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Diverse Base of Support Forms to Advocate for the OMSI District

PORTLAND, Ore. (July 14, 2022) – A broad and diverse coalition of entities has come out in support of the OMSI District – a proposed vibrant new neighborhood on the southeast bank of the Willamette River in Portland’s Central Eastside.

The coalition includes likely and unlikely allies – community-based nonprofits, Tribal entities, companies, associations, tourism advocates and others. These entities will help champion and advocate for the OMSI District throughout key milestones, including the city’s land use hearing and comment period, which is anticipated this fall.

“There is a tremendous opportunity in the OMSI District to create an inclusive neighborhood. The OMSI District would be the first in the city to restore Tribal presence on the Willamette. On behalf of the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians and the Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission, we are excited to support the development of the OMSI District in any way that we can,” said James Parker, Acting Executive Director of ATNI.

The Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians (ATNI) and the Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission (CRITFC) are partnering to develop the vision and concept for a Center for Tribal Nations and Waterfront Education Park within the OMSI District.

“We are excited to collaborate with OMSI and tribal partners to advance sustainable climate solutions and innovation through transportation, technology and education,” said Maria Pope, President and CEO of Portland General Electric. “This project will further science, engineering, and advocacy opportunities as we work together to address the challenges of climate change.”

OMSI and PGE have a long history of partnering. PGE donated the site on the Willamette waterfront where OMSI currently sits. In February of this year OMSI announced a new solar array on top of the museum, funded by PGE’s Renewable Development Fund.

“The OMSI District is one of Portland’s most exciting developments. It will anchor the Central Eastside, and its proximity to transit, the waterfront and a landmark pedestrian path make it a launch point for people wanting to experience and access other parts of Portland. I am thrilled to welcome the Tribal entities as full partners. Indigenous people have a powerful history and presence in our communities, enriching our efforts. I’m looking forward to celebrating the OMSI District’s growth,” said Congressman Earl Blumenauer.

The funding for the OMSI District is envisioned as a strong public-private-philanthropic partnership, one in which the public investment in infrastructure, transportation and parks is leveraged tenfold by the private sector.

Already the state has pledged \$5 million toward the construction of a new Water Avenue, and Metro has granted \$750,000 toward Tribal engagement. Discussions around infrastructure are ongoing with the city of Portland and other government entities. OMSI is also planning a significant campaign to raise funds for the OMSI District.

The planned OMSI District will transform 24 acres of parking lots into a new, mixed-use transit-oriented development with 3 million square feet of office space, research space, retail, residential, hotel, recreational green space and more. Up to 1,200 units of housing are planned, with at least 20 percent of those being affordable. District attractions, including a new waterfront education park and performance spaces, will bring together visitors, communities, employers and Central Eastside neighbors. The District will also be an economic growth driver for Portland and Oregon by generating jobs, producing more than \$11 million in annual property tax revenue and generating \$22 million in annual income tax revenue in the Portland Metro area.

Partners in the OMSI District include the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians (ATNI), City of Portland, Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission (CRITFC), Metro, Portland Community College, Portland General Electric, Portland Opera and the State of Oregon. For more information and updates on the OMSI District visit <https://omsi.edu/property>.

Supporters of the OMSI District

- Adelante Mujeres
- Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians
- Albina Vision Trust
- Apano Communities United Fund
- Arnerich Massena
- Autodesk
- Business for a Better Portland
- Central Eastside Industrial Council
- Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission
- Edlen & Co
- Greater Portland Inc.
- Human Access Project
- In4All
- Kairos PDX
- Mayer/Reed
- Meyer Memorial Trust
- Molinas Construction Company
- Moonstruck Chocolate
- Muslim Educational Trust
- Native American Youth and Family Center
- Oregon Health and Science University

- Oregon Smart Growth
- Pacific Seafood
- PacifiCorp
- Portland Business Alliance
- Portland Community College
- Portland General Electric
- Portland Opera
- Portland State University
- SEI
- Senaptec
- SERA Architects
- Technology Association of Oregon
- Travel Portland
- Tri-Met
- Urban League of Portland
- Verde
- Wieden+Kennedy
- ZGF

About OMSI

Founded in 1944, the Oregon Museum of Science and Industry (OMSI) is one of the nation's leading science museums and a trusted educational resource for communities. Through museum exhibitions, public programs at the museum and across the region, outdoor programs, traveling exhibitions, digital learning, and learning research and design, OMSI nourishes a lifelong love of science, curiosity and learning for diverse audiences in every county in Oregon and throughout the region. OMSI's museum is located at 1945 SE Water Avenue, Portland, OR 97214. For general information, call 503.797.4000 or visit omsi.edu. Connect with the museum on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [Instagram](#).