



# Annual Report

## FY15-16

Solid Waste Community  
Enhancement Program

February 2017



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## PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The Solid Waste Community Enhancement Program provides grants to improve economic opportunities, neighborhood livability, public safety and more in areas near the region's garbage transfer facilities. The purpose of the program is to rehabilitate and enhance the area around eligible solid waste facilities in the Metro region. The program was established by Metro Council in 1986. Since then, Metro has invested millions of dollars in communities across the Portland metropolitan area. More information on the program is available on Metro's website, [www.oregonmetro.gov/tools-partners/grants-and-resources/community-enhancement-grants](http://www.oregonmetro.gov/tools-partners/grants-and-resources/community-enhancement-grants).

### Community Enhancement Fee

Metro's solid waste authority, including the authority to collect an enhancement fee to establish and implement a solid waste community enhancement program, is established under the Oregon Constitution, ORS Chapters 268 and 459, and the Metro Charter. The program is guided by Metro Code Chapter 5.06, Solid Waste Community Enhancement Program.

Solid waste facilities in the Metro region that operate as disposal sites, transfer stations, reload facilities, food waste compost facilities and energy recovery facilities collect an enhancement fee on each ton of putrescible solid waste delivered to the facility. Yard debris reload or composting facilities are not subject to this requirement unless the facility also accepts food scraps with yard debris.

The program originally included one closed landfill (St. Johns landfill in North Portland) and three transfer facilities: Metro Central (NW Portland), Metro South (Oregon City) and Forest Grove transfer station. At inception each facility subject to the fee collected an enhancement fee of \$.50 per ton. In 2014, Metro Council expanded the program to increase the fee to \$1.00 per ton and apply the fee to all other solid waste facilities established since the community enhancement program was first created.

See here for a system map of solid waste facilities in the Metro region, including those that participate in the Community Enhancement Program:

[www.oregonmetro.gov/sites/default/files/SolidWasteFacilities.pdf](http://www.oregonmetro.gov/sites/default/files/SolidWasteFacilities.pdf).

### Administration

The program is administered by Metro directly or through the city or county government where the facility is located through an intergovernmental agreement (IGA). Participating facilities remit enhancement fees to Metro on a monthly basis, which, in turn, remits payment to local governments on a quarterly basis.

A Community Enhancement Program Advisory Committee (Committee) is responsible for implementation of each of the local programs. Each committee establishes the enhancement area boundary, creates committee bylaws, develops a process for soliciting and selecting projects and reviews program budgets. The Metro Councilor for the district where the

facility is located has the option to serve on the community enhancement committee as co-chair, voting member or non-voting member of the committee.

An allowance of up to 20 percent (not more than \$50,000) of the fees collected during a program funding cycle may be used to pay for direct administrative costs associated with implementing a local program. Each committee submits a report of accounts and expenses to Metro for the fiscal year by October 1 of each year for tracking purposes.

### Participating facilities and jurisdictions

Seven cities and eight facilities now participate in the program: Forest Grove, Oregon City, Wilsonville, Sherwood, Troutdale, Portland and Gresham. The North Portland Community Enhancement Program associated with the closed St. John's Landfill completed its work in 2016. Its grants and achievements are summarized beginning on page 11.

<b>Local jurisdiction</b>	<b>Solid waste facility eligible for Enhancement Fees</b>	<b>Year established</b>	<b>Metro District and Councilor</b>	<b>Councilor Role on Community Enhancement Committee</b>
<b>Oregon City</b>	Metro South Transfer Station	1988	Carlotta Collette District 2	Committee member
<b>Forest Grove</b>	Forest Grove Transfer Station, Waste Management	1989	Kathryn Harrington District 4	Committee co-chair
<b>Portland</b>	Metro Central Transfer Station	1991	Sam Chase District 5	Committee chair
<b>Troutdale</b>	Troutdale Transfer Station, Waste Management	2015	Shirley Craddick District 1	Committee co-chair
<b>Sherwood</b>	Pride Disposal & Recycling	2015	Craig Dirksen District 3	Committee co-chair
<b>Wilsonville</b>	Willamette Resources, Inc. (WRI), Republic Services	2015	Craig Dirksen District 3	Committee member
<b>Portland</b>	Suttle Road Recovery Facility, Recology	2015	Sam Chase District 5	Committee chair
<b>Gresham</b>	Gresham Sanitary Service transfer station	2016	Shirley Craddick District 1	Committee co-chair

## **Eligibility and program goals**

To be considered for Community Enhancement Program funding, projects must meet the following eligibility criteria and at least one of the goals listed below.

### **Program goals**

1. Improve the appearance or environmental quality of the community.
2. Result in rehabilitation or upgrade of real or personal property owned or operated by a nonprofit organization having 501(c)(3) or other tax-exempt status under the Internal Revenue Code.
3. Result in the preservation or enhancement of wildlife, riparian zones, wetlands, forestlands and marine areas, and/or improve the public awareness and the opportunities to enjoy them.
4. Reduce the amount or toxicity of waste.
5. Increase reuse and recycling opportunities.
6. Result in improvement to, or an increase in, recreational areas and programs. Result in improvement in safety.
7. Benefit youth, seniors, low-income persons or underserved populations.

