

# SEATTLE DEPARTMENT OF NEIGHBORHOODS

# PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

*Seattle Department of Neighborhoods provides resources and opportunities for community members to build strong communities and improve their quality of life. Through our programs and services, we meet people where they are and help residents develop a stronger sense of place, build closer ties, and engage with their community and city government.*

## **Seattle Department of Neighborhoods - Strengthening Seattle by actively engaging all communities**

Here are our programs and services:

**NEIGHBORHOOD MATCHING FUND** awards money to local groups for a broad array of neighborhood-initiated improvement, organizing, or planning projects. Every award is matched by the community through their own contribution of cash, volunteerism, donated goods, materials and supplies, or in-kind professional services. There are three levels of funding based on the type of project and amount requested - from small amounts up to \$100,000.

**P-PATCH COMMUNITY GARDENING PROGRAM** promotes and manages community-stewarded open spaces for organic urban agriculture to individuals and groups. As the largest municipally-managed community gardening program west of New York, the staff manages nearly 90 gardens that serve more than 3,000 households and 6800 gardeners. It also provides special programs that serve youth and low-income and underrepresented populations.

**HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM** manages the identification and protection of more than 400 historic structures, sites, objects, and vessels, as well as eight historic districts located throughout Seattle. The program provides information on the basics of historic preservation in Seattle, including the landmark designation process and incentives for property owners to encourage preservation and renovation. It also supports the work of several citizen review boards involved in historic preservation.

**PUBLIC OUTREACH AND ENGAGEMENT LIAISONS (POEL)** serve as independent contractors who are expert navigators in historically underrepresented communities, which are communities that are conspicuously absent from the public process. To ensure that all voices are heard, POELs provide access to information, resources, and civic processes for these communities. This work helps both City government and community members forge connections, build relationships, and have meaningful dialogue.



**Strengthening Seattle by  
Actively Engaging All Communities**

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**NEIGHBORHOOD DISTRICT COORDINATORS** bring City government closer to communities across Seattle. The Coordinators connect with dozens of community organizations on a wide range of neighborhood projects and issues and work to engage and support Seattle's residents. They encourage community involvement, help with neighborhood improvement efforts, and serve as the liaison between the City and community.

**PEOPLE'S ACADEMY FOR COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT (PACE)** focuses on leadership development and skill building of emerging leaders in a multicultural, participatory environment. Over the course of the program, participants learn hands-on strategies for community building, inclusive engagement, and accessing government from experts in the field.

**MAJOR INSTITUTIONS AND SCHOOLS PROGRAM** provides a way for the neighbors of Seattle's larger institutions (i.e. hospitals, schools, colleges) and public schools to be directly involved in their development plans so that neighborhood concerns are considered. This program organizes and staffs city-appointed citizen advisory committees for each project.

**PARTICIPATORY BUDGETING** is a democratic process in which Seattle youth decide how to spend part of the City's budget. The process involves public assemblies to brainstorm project ideas, committees to develop concrete proposals, a vote on the projects to be funded, and partnerships with the City departments that will implement the projects.

**FIND IT, FIX IT COMMUNITY WALKS** is a series of Mayoral-led walks in which neighbors, police, and city officials walk together to identify physical elements in the neighborhoods that make them feel unsafe or poorly maintained. Once identified, the city and community work together to fix the problems.

**DUWAMISH RIVER OPPORTUNITY FUND** awards funding to support new and existing small-scale programs focused on challenges faced by communities in the Duwamish River area during the Superfund clean-up.

## SEATTLE DEPARTMENT OF NEIGHBORHOODS

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