



Community Involvement Committee

Paula Amato

Paula is a Faculty Physician/Educator at OHSU, City Club member, Volunteer Physician at Outside In, and on the Board of the Gay and Lesbian Medical Association. She is relatively new to Portland, having worked internationally and lived in various other large cities. She has a long-standing interest in public health and is a strong believer in mixed use/diverse neighborhoods, public transportation, universally accessible public spaces, context-appropriate architecture and sustainability. She has leadership/advocacy experience, public sector work experience and has worked as a community volunteer.

Jason Barnstead-Long

Jason is a community planning specialist, with continued participation in a number of geographical and non-geographical community groups and coalitions. He has had internships with the Office of Neighborhood Involvement and the Clackamas Community Land Trust, and was an employee at a Portland area non-profit minority community organization during the last four years. He is skilled in community involvement and relationship building, problem solving, facilitation, and research and development. “As an active member of the Portland community, I want to further participate and contribute my skills in the fulfillment of a project which will have long-lasting effects on the growth and development of our community. Being part of a growing minority of disabled citizens, frequently challenged and hindered by ways in which our city planning processes are organized, I feel I can offer first-hand insight into ways to make public involvement more accessible for everyone.”

Judy BlueHorse Skelton

Judy serves on the Native American Advisory Committee to Portland Parks and Rec and as a Board Member of the Urban Greenspaces Institute and the regional Intertwine Alliance. Judy first worked with visionPDX and was the Portland representative to the Oregon Indian Education Association. As faculty at Portland State University, Judy teaches Environmental Education through Native American Lenses, Intro to Leadership for Sustainability, and Learning Gardens and Civic Affairs. “I love this place; I am passionate about and committed to the integration of indigenous knowledge and relationships into the larger fabric/conversations happening in Portland and the region and hope to strengthen the bridges between diverse communities, local governments, businesses, natural spaces/places and the intrinsic wisdom that the land has always held. Recognizing the immense diversity within all communities can offer creative solutions and possibilities.”

Lois Cohen

Lois has over twenty years experience in strategic communications. Her background working at every level of government, from the City of New York to the State of Oregon and the Federal Department of Transportation, gives her an uncommon ability to assess political landscapes - enhancing project delivery for clients and building innovative partnerships for the agencies and communities they serve. Since June 2008, Ms. Cohen has

been the President of Lois D. Cohen Associates, a Portland-based communications firm specializing in community relations, outreach strategy consulting and delivery of communications workshops for public and private organizations. Before founding Lois D. Cohen Associates, Ms. Cohen served for seven years as Director of Community Partnerships for Portland State University's Graduate School of Education; and served in a number of government positions such as Intergovernmental Projects Manager for Oregon's Department of General Services. She is an effective public speaker who gave the luncheon address to those attending the 2009 Governor's Market Place. Her remarks focused on Small Businesses: Marketing in a Web-Based Environment.

Elizabeth Gatti

Liz has worked as a resolution facilitator for the Office of Neighborhood Development, provided community mediation services and is currently the owner of Wild Violet Productions, LLC, an organization focused on community enrichment in its many forms. She also serves on the boards of the Hosford/Abernethy Neighborhood Development (HAND) and the PTA of her children's school, as well as other community involvement committees. "Magic occurs when people are truly involved in their lives and the life of their community. I would like to support our community in connecting in the healthiest possible way, particularly around our collective future, which I perceive the Portland Plan to represent. As a member of the CIC, my role would be to model the possibility of positive involvement and encourage people to do what we are all here to do – make our contribution."

Judith Gonzalez Plascencia

Judith is an architect working for Zimmer Gunsul Frasca Architects. She has also been a land-use planner for the Southeast Uplift Neighborhood program, an organizer/builder for the City Repair Collective and a community liaison with the Guadalajara Portland Sister Cities Association. She is an excellent communicator, enjoys group work, and is bilingual English-Spanish, familiar with the Portland urban planning system, knowledgeable about community involvement and neighborhood associations system. "If selected for this position, I am not representing my office or other community organizations. That helps a lot as I think the hardest will be to keep my personal point of view in perspective. It would help me remember that this is not about me, go back to the common need and assess it accordingly. It might be that the best approach is not my favorite, but it is the best way for the community we are aiming to serve."