### **Eligibility criteria**

1. The project must be located in the solid waste community enhancement area boundary as specified by the solid waste community enhancement committee or the project must benefit individuals or programs located inside the solid waste community enhancement area boundary.
2. The project applicant must be:
  - a. A non-profit organization, including but not limited to a neighborhood association or charitable organization with 501(c)(3) status under the Internal Revenue Service; or
  - b. A local government, local government advisory committee, department or special district provided that it includes documented support from the local government executive officer.
3. The project must not be used to replace any other readily available source of federal, state, local or regional funds.
4. The project must not promote or inhibit religion.
5. The project must not discriminate based on race, ethnicity, age, gender, or sexual orientation.
6. If the project is located on private land, the project application must establish a clear public benefit and must document landowner permission.



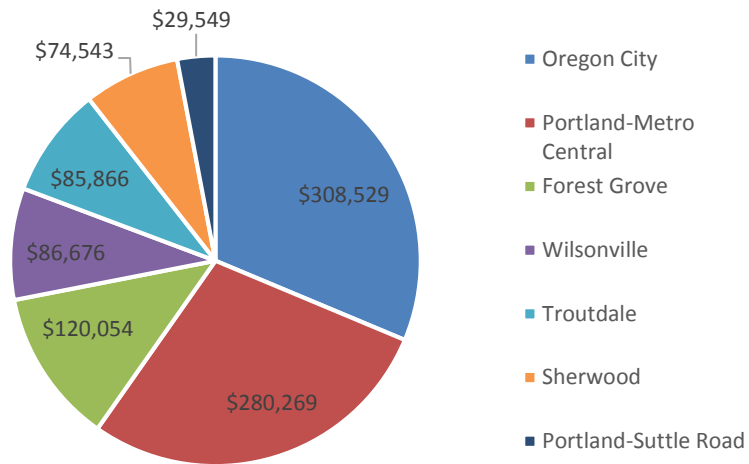
## SUMMARY OF REVENUE AND GRANTS

Enhancement Program	Enhancement Fee revenue FY15-16	Awarded grants FY15-16	Administrative costs
Oregon City	\$ 308,529	\$ 148,159	\$ 36,215
Portland-Metro Central <sup>1</sup>	\$ 280,269	\$ 377,406	\$ 34,077
Forest Grove	\$ 120,054	\$ 91,539	\$ 500
Wilsonville	\$ 86,676	\$ 79,543	\$ -
Troutdale	\$ 85,866	\$ -	\$ -
Sherwood	\$ 74,543	\$ 68,852	\$ -
Portland-Suttle Road <sup>2</sup>	\$ 29,549	\$ -	\$ -
Gresham	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 985,486</b>	<b>\$ 765,499</b>	<b>\$ 70,792</b>

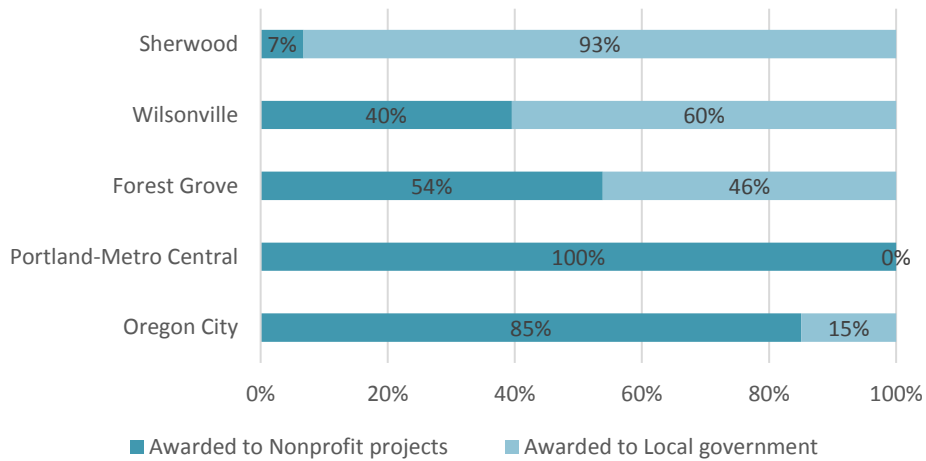
<sup>1</sup> Metro Central Community Enhancement Grants are offered on a calendar year cycle, unlike the other grant programs which are typically offered on a fiscal year cycle. This table shows Metro Central grant awards for calendar year 2016.

<sup>2</sup> The Suttle Road facility began collecting the Community Enhancement Fee in July 2015 and no grant awards have yet been made. The Gresham program began collecting the Community Enhancement Fee in January 2017 and no grant awards have yet been made.

