the removal of the Alaskan Way Viaduct. Friends will raise \$110 million in capital to support park construction and additional private operating funding. Friends will also help to ensure the park is well programmed and stewarded long term through a unique public benefit partnership with Seattle Parks and Recreation.



## **Christopher Williams** • Seattle Parks & Recreation

Christopher devoted his professional life to public service. He is recognized for his leadership and responsiveness to the public he serves. He served as Acting Superintendent of Seattle Parks and Recreation, from 2009 to 2014 and in 2017 to 2019, he currently serves as the Deputy Superintendent/Chief of Staff for Seattle Parks and Recreation. Christopher manages the day to day operations, which includes more than 1000 employees, 10 swimming pools, 26 community centers, three environmental learning centers, the maintenance and operation of 6,200 acres of park land containing 400 developed parks. Christopher has served Seattle Parks and Recreation over 26-years and is currently serving as the Board Co-Chair for City Parks Alliance.

# Participant Biographies



## **Jim Ashley • Akron**

City of Akron - Department of Planning

[jashley@akronohio.gov](mailto:jashley@akronohio.gov)

Jim Ashley is the Investments Program Administrator for the City of Akron, Ohio. He prepares the City's annual Capital Budget and monitors over \$100 million in streets, parks, and public facilities improvement projects. Jim also prepares the capital planning staff operating budget. Jim has over 30 years of urban planning experience with the City of Akron. He serves on the Ohio Public Works Commission District 8 Technical Advisory Committee and the Park East Steering Committee. Jim has a M.A. in Urban Planning from the University of Akron and B.A. in Economics from Bemidji State University.



## **Susan Dalton • Memphis**

Innovate Memphis

[sdalton@innovatememphis.com](mailto:sdalton@innovatememphis.com)

Susan Dalton channels her interest in design thinking and social impact into her role as a Program Associate for Innovate Memphis. Evolved from the first wave of Bloomberg innovation delivery teams, Innovate Memphis is now an independent non-profit igniting change through new programs, tools and partnerships. Working with government, business, community leaders and citizens, Innovate Memphis addresses a range of long-standing civic challenges. Previous programs focused on improving neighborhood economic vitality and the team is experienced in testing and implementing impactful change. Susan leads the local data collection efforts for the Civic Commons demonstration and supports collaboration and reporting among the Memphis team.



### **Tregg Duerson • Chicago**

**Rebuild Foundation**

[tregg@rebuild-foundation.org](mailto:tregg@rebuild-foundation.org)

Tregg Duerson is the Chief Operating Officer of the Rebuild Foundation, an organization that transforms neighborhoods and strengthens communities through art, cultural development, and social engagement. Prior to joining Rebuild, Tregg was a Vice President at J.P. Morgan's Private Bank, where he worked with clients and their advisors to develop and execute comprehensive wealth plans in line with tailored investment and philanthropic goals. He previously spent three years at Goldman Sachs & Co. as a financial investment professional. Tregg earned his MBA from Northwestern's Kellogg School of Management and bachelor's degree in business from the University of Notre Dame.



### **Kelli Fetter • Akron**

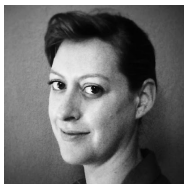
**Downtown Akron Partnership**

[kfetter@downtownakron.com](mailto:kfetter@downtownakron.com)

Kelli Fetter joined Downtown Akron Partnership (DAP) in March 2014. She oversees the outreach efforts of DAP by planning innovative programs and events that engage downtown workers, visitors, and residents. She is a member of the Torchbearers Class of 2017 and serves on the Board of Directors for Summit Choral Society. Kelli earned a bachelor's degree in marketing management and a master's degree in higher education administration from the University of Akron.



# Participant Biographies

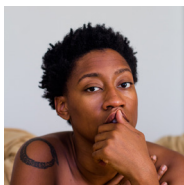


## **Karen Gage • Detroit**

City of Detroit

[gagek@detroitmi.gov](mailto:gagek@detroitmi.gov)

Over the last twenty years, Karen Gage has worked passionately to advance economic development projects in Detroit, Michigan. Karen currently serves as the Director of Zoning Innovation with the City of Detroit Planning & Development Department (PDD). The Zoning Innovation team conducts design reviews for new development projects, recommends zoning changes for PDD-led planning studies, and leads community engagement for development projects that trigger the City of Detroit's Community Benefits Ordinance. Prior to joining the City, Karen advanced community-based real estate investment initiatives with the non-profit business associations of Midtown Detroit, Inc. and New Center Council.



