



A LOOK AT
2017



Dear Friend of Portland Parks,

We're pleased to share the results of our work in 2017. It was a vital year in the history of the Portland Parks Foundation—a year of successful campaigns, project development, board growth, and planning for the future of parks in a rapidly changing city.

As Portland grows in size, density, and diversity, the role of parks in community health, recreation, and culture will become ever more core to our neighborhoods' identity and livability. In 2017, PPF's board developed a new strategic plan that concentrates on what we can do to promote truly outstanding public space to meet changing needs.

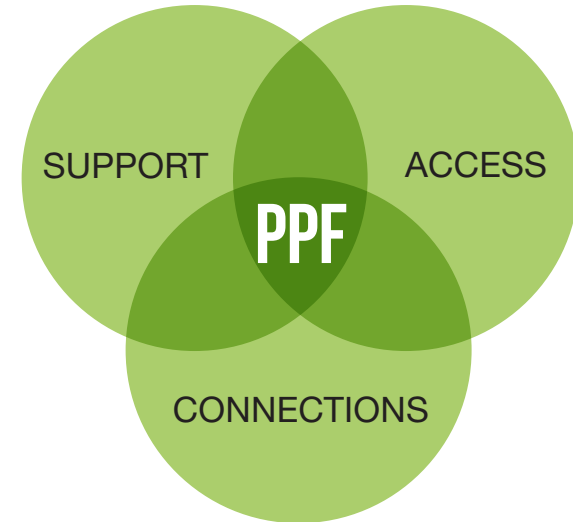
Using equity in access to parks as a guiding value, we'll work to advance the effectiveness of local park advocates through training and small grants. We'll support the values of our partner, Portland Parks & Recreation, in its efforts to bring parks and programs to the communities that have always lacked them. And we'll place high priority on projects that highlight the special natural and built environments of Portland in distinctive ways, bringing community leaders, the donor community, and the public sector together in a common vision.

Sincerely,

Julie Vigeland
Chair

Jeff Anderson
Executive Director

THE PORTLAND PARKS FOUNDATION MOBILIZES FINANCIAL AND POPULAR SUPPORT TO ENSURE A THRIVING AND ACCESSIBLE PARKS SYSTEM FOR A HEALTHY PORTLAND.



“To ensure everyone in the Rose City has access to the essential services parks provide, we cannot do it alone. The Portland Parks Foundation stewards the investments our private philanthropic community makes — to enrich our community through park access. We are grateful for every dollar raised.”

~ Mike Abbaté, FASLA, Director, Portland Parks & Recreation, 2011-2018

Front cover photo courtesy of Luceil Rice and Portland Parks & Recreation, Portland, OR



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**Effective May 2018
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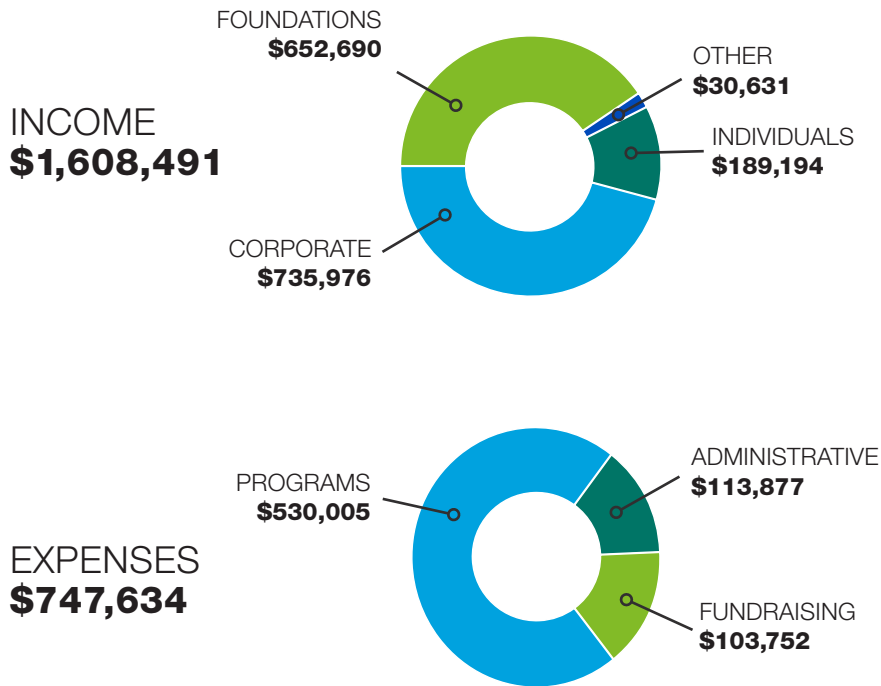
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SUPPORT