### Community Enhancement Fee revenue FY16 by facility



### Grants awarded by organization type, FY15-16



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<sup>3</sup> Local government projects may include local government, local government advisory committee, department or special district as allowable in Solid Waste Administrative procedure 5.06 section 1.2.4. Troutdale, Suttle Road and Gresham programs have not yet made grant awards as of this reporting period and therefore do not appear on this chart.

## GRANTS AWARDED BY JURISDICTION

### Forest Grove (Forest Grove Transfer Station)

FY15-16 grants

Grantee	Project	Grant award
Valley Art Association	Sidewalk Chalk Art Festival	\$ 3,800.00
Adventures Without Limits	Quality of Life Enrichment for Seniors	\$ 1,458.00
FG Chamber of Commerce	Local Tourism Small Business Support & Promotion	\$ 3,625.00
Western Wash Co Firefighters Assoc.	Fire Station Mural	\$ 2,061.00
FG Community Gardens	Improving Community Garden Infrastructure	\$ 5,069.00
Forest Grove Farmers Market (Adelante Mujeres)	Farmers Market Support	\$ 5,250.00
Adelante Mujeres	STEM, College & Career Readiness Initiative	\$ 3,275.00
Friends of Historic Forest Grove	Archival Storage for Old Train Station Collection	\$ 1,822.00
Dairy Creek Community Food Web	Forest Grove Gleaning Project Pilot	\$ 2,171.00
FG Chamber of Commerce	Landscaping Update for Chamber of Commerce	\$ 656.00
FG Senior & Community Center	Commercial Dishwasher Replacement	\$ 7,000.00
City Club	Downtown Economic Sustainability	\$ 2,200.00
West Tuality Habitat For Humanity	Building Permits/fees for House #3	\$ 3,400.00
West Tuality Habitat For Humanity	ReStore Maintenance	\$ 4,175.00
FG Little Guy Football	Youth Football Safety Equipment Update	\$ 3,328.00
Community Forestry Commission	Promote the Urban Forest	\$ 3,368.00
Parks & Recreation Commission	Recreation & Park Brochures	\$ 1,700.00
Sustainability Commission	Collaborative Sustainable Community	\$ 4,924.00
Sustainability Commission	Sustainability in Schools	\$ 6,524.00
Sustainability Commission	Don't Waste Food, Dude!	\$ 3,959.00
Sustainability Commission	Reusable Bags Initiative	\$ 4,800.00
Historic Landmarks Board (Commission)	HLB Renovation Grant Program	\$ 7,524.00
Public Arts Commission	Arts for a Community	\$ 3,850.00
Public Arts Commission	Art Goes to the Park	\$ 5,600.00
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$ 91,539.00</b>

**Oregon City (Metro South Transfer Station)**

FY15-16 grants

Grantee	Project	Grant award
Clackamas Community College Foundation	Newell Creek	\$25,000.00
Clackamas County Historical Society	MOOT First Impressions	\$9,864.00
Clackamas County Juvenile Department	GREEN Corps	\$9,120.00
Depave Eastham	Outdoor Classroom	\$8,000.00
Main Street Oregon City	Clean Team	\$23,750.00
Main Street Oregon City	Micro Grant	\$13,000.00
Oregon City Chamber	BEST workbooks	\$5,550.00
Oregon City Chamber	Job Fair	\$6,000.00
Oregon City Farmers Market	Winter Market signs	\$3,175.00
Oregon City Willamette Falls Legacy Project	Riverwalk Signage	\$13,000.00
Rivers of Life Center	Two Gateways Cleanup	\$17,350.00
Willamette Falls Media Center	Community Patio & Renovation	\$14,350.00
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$148,159.00</b>



*Oregon City grantee Depave students and volunteers at work on the Eastham Outdoor Classroom project.*

## Sherwood (Pride Recycling)

FY15-16 grants

Grantee	Project	Grant award
City of Sherwood	Community Garden establishment	\$40,000
Sherwood Regional Family YMCA	Enhanced Fitness Program for Arthritis intervention	\$4,660
City of Sherwood	Recycling program in parks	\$15,000
Sherwood Public Library	Open-mic SLAM! - a series of monthly programs for Sherwood teens	\$1,342
Sherwood Cultural Arts Commission	Cultural Walking Tour - a self-guided walking tour to showcase Sherwood's history	\$7,850
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$68,852</b>



*Sherwood Community Garden before and at the first harvest.*

**Wilsonville (Willamette Resources, Inc. - WRI)**

FY15-16 grants

Grantee	Project	Grant award
City of Wilsonville Parks & Recreation Department	Memorial Park "Dog Park" Relocation Project	\$25,000
Northwest Center for Alternatives to Pesticides (NCAP) with City of Wilsonville Community Development Department/Natural Resources Division	"Bee Stewards" Wilsonville Pollinator Improvement Project	\$21,433
Clackamas County Sustainability Division with Republic Services	Multifamily Waste-Reduction and Recycling Project	\$16,000
Frog Pond Church Meridian United Church of Christ	Frog Pond Church Campus Restoration Project	\$10,000
Clackamas County Sustainability Division with Republic Services	Fluorescent Mercury-Lamp Business Recycling Program	\$7,110
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$79,543</b>