## **bree gant • Detroit**

Live6 Alliance

[bree@gant.studio](mailto:bree@gant.studio)

bree gant (b. 1989) is a multidisciplinary artist and documentarian. She was born and raised in Detroit, and grew up wanting to live pretty much anywhere else. After graduating from the Blackest institution in the country, Howard University, bree decided maybe the Blackest city in the country was more than a hometown, it's a portal. Since moving back to Detroit, bree has been world building with organizers and artists using documentary photography, speculative portraiture, installations, performance, community panels, and pop up exhibits. She is currently plotting a trip to Lagos, and likely somewhere waiting for the bus.



**Amber Genet • Akron**

Ohio & Erie Canalway Coalition

[agenet@ohioeriecanal.org](mailto:agenet@ohioeriecanal.org)

Amber Genet is the Vice President and COO for the Ohio & Erie Canalway Coalition, a nonprofit in Akron dedicated to developing the Ohio & Erie Canalway National Heritage Area and Towpath Trail. In this position, she works with public-private partners, units of government and elected officials throughout three counties. She has the privilege of working on many community engagement projects. Amber graduated from The University of Akron with degrees in public relations and business communications, and a master's degree in communications.



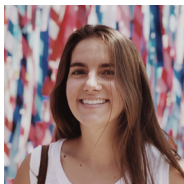
**Gerald Harris • Akron**

Summit Metro Parks

[jharris@summitmetroparks.org](mailto:jharris@summitmetroparks.org)

Jerry Harris is a 27-year employee with the Summit Metro Parks in Akron, Ohio, and a 20-year part-time employee with the City of Akron in the Recreation Department. Most of his adult life has been in public service. He believes nothing is more fulfilling than serving his community and looks forward to his next 10 years in public service.

# Participant Biographies



## **Helen Hope • Memphis**

Memphis River Parks Partnership

[hhope@memphisriverparks.org](mailto:hhope@memphisriverparks.org)

Helen Hope is the External Affairs and Program Assistant for the Memphis River Parks Partnership. She recently graduated from Rhodes College where she received the Senior Award in Environmental Studies for her dedication to the ecological health of Overton Park's Old Growth Forest as an Urban Forestry Fellow. After a few months bolstering the Partnership Wild and Scenic Rivers designation program with the National Parks Service in Boston, Helen returned to Memphis (and the BBQ nachos she dearly missed) to work on the transformation of the riverfront and its public space.



## **Kathryn Ott Lovell • Philadelphia**

Philadelphia Parks and Recreation

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Kathryn Ott Lovell serves as Commissioner of Philadelphia Parks and Recreation, overseeing over 3,000 employees and 10,000 acres of public space. Prior to her role as Commissioner, Kathryn served as the Executive Director of the Fairmount Park Conservancy and as the Chief Advancement Officer at the Mural Arts Program.



### **Terry Lynch • Memphis**

The Southland Companies

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Terry Lynch is President of The Southland Companies. He is an experienced real estate developer and has served on the board of the Memphis River Parks Partnership for 10 years.



### **Jennifer Mahar • Philadelphia**

Fairmount Park Conservancy

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Jennifer Quinn Mahar is Senior Director of Civic Initiatives at the Fairmount Park Conservancy, non-profit champion of Philadelphia's parks. Jennifer helps oversee the Parks Stewardship Program, a unique partnership with Philadelphia Parks & Recreation and its network of 100 volunteer park friend groups. The program organizes, resources and celebrates the volunteers who advocate for our wonderful city parks. Jennifer leads the Reimagining the Civic Commons pilot in Philadelphia—an innovative collaboration of public space organizations that has grown to a learning network of over 20 partners. She also manages a developing citywide engagement strategy connecting previously siloed organizations and stewardship groups. In addition, Jennifer helps manage civic engagement for the Conservancy's capital projects and runs key programs such as Farm Philly and We Walk PHL.

# Participant Biographies



## **Bridget Marquis**

U3 Advisors

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Bridget Marquis is the project manager for Reimagining the Civic Commons, a national initiative supported by The JPB Foundation, Knight Foundation, The Kresge Foundation and The Rockefeller Foundation transforming public places to foster engagement, equity, environmental sustainability and economic development in our cities. She is director for the national Civic Commons Learning Network, providing coordinated learning, impact assessment and storytelling across the five demonstration cities. Previously, Bridget developed and executed grantmaking strategies for ArtPlace America, a public-private collaboration to accelerate creative placemaking in communities across the U.S. and served as program director for CEOs for Cities.



