

Southeast Uplift: Your Neighborhood Coalition

Southeast Uplift is one of seven district coalitions in Portland, which receive funding from the Office of Neighborhood Involvement to provide support and technical assistance to the city's neighborhood associations. SE Uplift was created in 1968 as a program designed to help cities deal with inner-city problems. However, the true passion that brought southeast neighbors together began a year later as neighbors organized to halt development of the Mount Hood Freeway.

Successful opposition to the proposed Mount Hood Freeway, along with similar projects around Portland inspired citizens to organize neighborhood associations, so that citizens could have more of a voice in policy and planning deliberation.

Portland's neighborhood association system was officially developed in 1974.

For the past forty years, Southeast Uplift Neighborhood Coalition has supported the 20 neighborhoods, business districts and community groups in southeast Portland, encouraging community involvement in efforts to improve neighborhood livability, sense of community and public safety and organizational and self-empowerment at the neighborhood level.

Although the City of Portland is SE Uplift's core source of funding, we are a nonprofit 501c 3 corporation. The board of directors is comprised of representatives from each neighborhood association as well as members from business districts and community-based organization partners within our coalition area. The board sets policies and oversees program development to address SE Uplift's mission to increase participation and promote livability in our coalition area.

Staff size and program areas have varied over the years. Core program areas include Neighborhood Leadership, Communications, Cultural Competency, Fiscal Support for Community Building and Neighborhood Livability.

Mission Statement

To assist the citizens and neighborhood associations of Southeast Portland to create communities that are livable, socially diverse, safe and vital. Southeast Uplift provides an organizational structure and forum to empower citizens to effectively resolve issues of livability and community development.