*Wilsonville-Metro Community Enhancement Committee Members, FY2015-16 (L to R): Metro District Three Councilor Craig Dirksen; Wilsonville resident Jimmy Lee; Wilsonville resident Larry Beck, Vice-Chair; City Councilor Susie Stevens; Wilsonville resident Brad Hughbanks, Chair; Wilsonville resident Kate Johnson; and Wilsonville Mayor Tim Knapp.*



**NW Portland (Metro Central Transfer Station) - Grant program managed by Metro**  
2016 grants<sup>4</sup>

<b>Grantee</b>	<b>Project</b>	<b>Grant award</b>
Chapman Elementary School PTA	Olivia's Bench memorial	\$13,200.00
Forest Park Conservancy	Forest Park Community and Ecosystem Enhancement Grant	\$73,700.00
Friendly House	Recreational & Educational Equipment	\$30,686.44
Friendly House	Health & Wellness Initiative	\$29,300.00
Friends of Trees	Getting Green to Work (tree planting in Portland's NW Industrial district)	\$100,000.00
Linnton Community Center	Community Teaching Kitchen	\$64,344.00
Meals on Wheels People	Hot Meals for Northwest Portland Seniors	\$10,000.00
Neighbors for Clean Air	Understanding Air Pollution in NW Portland	\$28,500.00
Portland Harbor Community Advisory Group	Superfund Decision-Year Outreach Campaign	\$11,173.00
Sauvie Island Center	Farm to School and Back Again	\$6,503.00
Store to Door	Volunteer & Outreach Manager	\$10,000.00
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$377,406.44</b>



*Muslim Education Trust Discovery Hike hosted by Forest Park Conservancy.*

<sup>4</sup> Metro Central Community Enhancement Grants are offered on a calendar year cycle, unlike the other grant programs which are typically offered on a fiscal year cycle.

## **NORTH PORTLAND COMMUNITY ENHANCEMENT FUND CAPACITY BUILDING GRANTS 2014-2016**

For nearly three decades North Portland community enhancement grants helped improve neighborhoods near the now-closed St. Johns Landfill, including University Park, Arbor Lodge, Portsmouth, Overlook, Cathedral Park, St. Johns and Kenton. In 2013, the North Portland Community Enhancement Committee dedicated the remaining balance of the North Portland enhancement fund. Of the funds remaining, \$851,000 was dedicated to design and construction of two key projects along the North Portland Greenway: the Columbia Boulevard Bridge and St. Johns Prairie Trail. The remaining \$594,143 was invested in a final round of grants to build capacity for community organizations, strengthen programs and provide services to North Portland residents. These two-year grant projects took place from 2014 to 2016.

The North Portland Community Enhancement Capacity Grant Program objectives were to:

- Increase employment, commercial or economic opportunities;
- Preserve or enhance existing wildlife, recreation and marine areas of North Portland; or improve public access to or awareness of these areas;
- Improve the safety, appearance or cleanliness of neighborhoods; and
- Provide training or services that benefit youth or elderly residents.

Projects ranged from capital improvements to youth development, food equity to environmental protection. Several projects focused on training and activity to effectively engage communities of color and other marginalized groups. In the words of one North Portland group leader, "We want our organization to look like the kids who get off the school bus each afternoon."

Grantees participated in a peer learning cohort focused on funding sustainability, governance and creating inclusive organizations. This led several cohort groups to build new partnerships with other organizations in North Portland.

Virtually all projects benefitted youth, elderly, low-income or underserved populations. Over half of the projects improved neighborhood safety and appearance, and increased employment or economic opportunities of North Portland residents. One half of the projects directly engaged people of color, one-third formed new partnerships and one-quarter engaged minority or women-owned contractors.

Grantees also reported that they successfully built the capacity of their organizations through development of long-term plans, improved communications, organizational transition and leadership succession, and professional development of their staff.