## **Mallory McClaire • Chicago**

Theaster Gates Studio | Rebuild Foundation

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Mallory McClaire serves as Chief of Staff to Theaster Gates, managing all administrative and operational systems across Gates's initiatives and organizations, ensuring that processes and systems align to support Gates's mission. Previously, Mallory served as Senior Associate Director of Speaker Series & Special Events at the University of Chicago Institute of Politics (IOP), where she produced events featuring leading and emerging thought leaders, politicians, policy experts, and activists. Prior to the IOP, Mallory worked at the Chicago Office of Tourism and Culture where she assisted the Executive Director and was a researcher on the Chicago Neighborhood Tourism Project, a groundbreaking assessment of tourism assets throughout Chicago's 77 neighborhoods. Additional public programming experience includes work in Millennium Park, the Chicago Cultural Center and with the Mayor's Office of Special Events.



### **Tanja Mitchell • Memphis**

The Works, Inc

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Tanja Mitchell currently works for The Works, Inc. as the Director of Community Engagement. Tanja is responsible for innovating, leading and managing TWI's volunteer and events programs. These programs align with the organization's strategic vision to activate and empower individuals and families to enhance the quality of life in their communities. Tanja interacts with all functional areas of the organization and is responsible for developing strategies, operational plans, and innovative initiatives to move the organization forward in a substantial way. Tanja is passionate about people and places and believes that every citizen deserves to live and play in communities that are safe, decent and satisfying. With nearly twenty years' experience in community development, Tanja is highly respected for her expertise in community building and relations.



### **Caitlin Murphy • Detroit**

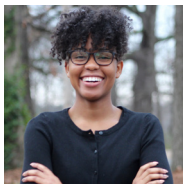
Live6 Alliance

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Caitlin Murphy is the Civic Commons Coordinator for the Live6 Alliance, a community development organization working in Northwest Detroit. She also manages Neighborhood Homebase, a storefront co-working space and hub for community gathering. Caitlin is a graduate of the University of Detroit Mercy's Masters of Community Development program.



# Participant Biographies



## **Lyndsey Pender • Memphis**

The Works, Inc.

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Lyndsey Pender is a Research and Evaluation Specialist at The Works, Inc. which is a nonprofit community development corporation serving South Memphis and the Greater Memphis area. In her current role, Lyndsey works to coordinate and oversee the organization's research and data gathering initiatives, and she assists with the implementation of a number of the organization's wellness initiatives, including the South Memphis Glide Ride. Lyndsey is a trained applied anthropologist with a M.A. degree in Medical Anthropology from the University of Memphis, and an undergraduate Cultural Anthropology degree from Western Kentucky University.



## **Stephanie Phillips • Philadelphia**

Riverfront North Partnership

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Stephanie Phillips is executive director of Riverfront North Partnership, which is working with the City of Philadelphia to create an 11-mile network of parks and trails on the industrial northern Delaware River. She is excited about reclaiming a neglected riverfront that has been lost to its community for generations. Previously, Stephanie was on the executive team of Bartram's Garden, where she helped transform a 45-acre National Historic Landmark into a community-driven, public park with award-winning river, education, and urban agriculture programs.



**Dan Rice • Akron**

Ohio & Erie Canalway Coalition

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Daniel M. Rice is the President and Chief Executive Officer of the Ohio & Erie Canalway Coalition (OECC). OECC is the regional non-profit organization working for the conservation, development and interpretation of the natural, historical and recreational resources along the Ohio & Erie National Heritage Canalway from Cleveland to New Philadelphia, Ohio. Since 1994, Daniel has worked with over 150 community partnerships and raised over \$50 million in development funds for the development of the 101-mile multi-use Ohio & Erie Canal Towpath Trail and the Ohio & Erie Canalway National Heritage Area and has received numerous regional and national awards.



**Jermaine Ruffin • Detroit**

City of Detroit

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Jermaine Ruffin is Director of Development for the West Region of the City of Detroit. Jermaine is also the host of The Streets are Planning Podcast and a member of a number of boards that support urban planning and community development.

# Participant Biographies



## **Chandell Ryan • Memphis**

City of Memphis

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Chandell Ryan is the Deputy Chief Operations Officer for the City of Memphis responsible for day-to-day service delivery, resource allocation, budgeting, and policy development for all City divisions, among other duties. She is a 13-year veteran at the City with previous roles as Assistant City Attorney, Senior Assistant City Attorney, EEO/Labor Relations Manager, Equity, Diversity & Inclusion Senior Manager, and Equity, Diversity & Inclusion Officer. Ryan also has private sector experience in general litigation, insurance defense, and HR Mgr/Industrial Relations.



