

 Portland Parks Foundation

ANNUAL REPORT 2015



Our Mission

The Portland Parks Foundation mobilizes financial and popular support to ensure a thriving and accessible parks system for a healthy Portland.

PARKE DIEM

The **Foundation's Signature Event** took place on **October 9 & 10, 2015**

850

park lovers &
community
leaders

50

park
projects

2,500

volunteer
hours



“Parke Diem inspires the planning of multiple work parties to prepare for winter and we’re then able to accomplish about 3-4 months of work all in one weekend. It makes it an extremely productive event for us.”

—Portland Parks & Recreation
Community Garden Coordinator

PLANTED

500
native plants
& tree saplings

PULLED

4
acres of
invasive species

BUILT

28
new community
garden beds

SPREAD

200
cubic yards
of mulch

Thanks goes to our main partner, Portland Parks & Recreation, and our generous corporate sponsors for supporting this important city-wide event.

SUPPORT

PPF secured \$670,000 of our \$2.6 million goal to build the Footbridge Over Burnside this year. The capital campaign committee hired local firm Shields Obletz Johnsen to manage the project, and Charlie Swindells joined as campaign chair. We look forward to completing fundraising in 2017 and bridging the gap in the Wildwood Trail next year.

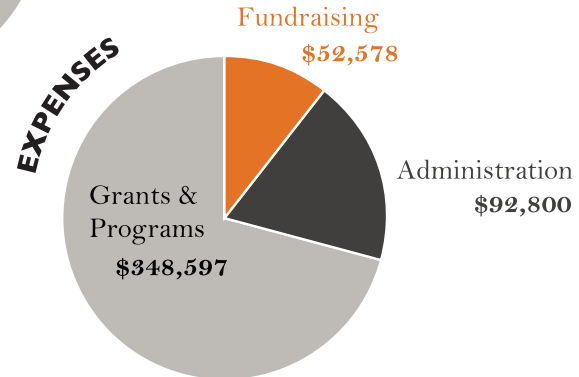
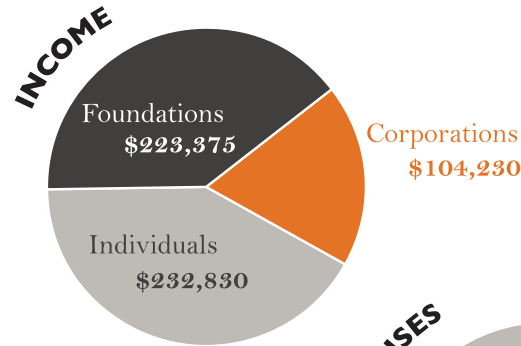
“The Portland Parks Foundation is vital to enhancing our parks network by leveraging private financial resources while serving as a focal point of critical public support.”

–Charlie Swindells, Footbridge Over Burnside Campaign Chair

\$196,000

amount PPF distributed directly to sponsored park projects

↑ 8.2%
increase in individual donor support



Portland Parks Foundation

PARTNERSHIP

The Foundation helped bring free programming to thousands of Portlanders during the **Summer Free For All** movie, concert and playground series last summer. We helped with fundraising and secured two major gifts for concerts in **underserved neighborhoods**.

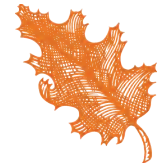


“Several Summer Free For All concerts last summer would not have been possible without donations coming through the Portland Parks Foundation. The concerts brought neighbors together for uplifting activities that celebrated our city’s growing cultural diversity.”

—Lynn Shisler, SFFA Concert Manager,
Portland Parks & Recreation



Photo by Scotty Williams



FOLLOW US:



Instagram
[pdxparksfoundation](https://www.instagram.com/pdxparksfoundation)



Facebook
[portlandparksfoundation](https://www.facebook.com/portlandparksfoundation)

Sign up for our Monthly Newsletter
Portlandpf.org/get-involved



WE
NEED
YOU!

Help the Foundation tackle big projects in 2016!

We will celebrate our 15th anniversary beginning in May 2016. In addition to special anniversary programs, we'll be working hard to secure major funding for the Footbridge Over Burnside, help our partner Verde fundraise for Cully Park, and add a micro-grants program supporting Parke Diem community projects. **Your support and leadership are essential in completing our goals and improving Portland's parks—please donate today!**

Dear Friends,

Portland's parks today are more important than they have ever been. As open and natural spaces, they have demonstrable impacts on our physical and mental health. They contribute to the growth and independence of children. They help sustain the quality of air and water. Best of all, parks belong to all of us.

Since joining the Portland Parks Foundation in October, I've learned how intensely we Portlanders care for our parks. I've gotten my hands dirty (alongside the hundreds of neighborhood volunteers at Parke Diem), had my mind expanded (through exposure to new research on the many benefits of parks and open spaces) and found my hopes confirmed by the dedication of our board, our staff, Parks Commissioner Amanda Fritz, Parks Director Mike Abbaté, and his team at Portland Parks & Recreation. All are deeply committed to sustaining parks and parks programs as an avenue to health and equity in our growing city.

Your Parks Foundation has been active. In 2015 we managed successful transitions in the Foundation's board and staff, mobilized volunteers, distributed funds and laid important groundwork for capital campaigns in 2016. We ended the year with a strong vote of confidence and generous financial support from the community. It's clear that you understand the Foundation's role in leveraging public and financial support for park projects.

In 2016 we'll begin a celebration of our 15th anniversary. We'll partner with community leaders and public officials to broaden the base of committed park advocates and to highlight the opportunities for private donors to add lasting value to our parks. We'll work hard along with Portland Parks & Recreation to ensure that Portland's international reputation for natural green spaces, community gardens, gorgeous beds of roses, wild and woody trails, and sports fields of every description is secure.

Farmer and author Wendell Berry has noted, "The Earth is what we all have in common." He could have been speaking to us about public parks. They are the shared space for groups and individuals, for private thought and the public forum, day after day, year after year, generation after generation; places to converse, reflect, create, play and cultivate. And parks are our most available direct connection to the planet—trees, grasses, streams, wildlife, gardens, soil. They are the common ground that helps literally make us better people. We will always need that common ground. The Portland Parks Foundation invites you to help ensure we have the best.

With warm appreciation,



Jeff Anderson
Executive Director
Portland Parks Foundation



"... parks are our most available direct connection to the planet—trees, grasses, streams, wildlife, gardens, soil. They are the common ground that helps literally make us better people."

Portland Parks Foundation Board of Directors

Gina Eiben – Chair
Perkins & Coie LLP

Charlie Baker
Nike, Inc.

Ex Officio

Matt Pullen – Treasurer
Deloitte & Touche LLP

Jim Francesconi
Moda Health

Mike Abbaté
Portland Parks & Recreation

David Thompson – Secretary
Portland Business Alliance

Alex Occhipinti
Northrup Corporation

Josh Alpert
Office of Mayor Charlie Hales

Zari Santner - Officer
Portland Parks & Recreation (Retired)

Mary Ruble
U.S. Bank

Jim Owens
Portland Parks Board

Julie Vigeland
Community Leader