## North Portland Community Enhancement Capacity Grants, 2014-2016

Grantee	Project	Grant award
Columbia Slough Watershed Council	Equity and Inclusion Project for the North Portland Columbia Slough Watershed	\$41,977
Community Alliance of Tenants	North Portland Renters' Empowerment Project	\$35,000
Friends of Baltimore Woods	Friends of Baltimore Woods Capacity Building	\$25,093
Friends of the North Portland Willamette Greenway Trail	Friends of the N. Portland Willamette Greenway Trail Strategic Plan and Fundraising Strategy	\$50,000
Friends of Trees	Equity Engagement and Strategy	\$18,843
St. Johns Food Share (formerly Golden Harvesters, Inc.)	Training, Improving and Strengthening Golden Harvesters	\$30,416
Historic Kenton Firehouse Committee/North Portland Community Works	Historic Kenton Firehouse Repair	\$51,620
Janus Youth Programs	Village Gardens	\$46,161
Momentum Alliance	Structuring Momentum Alliance for North Portland Youth Employment, Empowerment and Long-Term Organizational Success and Sustainability	\$48,280
North by Northeast Community Health Center	A Community Health Home Bringing Hope and Healing to North Portland	\$47,620
North Portland Tool Library (NPTL)	NPTL Capacity-Building Project: Expansion of Accessible Facilities and Services	\$50,000
Roosevelt High School	Roosevelt High School-Extended Learning Academy	\$50,000
St. Johns Main Street Coalition	Developing strong leaders, equitable engagement, and Strategic Vision for St. Johns Main Street Coalition	\$49,133
St. Johns Farmers Market	St. Johns Farmers Market	\$50,000
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$594,143</b>

## North Portland grant projects: Key outcomes

### Kenton Firehouse (\$51,620)

**Goal** To repair the Historic Kenton Firehouse's exterior to prevent mold and other interior water damage, and to fix leaks, loose bricks and missing mortar.

**Impacts** A long-term fix is in place to waterproof the exterior, seal windows and remove interior mold of this neighborhood asset that annually hosts 160 meetings of two dozen community groups, with 100 public events and more than 20 training workshops. The Metro grant leveraged more than \$37,000 in additional cash and donated services to complete the project.



*Grant funds supported essential building repairs at the Kenton Firehouse, a community center in North Portland.*

### North Portland Tool Library (\$50,000)



**Goals** Increase community access by renovating and expanding existing space and creating a storage shed, expanding staff roles for community outreach/volunteer coordination, and upgrading office space and technology.

**Impacts** The Tool Bank's 4,500 members have safe and easy access to the basement tool library with 3,500 tools, and a community-designed outbuilding providing space for tool storage and maintenance. Two 2015 fundraising events engaged 200 North Portland residents and raised \$2,800; and a tool sale raised \$1000.

### Friends of North Portland Willamette Greenway Trail (\$50,000)

**Goal** To raise awareness of the need for a trail from the Rose Quarter to Kelly Point Park; crafting a strategic plan to engage partners and mobilize volunteers to raise funds for trail construction.

**Impacts** Dozens of North Portland residents were recruited as new volunteers and advocates. A board-led process produced a long-term strategic plan to guide trail completion efforts; project partners and volunteers committed time and funding to trail building.

### **Friends of Baltimore Woods (\$25,093)**

**Goal** Develop an organizational plan to be a more efficient and sustainable organization to preserve a greenway between Cathedral and Pier Parks.

**Impacts** Community members and program partners crafted a 3-Year Strategic Plan with key goals and formed active Work Groups to restore, engage and inspire. Volunteers contributed 471 hours during six Saturday work parties, three special events and eight evening work parties. Annual plant and book sales raised nearly \$5,000.



*Friends of Baltimore Woods work party.*

### **Friends of Trees (\$18,843)**

**Goal** To work with the Center for Diversity and the Environment to create a strategy to engage North Portland's diverse cultural communities.

**Impacts** Created and adopted Equity Plan with three central goals: (1) Strengthen and Diversify Human Resources, (2) Offer Culturally- and Community-Responsive Programming, and (3) Provide Staff Education engaging all 26 FOT staff. Held six listening sessions with groups representing communities of color. 500 trees planted in North Portland by residents contributing 500 hours.

### Janus Youth Programs and Village Gardens (\$46,161)



*Smiles at the Village Gardens fundraiser.*

**Goal** To support the transition of Village Gardens to become an independent non-profit organization.

**Impacts** The 2016 Farmers Market's 12 neighborhood vendors grossed \$11,000 in sales, doubling 2015 results. Village Gardens' Spring 2016 annual fundraiser engaged 155 individuals and netted \$16,000. Village Market's 400 daily customers received a total of \$4,692 in healthy food discounts and neighborhood kids received 12,880 pieces of fresh fruit. Village Gardens will continue as a program of Janus Youth Programs for the foreseeable future.

### North by Northeast Community Health Center (\$47,620)

**Goal** To transition from a free clinic for uninsured patients only, to a community health center providing services to residents covered by Oregon Health Plan.

**Impacts** Achieved new funding and patient care business model with paid and volunteer providers to treat 1,500 uninsured and Medicaid patients annually. Crafted a strategic plan to guide future work building on the Health Center's 10-year history of success. Cuts and Checks program engaged four African American barber shops in checking 300 customers' blood pressure levels and connecting them to health resources.



### Roosevelt High School (\$50,000)

**Goal** To expand the Extended Learning Academy's programs to prevent students from falling behind and to provide acceleration opportunities to help students become college ready and career focused. Roosevelt is the most ethnically diverse neighborhood high schools in the state of Oregon.