## **Shawn Sheu • Philadelphia**

Friends of the Rail Park

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Shawn Sheu is the Community Engagement and Programs Manager at the Friends of the Rail Park (FRP), where she leads community partnership development and thoughtful curation of public programs. Through advocacy, arts and cultural programming, community engagement, and fundraising, FRP is leading the conversation about the transformation of 3 miles of abandoned rail lines into a public greenspace stretching across the heart of Philadelphia. The first phase, a quarter mile of the elevated portion, was an ambitious public-private partnership between FRP, the Center City District, and the City of Philadelphia. Phase I was completed and opened to the public June 2018.



### **Kira Strong • Philadelphia**

City of Philadelphia - Rebuild

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Kira Strong joined the Rebuilding Community Infrastructure team of the City of Philadelphia as the Deputy Director of Design and Construction in 2016. She served as the Vice President of Community and Economic Development for the People's Emergency Center, a non-profit community development corporation in Philadelphia. Kira has served on several boards, including the Community Design Collaborative and the Philadelphia Association of Community Development Corporations, and has been honored as a 40 Under 40 by The Philadelphia Business Journal and a Rising Star Award recipient from the Philadelphia Association of Community Development Corporations. She currently serves on the Slought Foundation board as well as on the Advisory Committees of the Community Design Collaborative and the Philadelphia Association of Community Development Corporations.



### **Bronlynn Thurman • Akron**

GAR Foundation

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Bronlynn Thurman is a Program Officer with GAR Foundation in Akron, Ohio. As Program Officer, she works to advance the Foundation's strategic priorities through the assessment and review of grant applications. An Akron native, Bronlynn serves on a number of area boards and committees, including Countryside; the City of Akron and Summit County's Holocaust Commemoration Committee; Akron Civic Commons core team and Communications Committee; Akron Cultural Plan steering committee; and Downtown Akron's Third Thursday committee. Bronlynn received a bachelor's in Advertising from Kent State University with an emphasis on design, marketing and psychology. She is currently pursuing a master's in User Experience Design at Kent State University.

# Maps

## Day 1 Site Visits

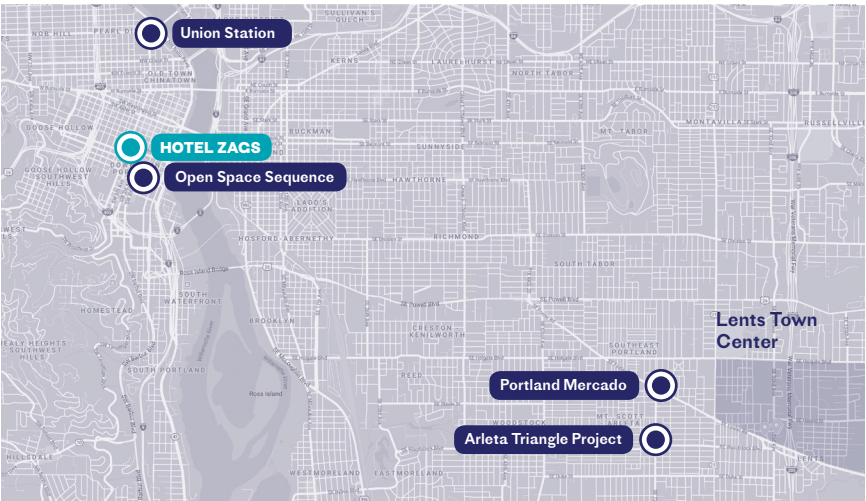




# Day 2 Site Visits



# Day 3 Site Visits







## Day 4 Site Visits



# Tour Sites: Portland

## **Better Naito**

A community-led tactical urbanism initiative was led by Better Block PDX, encouraging people to come together to create inviting and interactive places that challenge the notion that streets are only for cars and help people experience their city in attractive, engaging new ways long thought impossible. Better Naito is the result of their efforts: permanent municipal infrastructure resulting from civic participation in placemaking and tactical urbanism.

## **Human Access Project**

The Human Access Project was conceived in 2010. With a mission to transform Portland's relationship with the Willamette River, it works to achieve this ambition by creating more public spaces, beaches and access points to the Willamette River in downtown Portland, inspiring Portlanders and visitors to connect with the Willamette River and supporting conservation, education and stewardship of the Willamette River and Watershed.