Anyeley Hallova

Anyeley is a partner with Project^ecological development, doing real estate development planning, project management, due diligence and marketing. She has also been a development manager for Gerding Edlen Development and an urban design associate with EDAW Inc. Currently, she is a volunteer with the Imago Dei Community Church, Portland, and is serving on the Adjustment Committee with the City of Portland. Her skills include group facilitation, public speaking, city planning, promoting sustainable development and public participation. "I believe that government should be inclusive of all the people it represents. This ensures that community initiatives, including planning policies and programs, reflect the needs and desires of its residents. Public participation and inclusion is essential to the success of any city planning effort."

Brian L. Heron

Brian is past co-chair and active in the East Portland Action Plan initiated by Mayor Potter in 2007. He is the pastor of Eastminster Presbyterian Church and has worked on or for multiple youth and family services and organizations in NE Portland. “It is both important to me as well as necessary to my profession that communities are well-represented and that they don’t move forward until they can move forward together. I am interested in contributing to the work of this committee for two reasons: (1) it is how I personally give back to the community for all the gifts it afforded me; and (2) I do think I have well-honed skills and experience that will contribute to promoting community engagement. My professional life has spanned working in the faith community, social services, hospice, law enforcement and self-employment.”

Shirley Nacoste

Shirley has worked at Outside In, Gresham Rehab & Specialty Care, Wildwood Personal Initiatives and the Tualatin Valley Center. As a community volunteer, she is or has been an advisor on a City of Portland Budget Bureau Advisory Committee, a board member of Southeast Uplift, a member of the Center Neighborhood Association and treasurer for the NAACP, Portland branch. “I will respectfully work to shift perceptions and experiences toward the current reality of the population demographic of Portland: that neighborhood associations are not just for homeowners and the feeling that neighborhood associations are white homeowner organizations that are not always open. It is important to find ways to treat people in a manner that is respectful and inclusive. And I will work to improve communication between community members, groups and our Community Involvement Committee members.”

Linda Nettekoven

Linda’s ongoing volunteer efforts reflect her long-term commitment to helping groups and individuals find their “voice,” whether in the workplace or the public policy arena. During her 10+ years in Portland Linda has channeled much of her volunteer energy into the City’s neighborhood system. A long-time board member and officer of her neighborhood association and her neighborhood coalition, she currently serves as vice chair of the Hosford-Abernethy Neighborhood Development Association (HAND). With a background in health, community and organizational psychology, she helped to develop the City’s Five Year Plan to Increase Community Involvement, serves on the City’s Public Involvement Advisory Committee and has represented citizen concerns on several bureau/budget advisory committees. She is also a founding member of the Division Vision Coalition, a collaborative effort to revitalize SE Division Street. “The quality of the Portland Plan will be determined by the quality of the community engagement that informs it. I look forward to collaborating with others to help create an innovative, effective and welcoming process that will make Portlanders proud.”

Lai-Lani Ovalles

Lai-Lani joined the Planning Commission in July 2008. She has worked in the education and social justice field for over 10 years to bring youth and adults together for personal and social transformation. As a community organizer, she helped engage individuals in the community through civic education and nonviolence activities in Washington, Oregon, California, New York, Florida, New Mexico, and New Zealand. She works with the Native American Youth and Family Center as the Indigenous Community Engagement Coordinator. She coordinates Native professional development, leadership initiatives and networking events, and staffs the work of the Portland Indian Leaders Roundtable. Lai-Lani believes in the power of culture, creativity and indigenous knowledge to guide in the creation of a just and peaceful world.

Stanley Penkin

A native New Yorker who has been in the construction and building business for many years, Stan is currently “retired” but actively engaged in the development of green and sustainable infill projects in Portland. His educational background includes a BS in Civil Engineering and an MS in Urban Planning. During his six years in Portland, he has been actively involved in the community, including chairmanship of his HOA Board, board member of Portland Center Stage, co-founder of the Oregon Arts and Culture PAC (ArtPAC) and an avid supporter of the arts. While New York still remains in his heart, Portland is in his soul. “Portland had the foresight to make vital and visionary decisions in the 1970s that propelled the city forward. We are now at another critical crossroad that will determine how we continue to move forward. I believe in an open, transparent and inclusionary process and am honored to be on this committee and to help in any way I can.”