**Impacts** Roosevelt's after school program encouraged 300 students to improve their academic performance and a Saturday School program engaged 100 students weekly to raise prior failing grades to passing grades. Two post-semester Boot Camps were held; in a single semester alone 253 grades were improved, 119 grades were raised from an F to passing, and 89 of those grades were a C or better on students' transcripts.



## North Portland Community Enhancement Grants: Featured projects

### Momentum Alliance: Structuring Momentum Alliance for Youth Employment, Empowerment and Long-Term Organizational Success and Sustainability (\$48,280)

Vanessa Dominguez personifies the Momentum Alliance leadership model. Vanessa grew up in St. Johns. Her mother was forced into deportation proceedings after a raid at her workplace when Vanessa was 13. Vanessa started to get in fights and give up on school. Then she chose another path, and joined fellow Roosevelt High school students making a documentary film about undocumented youth. She seized her opportunity, writing:

*I am from what they label the "ghetto"  
I am from worrying if my mother is going to  
get caught by ICE  
I am from worrying about gang violence  
But I'll tell you what I'm not: I'm not a  
statistic.*

Shortly thereafter Momentum Alliance (MA) was founded. MA now engages and empowers marginalized and underrepresented Metro Portland youth in leadership projects growing a new generation of community advocates, leaders and decision-makers.



*Vanessa Dominguez, Momentum Alliance co-director, speaks at the Momentum Convention in 2015.*

During the Metro project Vanessa rose to become MA's Co-Executive Director and is attending Portland Community College. She is now paying it forward and says, "Momentum Alliance is investing in the youth of North Portland, just like it did with me. It's now our job to lead by example, to stay involved so that even more youth are inspired to find their own voice."

- Youth active in youth-led engagement opportunities: 1,000
- Youth leaders receiving 1:1 intensive coaching: 30
- Youth connected with paid jobs, internships or college-access support: 50
- Youth leaders engaged with MA summit, cohort or advocacy: 150
- Youth and community leaders attending Momentum Convention: 300

Vanessa credits the Metro grant with helping Momentum Alliance to grow and become stronger. In her words, "Each day we help youth advance their own health, education and careers. Working together we prepare North Portland's young people for the world. Once you become a leader in your own life, you can impact our community's quality of life."

## Community Alliance of Tenants (CAT): North Portland Renters' Empowerment Project (\$35,000)

Cristina Palacios, CAT's bilingual Safe Housing Lead Organizer, knows North Portland and its rental housing, some of which is unsafe and unsanitary. She appreciated CAT winning the Metro grant to grow a North Portland renter community that could understand their rights and responsibilities as renters - as well as learn how to engage and participate in civic opportunities.



*Katrina Holland, Executive Director of Community Alliance of Tenants, speaks at a rally in North Portland. Also pictured: Justin Buri, previous CAT director (right side of photo).*

CAT sought to also build its internal capacity to track members, volunteers and finances. Staff attended courses for professional development in management training, financial operations and how to grow its grassroots fundraising efforts.

For North Portland renters, some of whom live each day with mold, rodents and other unsafe housing conditions, rent increases made a bad situation unaffordable and forced them to move. Cristina and CAT staff found hazardous conditions at rental properties along North Fessenden Street and North Rosa Parks Boulevard. Utilizing its building-based education and training model, CAT helped residents advocate for housing inspections, and keep pressure on until essential repairs were made.

The Renter SOS campaign, launched at a North Portland news conference in fall 2015 and attended by 200 advocates, called for a moratorium on no-cause terminations and



*A family provided testimony for the Community Alliance of Tenants Renters' SOS campaign.*

one-year notice for large rent increases. In response Mayor Charlie Hales declared a State of Emergency requiring landlords to give 90 days' written notice of a 5% or higher rent increase or of an eviction without cause. Prior to that declaration, most landlords were required to give just 30 days' notice (the state minimum) when terminating a lease or raising rent. The State of Emergency has now been extended through October 2017.

During the project period CAT engaged 125 tenant leaders, recruited 300 new members, staff attended 18 training sessions and fielded 3,000 renter hotline calls.

## Columbia Slough Watershed Council: Equity and Inclusion Project for the North Portland Columbia Slough Watershed (\$41,977)

The staff of the Columbia Slough Watershed Council recognized a need to engage more closely with underserved residents and communities within the watershed. The goal of the Metro-funded Equity and Inclusion Project was to increase the Watershed Council's capacity and understanding of how to best serve and engage with underserved socio-economic and cultural communities across the watershed with particular focus in North Portland.

The Watershed Council participated in the first Equity and Inclusion cohort with the Intertwine Alliance. Council staff and board members conducted an equity audit to assess internal Council systems and provide strategic direction to making internal and external changes to advance equitable processes and programming.

