

News Release

For Immediate Release

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Community Partners Schedule Public Forum on Building a Pearl/River District for Families

A consortium of public and private partners has organized a public forum to discuss a variety of issues around the topic of families and the Pearl/River District. Titled, “Building a Pearl/River District for Families,” the forum will explore issues relating to the neighborhood’s affordability, family services, amenities and livability. The forum will be held on Saturday, May 6 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Pacific Northwest College of Art’s Swigert Commons at 1241 N.W. Johnson St. There is no fee to attend.

Those who have (or plan to have) children or grandchildren; or who are interested in having a family-friendly city are encouraged to attend. Couples, partners, single parents, grandparents, teens, children and others will explore issues related to the neighborhood. The format for the forum will be interactive and participation and creativity is encouraged. Those participating will:

- help the neighborhood identify family needs and preferences;
- influence future development of the neighborhood’s services and amenities—including housing, schools, community spaces, child care, outdoor spaces, stores/shops/services, food and restaurants, and transportation;
- have an opportunity to discuss how they use this urban neighborhood through drawing and mapping exercises;
- attendees will be introduced to the neighborhood’s current family services and amenities; and
- attendees will be introduced to other families who live, work, or are considering a move to the neighborhood.

Organizers of the event hope to influence the neighborhood’s development towards a future that is inclusive of families by understanding family preferences and prioritizing development opportunities for the Pearl District. (The Pearl District is contained within the larger River District Urban Renewal Area.) The forum’s outcomes may also influence Portland’s other urban neighborhoods such as Northwest, Old Town/Chinatown, Downtown, South Waterfront, Central Eastside and the University District.

Attendees can feel free to drop in anytime during the forum. Snacks and drinks will be provided as well as creative activities for children and teens of all ages.

The event is co-sponsored by Central City Concern, Pearl District Neighborhood Association, Portland Development Commission and the Zimmerman Community Center along with a group of residents, planners, developers, designers, owners, and providers of family services and amenities.

For more information visit www.family.urbanpatterns.com or [e-mail](#).