



Strengthening Our Roots Along The Riverfront

2019 Report





Dear friends of Riverfront North,

We are grateful to be a part of positive change on our Delaware River! 2019 was an incredible year full of clean-ups on the riverfront and nature-centered programs with our community. It was also our year to strengthen our roots through expanded partnerships and engagement.

Our goal remains the same; to connect. We work with the City of Philadelphia to complete and sustain the Delaware riverfront greenway, and we invite our community to enjoy and steward their public spaces together. Last year, with your support, we all did our part to keep our river clean by removing tons of trash and planting hundreds of trees. We welcomed over 5,000 of our neighbors to public programs. We even celebrated the opening of the newly renovated Pulaski Park with Philadelphia Parks and Recreation!

We continue to grow as an organization. In 2019 we launched a new Trailblazer program designed for our friends who work alongside Riverfront North Partnership to care for the trails and parks on the Delaware River. With leadership support from The William Penn Foundation, we embarked on a season of discovery with a new Bridesburg community advisory panel to learn from other urban river parks. This knowledge will guide us as we plan for the new Bridesburg Riverfront Park.

Although we have all been forced to pause in 2020, we look forward to launching several important initiatives. We expect to break ground on a new trail segment that will connect Lardner's Point Park with the Tacony Boat Launch. We will stabilize the Pennypack Creek shoreline as it meets the Delaware River, providing safe access to unsurpassed nature walks at Pennypack on the Delaware. And our roster of free family programs will continue to grow. Stay tuned!

We look forward to seeing you soon at the beautiful parks and trails along our Delaware River.

Sincerely,

Robert A. Borski, Jr. Chair - Riverfront North Partnership

Stephanie Phillips Executive Director - Riverfront North Partnership

# Riverfront North 2019 By the Numbers

**CREATION:** Building a continuous 11-mile network of trails and parks is the first pillar of our mission.



#### **ACTIVATION:**

We welcome a growing community to their riverfront through engaging programs.



**64.** Community Events



5,000 Community Event Attendees

#### **RESTORATION:**

We clean and green our 11-mile greenway with an army of volunteers.



13,144 lbs. of Trash Collected



**626** Trees Planted



6,168 Total Volunteer Hours

# **Strengthening Roots**

The greenway is a bit greener this year, thanks to the more than 600 new trees planted along our eleven-mile park and trail network. These trees were planted by corporate and workforce development groups with help from local community organizations and volunteers.

Over 12,000 lbs. of trash were removed from the parks and the river with help from volunteers who donated over 5,600 hours of their time. In 2020, our stewardship efforts will only grow with increased partnerships and support.



# **Riverfront Trail - Pennypack on the Delaware**

# **Blazing A Trail**

Riverfront North Partnership was proud to launch the new Trailblazer program for a growing community of donors and volunteers. In 2019, we focused on expanding our base of support through individuals, corporate sponsors, and foundations, including a milestone \$2 million grant from the William Penn Foundation in support.

Strategic investments in capacity allow Riverfront North to raise over \$1 million for restoration initiatives. Recent projects include a shoreline restoration at Lardner's Point Park, 2017 construction of the K&T and Baxter trail segments, and a park revenue feasibility study in 2018. Staff has grown from three to nine people in the last four years, with a focus on stewardship and public engagement. The result has been an exponential increase in volunteerism and public programs, and a 42% growth in our social media presence.

Stay tuned for a new Master Plan and Strategic Plan update. We will also break ground on a new K&T trail segment and shoreline stabilization at Pennypack on the Delaware

### **Growing With Our Community**

Riverfront North is growing with our increasingly diverse community through programs, partnerships, and discovery. We believe in the inherent benefits that our shared public spaces have to build community and connections to nature.

Last year, with the help of our community partners, we gratefully expanded volunteer stewardship, workforce development, and free outdoor programs. We also launched a new initiative in Bridesburg with the help of a local advisory committee. We visited urban river parks in Philadelphia, Camden, New Jersey, and Akron, Ohio, to learn how they create safe and welcoming spaces together. We learned valuable lessons together about the importance of trust and experimenting together. And most importantly, that parks are beautiful, but it is how you use them that makes them great.





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# Financials: July 1st 2018 -June 30th 2019

Revenue and Support	Total
Contracts	\$537,173
Grants and Contributions In-Kind Contributions	2,584,635 22,785
Miscellaneous income	1,361
Total revenue and support before release from restrictions	3,145,954
Net assets released from restrictions	-
Total revenue and support	3,145,954
Total management and general	210,723
Total program services	907,869
Total fundraising	96,143
Total expenses	1,214,735
Change in net assets	1,931,219
Net asset, beginning of year	712,445
Net asset, end of year	\$2,643,664



## **Support**

Leadership support to Riverfront North was provided by the **City of Philadelphia** and **The William Penn Foundation**. We are thankful for their commitment to advancing our mission. In addition, we gratefully acknowledge the following supporters:

The Arbor Day Foundation	Just Born	Pennsylvania Environmental Council
Arsenal Business Center	Kinder Morgan	Philadelphia Foundation
Bank of America	The McLean Contributionship	Pennsylvania Horticultural Society
Bridesburg CDC	MOM's Organic Market	Philadelphia Federal Credit Union
Byrne's Tavern	Morris Iron & Steel	Philadelphia Insurance Companies
Clif Bar Foundation	National Fish and Wildlife Foundation	Riverwards Produce
Comcast	O'Donnell & Naccarato	RMLow Foundation
Councilmember Bobby Henon	PECO Energy	SureShade, LLC
Dietz & Watson	PA Coastal Zone Management Program	TD Bank
Enterprise Rent-A-Car	PA Commonwealth Financing Authority	Waste Management
Fairmount Park Conservancy and the Estate of Russell Duane	PA Department of Conservation and Natural Resources	Stevens & Lee
James J. Anderson Construction	PA Department of Community and Economic Development	

#### We thank the following members of our community who helped to make the first year of our Trailblazers program a success!

Billy Brown Joyce Ferrero Kat Jost Alan Kaminsky Steve Kemery Nance Kerns Linde Lauff Chris McDevitt Meg Perine	John Armijo
Kat Jost Alan Kaminsky Steve Kemery Nance Kerns Linde Lauff Chris McDevitt	Billy Brown
Alan Kaminsky Steve Kemery Nance Kerns Linde Lauff Chris McDevitt	Joyce Ferrero
Steve Kemery Nance Kerns Linde Lauff Chris McDevitt	Kat Jost
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Linde Lauff Chris McDevitt	Steve Kemery
Chris McDevitt	Nance Kerns
	Linde Lauff
Meg Perine	Chris McDevitt
	Meg Perine

Jason Trenchard
Floyd B. Kelley
Nancy Zelena
Trophy Bikes
Jennifer Biskup
Michael Caputo
James Carpitella
Betsey Cichoracki
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Gina and Ben Craigo

Vince Gavigan
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M.A.R.C Amanda McAndrews Joan and Nicolas Pody Joseph Sannutti Stephanie Phillips Mark Tonelli Thomas Branigan Catherine Polakowski Johannah Fine Stephen Gansz Jayne Spector
Bridesburg Community Developmetn Corp.
Julie Bush
Michael Nucci
Mariann Dempsey
Keystone Outdoor Advertising Company
Sweet Lucy's Smokehouse
John and Linda Mycek

Bonk's Bar



Connecting Parks. Connecting People.

The mission of Riverfront North Partnership is to complete and sustain the riverfront trail and network of parks along the Delaware River that connect residents of urban neighborhoods to nature, offering unparalleled recreational, community building, and environmental education activities.

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