Corrina Chase, the Council Executive Director states "Using the equity audit information, we developed an Equity Action Plan with goals and benchmarks to diversify our leadership, membership and program participants. Our staff also participated in a CDE Power and Privilege training session."

The staff and board see this action plan as a starting off point and a continual work-in-progress, but have taken steps to implement their new Equity Action Plan:

- Created paid internships to promote equity in environmental non-profit careers
- Developed new equitable partnerships and community relationships
- Set a hiring priority on cultural agility and equity through skills or lived experience
- Held planning meetings for Explorando el Columbia Slough in bilingual Spanish/English to ensure community co-leadership in a cultural event
- Hosted paddling trips for youth engaged with Momentum Alliance and the Iraqi Society of Oregon to provide opportunities to connect to the watershed
- Worked with IRCO, Verde and other local partner organizations to translate materials into Spanish, Russian and Vietnamese.

The Council's project to engage North Portland residents reached 728 students in classroom presentations and hands-on field science and restoration activities. They also secured 20 new volunteers from the North Portland area through having a visible presence at the St. John's Farmer's Market and neighborhood association meetings.



*events on the slough with the Iraqi Society and JOIN (photos above and below).*



## St. Johns Food Share: Training, Improving and Strengthening Golden Harvesters (\$30,416)

St. Johns Food Share (formerly Golden Harvesters) has helped feed North Portland residents since 1988 and the need for their services continues to grow. The member-owned, volunteer-led food sharing community empowers North Portland residents by providing food options, preserving dignity and promoting self-sufficiency.

The Metro grant supported capital improvements to a new Food Share facility, to develop leaders and a strategic plan, and to upgrade technology and community-generated revenue.



*St. Johns Food Share grand opening event with Oregon State Senator Lew Frederick, then State Representative for North and Northeast Portland.*

According to KarenJean Lundborg, Food Share's President, "First, we crafted a 3-year road map to guide our growth to double our membership households. Then we convened work groups that engaged more members and further defined the duties of lead volunteers, so we could recruit and train them. This work ensures Food Share can sustain itself over the long haul."

Food Share leveraged the Metro grant by securing an additional \$45,000 from other funders. With these grants, they grew their membership to achieve food security.

- Food distribution and storage was enhanced with a curb cut allowing indoor loading and unloading of the Food Share truck, and a walk-in cooler was expanded to extend the shelf life of perishable foods.
- Safety improved with the addition of a handicapped access ramp and a front entrance awning. Upgraded technology improved the member experience and provided more accurate reporting of food received and distributed.
- A complete brand refresh now offers a fresh new look, a name change, a new website, logo, signage and brochures.

Lundborg is inspired by the results, "The improvements, focus and growth provided through Metro's investment in our technology and facility has brought us into the 21st century. Our Board and leadership is empowered with a greater degree of professionalism. Membership is growing. There is a new excitement in the air. "



## **St. Johns Main Street (\$49,133) and St. Johns Farmers Market (\$50,000): Developing strong leaders, equitable engagement and strategic vision**

St. Johns, its own city just a century ago, is now experiencing rapid economic and social change. Rising rents and home prices create challenges for long-time residents and newcomers alike. St. Johns Main Street is transforming itself right along with the changing neighborhood.



Main Street's first change was adding Lindsay Jensen to the staff. In Lindsay's words, "I started as Executive Director when we began the grant cycle and have been fortunate to help drive our capacity building efforts. I'm proud of what we've accomplished together, and our new path to achieve positive community impact."

Main Street sought Metro funding to create a strong board, increase community engagement, and craft strategic and equity plans. The task expanded as another grantee, St. Johns Farmers Market, explored a possible merger with Main Street. The merger, a process expected to take a year, happened in just five months and accelerated a focus on food insecurity in St. Johns.

Main Street's achievements during the grant period include:

- Doubled the space and vendor count at each Saturday Farmers Market, improved its Food Equity work including a SNAP match and Veggie Voucher program, providing assistance to low-income shoppers;
- Created an organizational strategic plan to expand geographic focus beyond Lombard Street to include all of St. Johns and to redefine their role as "community economic development," a change from its prior small business support and community beautification;
- Crafted an Equity Plan informed by the voices of minority-owned small businesses and residents; and
- Leveraged the Metro grant to secure another \$36,000 from several sources, including Meyer Memorial Trust and a federal grant for food equity.