## **The Vera Katz Eastbank Esplanade**

The Vera Katz Eastbank Esplanade is a riverfront trail that extends 1.5 miles along the Willamette River, connecting the east and west sides of downtown Portland. Interpretive signs along the path weave a story of Portland's development, explaining the natural, cultural, and economic history that created its identity. It is a major corridor for active transportation through cycling and walking; portions of the riverbank have been restored to a more natural state with native plantings to provide wildlife habitat, and it has reclaimed derelict land to create a park for public enjoyment.

## **Right 2 Dream Too**

Right 2 Dream Too (R2DToo) is a rest area in Portland that serves the houseless community on a temporary basis. Its mission is to provide a safe place for people to sleep undisturbed. R2DToo was previously located in Old Town Chinatown, but was displaced due to development of their site. Consequently, it has relocated its site to the Lloyd Neighborhood where neighbors are working with members of the NPO and business communities to help R2DToo get situated.

### **The Hill Block & Dawson Park**

The Hill Block is a partnership between Legacy Health, City of Portland and Prosper Portland to develop a vacant 1.7-acre block. The focus of the development is to honor Portland's African-American community, support community housing and economic needs, and further Legacy Health's mission of promoting health and wellness for children and families. The revitalization of Dawson Park in 2013, along with conscious programming and community safety, offers lessons on preserving a city's cultural centers even in a rapidly growing city.

### **ReBuilding Center of Our United Villages**

ReBuilding Center's mission is to inspire people to value and discover existing resources to strengthen the social and environmental vitality of community. It leverages its space, people, materials, and resources to support community-owned actions for a more sustainable and equitable Portland.

### **June Key Delta Community Center**

The June Key Delta Community Center is a "living building" developed by the Portland Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta, providing a community center to sustain the needs of the multicultural neighborhood it serves. Located on the site of a former gas station, this community center is the first African-American owned building to pursue the Living Building Challenge, the world's most rigorous proven performance standard for buildings.

### **Oregon Public House**

The world's first non-profit brewpub has functioned as a redevelopment catalyst for North Portland's Woodlawn neighborhood. The pub serves as a common place to meet as a community and proceeds from the business go toward non-profits organizations working for social benefit.

### **Prosper Portland**

Prosper Portland is the economic and urban development agency for the city of Portland. It works with partners to drive public attention and resources to different areas of the city, which helps Portland realize capital projects – parks, streetscape improvements, community centers –that would not happen on their own, making it a better place to live for all Portlanders.

# Tour Sites: Portland

## Gateway Green

Gateway Green is a community-conceived and led 25-acre nature and recreation park located at the intersection of the I-205 regional trail and the future Sullivan's Gulch Trail, and the confluence of two major freeways. Phase I of construction is complete and represents significant cooperation of multiple government agencies and organizations.

## The Pearl District & Parks Sequence

It has been twenty years since the redevelopment of Portland's renaissance streetcar neighborhood. Once a muddy rail yard with scattered industrial buildings, today the Pearl District is often cited as a premier transit-oriented development project exemplifying Portland's "Complete Neighborhood" planning strategy. By limiting parking, expanding green space, and installing a streetcar line, Portland achieved a successful, high-density pedestrian-friendly environment, and integrated affordable housing into the mix.

## Ecotrust

The adaptive reuse of this historic warehouse was Portland's first LEED "green building" and a pioneer in the city's ecoroof movement and stormwater management. Ecotrust provides a gathering place for the discussion, creation, and distribution of environmentally and socially responsible ideas, goods and services.

## 82nd Avenue

The Pearl District may be fashionable, but 82nd Avenue is necessary. This corridor of asphalt, car lots, and old-world politics keeps Portland honest. It has not always been considered as beautiful as premier TOD-projects like The Pearl District, but the state highway that runs from Sandy Boulevard south across the Clackamas County line does things that no city can do without. Every city has these suburban, automobile-dependent landscapes but can they become vibrant, connected neighborhoods?

## The Jade District

The Jade District is a place-based, community building and economic development program of the Asian Pacific American Network of Oregon (APANO) Communities United Fund focused on improving the ten block area radius surrounding Southeast 82nd Ave and Southeast Division Street. Various tools, plans, processes and collaborations are underway including the Jade International Night Market, the TIF grant program, the 82nd Avenue Improvement Coalition and community-led anti-displacement efforts.