Kevin Pozzi

"A lifelong Hoosier, I graduated from Indiana University in 2009 with a Journalism degree and extensive experience within the university's student media, student affairs, and service learning programs. While appreciative of my Midwestern roots, my old home felt lacking in the civic engagement and environmental ethos that I felt myself drawn to, and decided that a fresh start would offer the best opportunity to reach my potential. All signs led to Portland, and so after graduation, I caught the Amtrak from Chicago and began anew. After working in Residence Life at the University of Portland, I am now a Congressional Staffer for Representative Earl Blumenauer focused on managing our intern program, as well as GLBT, Arts/Humanities, and student loan work. Interested in the intersection of smart growth and public service, I also volunteer with 1000 Friends of Oregon, the Bus Project, and am a City Club member. It is an honor to join the Portland Plan's Community Involvement Committee, and reflective of the work and experiences that I hope will shape my career."

Ryan Schera

Ryan is a land use planner and on the board and land use committee for the Portsmouth Neighborhood Association. He has also volunteered at the Rebuilding Center and has a Bachelors degree in Community Development. “Over the past two years, I have been working as a land use planner for a local firm in Portland. In this capacity, I have held a number of neighborhood meetings to address public concerns on a development proposal. As a volunteer with the Portsmouth Neighborhood Association, I sit at the other side of the table. I feel that my planning and neighborhood experiences allow me to have a unique and

significant understanding of the public involvement and land use processes and policies. The CIC is an immense opportunity for the citizens of Portland to get involved and participate in the shaping of the City's future and land use policy for the next 20 years."

Howard Shapiro

Howard moved to Portland in 1973 after a 25-year career in marketing and broadcasting in Seattle. He is a member of the Portland Planning Commission, serves as vice chair of Albina Community Bank, and is a board member of Rejuvenation, Portland Center Stage, and Oregon Public Broadcasting. "As Portland looks ahead, planning the next 20 years, and all that promises, the citizens, the roots of our community, need to help shape that restructure. Important voices can be overlooked or worse, ignored. The Community Involvement Committee, the antenna of public opinion and awareness of the Portland Plan, is a wonderful opportunity for me, as a Planning Commissioner, to listen and learn and contribute. I have had the unique advantage of a personal conversation with all the committee members and it is an honor to do this work with such a fine group of people."

Peter Stark

Peter is an architect and native of Portland. Having worked for large firms in New York and Los Angeles, Mr. Stark moved back to Portland in 1995 and for the past fifteen years he has been very active in local development and planning. A member of Venture Portland and Portland Business Alliance, he is the past president and currently serves on the Board for the Central Eastside Industrial Council and is vice-chair of the CE-Urban Renewal Advisory Committee. In 2008, he was responsible for directing the Central Eastside's Strategic Plan. In addition to inner Southeast involvement Mr. Stark also has participated on regional committees including those for transportation, urbanization and growth. He serves on the board for Portland Streetcar Inc, is currently president of the Hillside Neighborhood Association, a board member of Neighbors West-Northwest and chairs the Cornell Road Sustainability Coalition, representing four northwest neighborhood associations, the Portland Bicycle Transportation Alliance, the Forest Park Conservancy and the Portland Audubon Society.

Alison Stoll

A NE Portland neighbor for 27 years, Alison is the executive director of Central Northeast Neighbors, a nonprofit coalition of 8 neighborhood and 5 business associations in NE Portland. Her work with CNN has spanned 20 years, first hired as a crime prevention Coordinator. Alison serves on the Boards of RideConnection, a nonprofit providing rides for seniors and differently abled people in the Portland Metro area, Parkrose Business Association, the Alliance of Portland Neighborhood Business Associations (APNBA) and Grant Park Church. Alison is a 2007 Spirit of Portland Award Winner for Community Partnerships, holds a Chief's Forum Problem-Solving Award from Mayor Tom Potter and was presented with the American Mothers Leah Sauer Award for her work in the Community. "I believe that everyone should have a voice and be involved in their community."