



**PORTLAND
PARKS & RECREATION**

Healthy Parks, Healthy Portland



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For Immediate Release

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Umpqua Bank Donates \$25,000 toward Restoring Downtown Parks

**Joins nearly 100 individual donors to kick off the
Restore our Historic Squares Fund**

(Portland, OR) –

Portland-based Umpqua Bank, the largest state chartered community bank, has committed \$25,000 toward restoring Lownsdale and Chapman Squares in downtown Portland. This gift is the largest single donation for the *Restore our Historic Squares Fund*. Portland Parks & Recreation (PP&R) and our valued nonprofit partner, the Portland Parks Foundation, collaborated to create the *Restore our Historic Squares Fund* to help restore and reinvigorate Chapman and Lownsdale Squares.

The Foundation is managing the fund, which gives residents and businesses a chance to contribute to the cost of restoring and invigorating Chapman and Lownsdale Squares, two of the most historically and culturally significant parks in Portland.

“As a Portland-headquartered business, we believe we have an obligation to support our city and our beautiful parks,” says Umpqua CEO and President Ray Davis. “We are pleased to help.”

Umpqua joins over 100 private citizens who have so far donated more than \$7,000 to the Portland Parks Foundation in gifts ranging from \$10 to just

over \$1,000 to revitalize Chapman and Lowndale Squares. These historic parks, acquired in the 1850's and the first in PP&R's system, sustained significant damage to turf, trees, and facilities during the recent Occupy Portland protests.

"Umpqua Bank saw a need and reached out to us," said Portland Parks Commissioner Nick Fish. "Portland is very fortunate to have such a terrific community partner."

One donor, who made his contribution on the Parks Foundation website, commented that he "loved Portland Parks, and sees these squares every day. Pitching in to help repair them was something I felt I needed to do."

City arborists, ecologists, engineers, turf professionals, and other experts continue to evaluate the damage, and plan for necessary repairs and restoration of Chapman and Lowndale Squares. The cost to completely restore the squares may approach \$100,000.

"The Portland Parks Foundation is delighted with the support of Umpqua Bank," says Nick Hardigg, Executive Director of the Portland Parks Foundation. "Our parks are remarkable, yet fragile. Umpqua's generosity is a wonderful expression of how a local company cares for Portlanders. We thank them whole-heartedly for helping our parks in this pressing time of need. We encourage all citizens to consider making a gift to the Restore our Historic Squares Fund."

Donations can be made online at:
www.portlandparksfoundation.org

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