Special thanks to Walter C. Bowen for a \$375,000 donation for master planning of the South Park Blocks to help ensure the enjoyment and preservation of this Portland treasure for the next century.

Thank you to Andrew Gibson (Stoel Rives LLP), NW Natural, Shiels Obletz Johnsen and Walker Macy for in-kind contributions.

“PPF hears what we’re looking for in a partnership and delivers on it.”
 ~ Jessica Hewitt, Vice President, Community Relations Manager, Bank of America



BUILDING PARTNERSHIPS & CONNECTIONS



As the primary philanthropic partner of Portland Parks & Recreation and an independent advocate and connector for public parks, PPF provides support for major projects through fiscal sponsorship and collaborations. The Foundation is proud to have collaborated on the following projects in 2017:

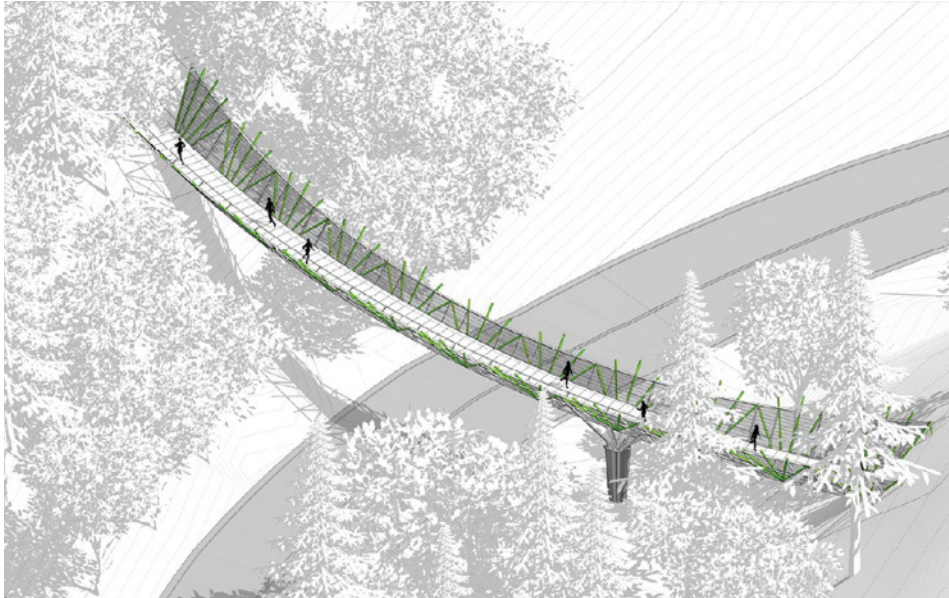
ALBINA VISION is a long-term plan for development of housing, commerce, and public space in inner NE Portland aimed at reconnecting the historic African-American and immigrant neighborhood of Albina to the Willamette River and other eastside neighborhoods.

Due to City budget cuts, the Free Lunch + Play program was discontinued at Brooklyn Park last year. As a result, the community came together to form **FRIENDS OF BROOKLYN PARK** to administer The Brooklyn Park Summer Youth Program for the summer of 2018 and beyond.

SUMMER FREE FOR ALL, a Portland Parks & Recreation program, is a community-driven program consisting of free events like live music from around the world, family-friendly movies, lunches for kids, art, games, and more in Portland parks across the city.

MOBILIZING COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP & PHILANTHROPY

As the City of Portland's chief philanthropic partner for public parks, PPF leads campaigns to engage individuals, foundations, and business partners in support of iconic parks projects. By providing key infrastructure and connections, PPF activates community leaders to advance public parks projects that benefit all Portlanders.