## **Lawrence Halprin's Portland Open Space Sequence & Halprin Landscape Conservancy**

A groundbreaking public-private partnership has come together to restore the Portland Open Space Sequence, a series of interactive fountains, plazas, and connecting pathways designed by Lawrence Halprin and Associates. These mid-century modern parks are internationally celebrated and stand as Portland's most influential works of landscape architecture. At the centerpiece of the revitalization effort is an innovative voluntary Local Improvement District, LID, in which property owners in the surrounding area have assessed themselves to pay for \$2.15 million in repairs that qualify under State of Oregon regulations.

## **Lents Town Center**

Since the formation of the Lents Town Center Urban Renewal Area in 1998, Prosper Portland has invested \$90 million in infrastructure, facilities, transportation, affordable housing, and business development focused on creating healthy, complete neighborhoods with vibrant communities and corridors.

## **Green Lents**

Green Lents is a “locally grown” group of neighbors working in teams of volunteers to promote a “green” culture in our community that brings us back to our less-wasteful, more resourceful, and more locally dependent roots. Community programs include the Community Tool Library, Malden Court Community Orchard and the proposed Lents Green Ring.

## **Arleta Triangle Project**

The Arleta Triangle Project (ATP) is a community-led and funded placemaking project transforming a formerly abandoned piece of land in the middle of an intersection into a pocket park and sustainability demonstration project. Inspired by the City Repair “Intersection Repair” model, community members, city staff, and NPO leaders are working together repairing neighborhoods across Portland one intersection at a time.

## **The Portland Mercado**

The Portland Mercado is a hub for Latino culture in Portland inspired by entrepreneurship, Latino cultural history and heritage, traditional and local foods, social enterprise, vibrant cultures, and public markets throughout the world. This incubator model and economic development initiative of non-profit Hacienda CDC, provides affordable retail space for small businesses.



# Tour Sites: Seattle

## **Yesler Terrace Park**

Yesler Terrace Park is an iconic urban park located in a mixed income, majority North and East African immigrant community. The neighborhood has a unique history as a low-income housing project. However, the recent HUD funded, HOPE VI redevelopment project is transforming this part of town into one of Seattle's most livable neighborhoods.

## **The Danny Woo Community Garden**

The Danny Woo Community Garden was founded in 1975 and is located in Seattle's Chinatown-International District. The Garden is approximately 1.5 acres and contains nearly 100 plots that are cultivated and cared for by elderly Asian immigrant residents of the neighborhood. The garden is also home to a children's garden, chicken coop, outdoor kitchen, and fruit tree orchard. As the largest green space in the Chinatown-International District and Little Saigon area, the Danny Woo Community Garden is an essential place for the surrounding community to engage with nature, access safe and healthy food, and build cohesion with neighbors.

## **Hing Hay Park**

Hing Hay Park roughly translates to "Park for Pleasurable Gatherings." Located in the heart of the Chinatown-International District Neighborhood. Beyond the Grand Pavilion stretches the expanded park plaza with flowering trees, cafe tables, and decorative staircases featuring lighted Asian iconic figures. Outdoor fitness equipment provides exercise spots against the bright yellow privacy wall. Hing Hay Park is a popular for martial arts practitioners, quiet morning meditations, a meeting place for local families, and the center of many festivals, including annual Lunar New Year and Summer Dragonfest celebrations.

# Tour Sites: Seattle

## **Pike Place Market**

Pike Place Market is a public market overlooking the Elliott Bay waterfront in Seattle. The Market opened in 1907 and is one of the oldest continuously operated public farmers' markets in the country. More than the city's beloved public market, Pike Place Market is a vibrant neighborhood comprised of hundreds of farmers, craftspeople, small businesses and residents. Within the Market are social services that serve residents, neighbors and the greater downtown Seattle community, including the Pike Market Senior Center and Food Bank, Pike Market Childcare and Preschool and Pike Market Clinic.

## **Victor Steinbrueck Park**

Victor Steinbrueck Park is located at the north end of Pike Place Market. On a summer afternoon, the park bustles with a lively combination of neighborhood residents, visitors, tourists, and people who work in the area – all enjoying picnics, sunbathing, playing and relaxing on the lawn.

## **Waterfront Seattle Initiative**

Seattle's waterfront is undergoing a massive \$4.7 billion renovation, including rebuilding the seawall, tearing down the Alaskan Way Viaduct and replacing it with a deep-bore tunnel, rebuilding Colman Dock and the ferry terminal, remaking the Alaskan Way surface street, and improving park and streetscape elements as part of the city's \$688 million Waterfront Seattle initiative.

