



First Hill Improvement Association

1425 Broadway #281
Seattle, WA 98122

In 2016, the First Hill Improvement Association (FHIA) expanded its work to make our neighborhood safer as well as a great place to live, work and visit. Your generous support has enabled us to increase staff, expand our outreach and achieve some key goals laid out in our strategic plan. We're proud of what we've accomplished in 2016.

Keeping our momentum depends on our members. As a vital part of the First Hill community we hope you'll continue to support our work. To make that easier for you and to help FHIA implement a sustainable financial plan, we've changed the membership renewal process. Beginning this year, everyone will be invited to renew membership each January, rather than on an anniversary date.

Here are some of the highlights of FHIA staff and volunteer work over the past two years:

Community Building

- Director position is now full-time and we hired a part-time outreach coordinator.
- Brought together nearly 100 neighbors to work on the FHIA Board and committees, acquire funding, track progress, and plan projects such as renovating First Hill Park.
- Testified regarding 14 developments before the East Design Review Board. The result was preservation of Terry Ave's green street concept, development of public open space at 1320 University, and increased retail space in several projects.
- Hosted 18 community events, bringing together hundreds of people who seek community and are committed to improving our neighborhood.
- Grew newsletter distribution from 75 to more than 1,400 people since 2014. Our readers depend on it to learn about important issues in the neighborhood.

Improving Public Spaces

- Led a visioning process for First Hill Park and secured \$500,000 for its construction.
- Designed signal box art that will be installed at ten 10 locations throughout First Hill.
- Developed a plan for a 1.5 mile walking loop connecting Yesler Park and Freeway Park.
- Worked with a developer to turn a "pavement park" into a permanent public open space.

Financial Stability

- Staff secured \$150,000 in grant support to benefit First Hill improvements
- FHIA membership increased by 120% in 2016 due to increased outreach, expanding and improving public spaces, improved relations with the Seattle Police Department, and more.
- FHIA implemented a new membership dues structure, changing to a calendar year cycle.

Please let us know if you have any questions, comments, or suggestions. Thank you for your continued support, and for being our neighbor!

Sincerely,



Mary Ellen Hudgins, President
Board of Trustees



Alexandra Hudson, Director
First Hill Improvement Association