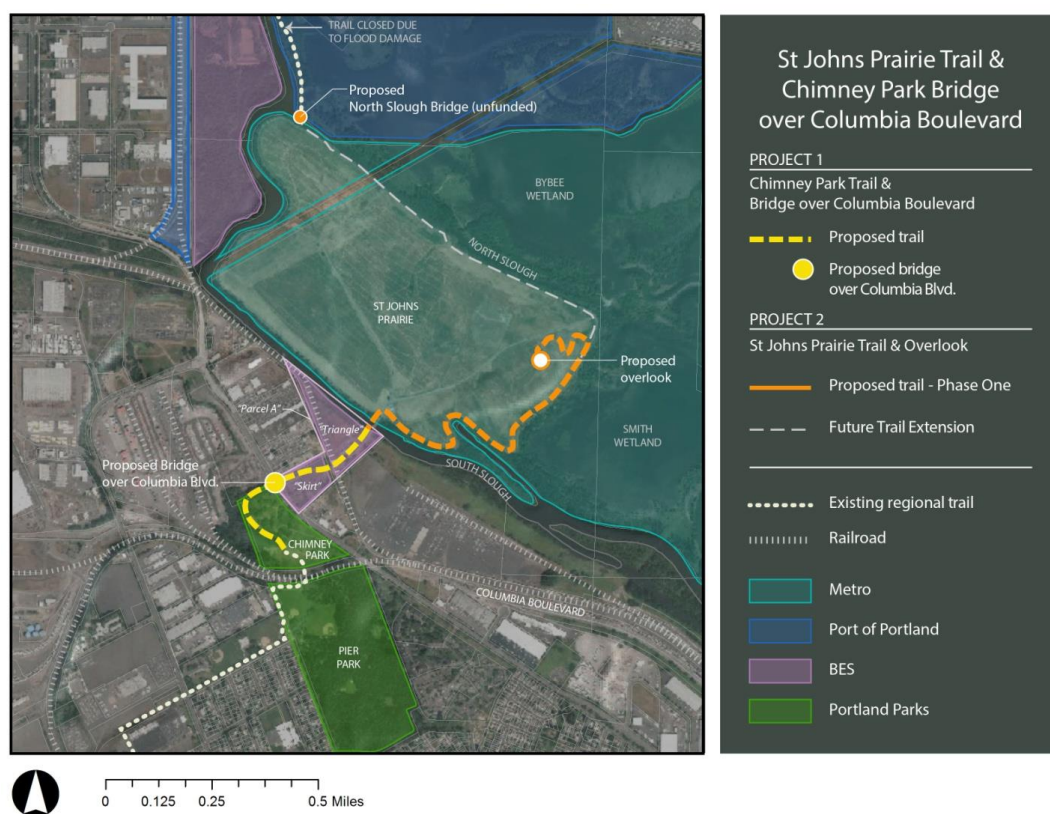
Lindsay is motivated by Main Street's new community economic development focus, "We will use an equity lens to address service gaps like workforce development (including connecting workers with available jobs), affordable housing advocacy and capacity building for St. Johns' grassroots groups. And now we've adopted a new name to better reflect all the amazing work we are doing: St Johns Center of Opportunity."

## NORTH PORTLAND ENHANCEMENT FUND: BUILDING THE ST. JOHNS PRAIRIE TRAIL AND COLUMBIA BOULEVARD BRIDGE

Up to \$851,000 of the North Portland Enhancement Fund is dedicated to design and construction of two key projects along the North Portland Greenway. Design and construction of these two projects (Columbia Boulevard Bridge Project and St Johns Prairie Trail Project) will fill a major 1.2 mile gap in the North Portland Greenway Trail, a key piece of the metropolitan trail system. When completed, the trail will allow people to travel from Washington to Oregon and the Columbia River to the Willamette River.

Enhancement funds will be used to design and build a trail on the former St. Johns Landfill, now known as St. Johns Prairie. Funds will also provide a match for a related project, a bridge over Columbia Boulevard, which would connect pedestrians to the new trail.

Both projects are in the early stages of project scoping, identifying project partners, and securing additional funding. Once project scoping is completed in spring 2017, Metro will engage the community on the trail design and then design the trail. Construction is expected to begin in 2019.



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Forest Grove	Jesse VanderZanden, City Manager Paul Downey, Administrative Services Director, city of Forest Grove <a href="http://www.forestgrove-or.gov/citycouncil/page/community-enhancement-program-committee">http://www.forestgrove-or.gov/citycouncil/page/community-enhancement-program-committee</a>
Oregon City	Eric Underwood, Economic Development Manager Leigh Anne Hogue, Economic Development Specialist <a href="http://www.orcity.org/community/community-grant-programs">http://www.orcity.org/community/community-grant-programs</a>
Sherwood	Joseph Gall, City Manager Tammy Steffens, Grant program manager <a href="http://www.sherwoodoregon.gov/CEP">http://www.sherwoodoregon.gov/CEP</a>
Troutdale	Erich Mueller, Finance Director, city of Troutdale <a href="http://www.troutdaleoregon.gov/committees/CEPC.html">http://www.troutdaleoregon.gov/committees/CEPC.html</a>
Wilsonville	Bryan Cosgrove, City Manager Jon Gail, Community Relations Coordinator <a href="http://www.ci.wilsonville.or.us/809/Wilsonville-Metro-Community-Enhancement-">http://www.ci.wilsonville.or.us/809/Wilsonville-Metro-Community-Enhancement-</a>