BARBARA WALKER FOOTBRIDGE

In 2017, **PPF SECURED \$925,000** in new contributions toward the new Barbara Walker Footbridge over West Burnside Street, bringing the campaign total to over \$2.5 million from more than 900 donors. This includes nearly \$185,000 raised from **660 DONORS** through a crowdfunding campaign in early fall. Scheduled for completion in 2019, the Footbridge will provide much-needed safety and accessibility for pedestrians using Portland's famed Wildwood Trail.

“The Portland Parks Foundation is a fabulous partner to PP&R. Our success with the Footbridge Over Burnside is an example of how much we can accomplish through a unique public and private partnership.”

~ Ian Walker, member of the Footbridge Over Burnside Steering Committee



THOMAS CULLY PARK

PPF served as a major fundraising partner with the Let Us Build Cully Park coalition, led by the nonprofit **VERDE**. The **25-ACRE CULLY PARK** project scheduled to open in June 2018 transforms a former landfill in NE Portland into a vibrant cultural and community-driven green space in Portland's most diverse, park-deprived neighborhood. Wendy Yah Canul, pictured above with her family, is a Cully resident who has been active in the park project. She is especially excited about the new fields in the neighborhood. “My son plays soccer and now I have to take him on the bus to get to practice.”

Working with PPF, the Portland Timbers and Thorns gave generously to support the new youth soccer fields. PPF supported Cully Park with its own grant, and dozens of other donors added important support. Since 2008, Verde and partners have raised more than **\$12 MILLION**.

STRENGTHENING PARKS ADVOCATES



“The sense of community that the Foundation fosters is invaluable.”

~ Michele Shapiro, Friends of Tanner Springs,
Recipient of a PPF Small Grant in Fall 2017



Photo courtesy of Linda O'Connor

PPF supports community groups in service of parks across Portland. Volunteer-led “Friends” of parks contribute to our city by engaging hundreds of people to maintain and beautify parks, cultivate community gardens, and restore natural areas. PPF builds the capacity of these groups through small grants, training, and technical assistance.

Three **FREE EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS** served nearly thirty Friends groups and allied community partners on topics of fundraising, volunteers, building a board, and grant writing.

With support from a generous bequest from Nancy Hebb Freeman, PPF established the Small Grants Program. **GRANTS OF UP TO \$2,500** were awarded to Friends of Mt. Tabor Park, Friends of Tanner Springs, Friends of Hoyt Arboretum, and Friends of Peninsula Park Rose Garden.

PPF recognized two **PARKS CHAMPIONS**, Yvonne Boisvert and Linda Robinson, for their outstanding service on behalf of parks. Along with an award, a small grant was given to the parks-based community of their choice.



Photos courtesy of PPF, Ann Downing, Ben Brink, Fred Joe, and Portland Parks & Recreation, Portland, OR

GET INVOLVED

You can help advance PPF's mission too. Here are some ways to get involved:

GIVE! Your contribution helps generate up to four times more than that amount in other grants and gifts for projects. Supporters contribute at a wide range of levels, including monthly membership, Charles Jordan Circle gifts of \$1,000+ annually, legacy gifts, and more.

VOLUNTEER! Whether it's with your local park's Friends group, a community-based organization, or through other PP&R opportunities, there are numerous ways to contribute time and energy to keep our parks and green spaces accessible and sustainable for all Portlanders.

“My big reason for contributing to PPF is because I want to make sure that access is provided for all people (especially youth) to wonderful programs and park resources in the future.”

~ Kathy Fong Stephens, Portland Parks & Recreation board member

LEARN! If you are with a group working to build or sustain parks projects, work directly with PPF. We are your resource for technical assistance and other capacity building opportunities. With our expertise and connections, we can help get your project to the next level.

ADVOCATE! We encourage community members to be engaged with our city leaders to communicate how accessible, inclusive, and thriving parks impact our communities and our city's identity.

STAY CONNECTED! Visit our website portlandpf.org to join our email list, find us on Facebook, or contact us directly at info@portlandpf.org or **503.445.0994**.

Sign up for our monthly newsletter at www.portlandpf.org/getinvolved

