



Diane Davison

Friends of Eastern Promenade

Recognition

The Eastern Promenade is one of Portland's signature public green spaces and a designated historic landscape district. Well known for its panoramic views of Casco Bay, it was underutilized and in need of investment when Diane Davison moved to Munjoy Hill nearly twenty-five years ago. Her love of the Eastern Promenade led her to initiate the annual April Stool's Day clean-up, a project that now extends beyond the Prom to other Portland public parks. Diane then co-founded the Friends of the Eastern Promenade (FoEP) in 2006 to preserve the historic public landscape, protect its environmental integrity, and enhance its recreational use.

As the past president, Executive Director, and co-founder of FoEP, Diane revitalized the city's dormant master plan for the Eastern Promenade into an active document that guides the work to restore, revitalize and enhance the park. With Diane's dedication and leadership the FoEP revived the Prom's summer concert series, improved the park's trail network, and partnered with the City of Portland to restore Fort Allen Park. Through her collaboration with individuals in the community, city leaders, the Historic Preservation Board, the City Parks Commission, landscape designers, and architects Fort Allen Park has been restored to its early twentieth century appearance, with interpretive signage about its history. Today the Eastern Promenade reflects the past decade of hard work and is a magnet for people from all walks of life to experience Portland's natural beauty and fascinating history.

Diane's dedication to Portland's green spaces extends beyond the Eastern Promenade, as she serves as the Chair of Portland's Park Commission. Parks are important features of daily life in Portland. They resulted from the vision, dedication, and generosity of many Portland residents and friends over the past two centuries. Diane's advocacy for Portland's public green spaces, especially her beloved Eastern Promenade, continues that legacy for the benefit of future generations.