



OLD TOWN COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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The Old Town Community Association (OTCA) is excited to announce new leadership and a restructured organization as it continues to support the Old Town neighborhood.

OTCA's full board comprises 11 members representing a diverse cross-section of the Old Town community, including residents, non-profits, cultural institutions, and local businesses.

The newly appointed Executive Committee for 2026-2027 includes Chair Elizabeth Nye (Lan Su Chinese Garden), Vice Chair Lance Orton (CityTeam), Secretary Timothy Desper (Portland Rescue Mission), and Treasurer Peter Cunningham (Old Town resident). This team brings extensive experience and a strong commitment to the community.

Chris Pink (Can Can Paris Theater) will co-chair the Arts, History & Culture Committee alongside Neil Lee (CCBA). Ryan Hashagen (Icicle Tricycles) will co-chair the Land Use and Transportation Committee with former board member Nicole Tignor. The Safety & Livability Committee will be co-led by Lance Orton and Timothy Desper. Matthew Skelten (The Hoxton Hotel) will chair the Fundraising & Finance Committee, working alongside Treasurer Peter Cunningham.

Executive Director Lori Wiechec will support the board in implementing strategic initiatives and overseeing daily operations as the organization embarks on this new chapter of leadership and collaboration.

OTCA recognizes and appreciates the ongoing investment and partnership of the City of Portland and Prosper Portland. Their contributions over the years have significantly

benefited the neighborhood. Currently, district-wide small-business support and capital projects are underway, including the installation of new overhead lantern lighting throughout Chinatown and the renovation of the Chinatown Gates. These efforts will be completed later this year and reflect a shared commitment to honoring the district's cultural identity while supporting its revitalization amidst complex challenges.

OTCA Board and Committees are presently engaged in a strategic planning process. This process focuses on identifying priorities and coordinating efforts to address the neighborhood's ongoing needs and future development.

In a renewed commitment to transparency and community engagement, OTCA invites residents, businesses, and partners to help shape strategic priorities that will strengthen the neighborhood's future. Community voices are vital as we navigate this pivotal moment together.

This summer, OTCA is coordinating several initiatives to energize the neighborhood, including OLD TOWN DANCE, a weekly global street dance class celebrating Darcelle's Showplace, Can Can Paris Theater, and LGBTQ+ culture in the community; a pop-up art gallery featuring working studios in the Hip Sing Tong; and the Old Town Block Party, a street festival at the end of the summer.

For more information, including committee meeting dates and a full list of board members, please visit pdxoldtown.org.

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