

Oregon Main Street Workshop

Formulating a Strategy: Historic Commercial Building Rehabilitation

Speaker Bios

Jack Applegate, OCBO, CHI: Jack has been in the construction industry since 1988 and holds more than 25 State and National Certifications in the International Code Council (ICC) and State of Oregon Building Codes. Jack is a Building Official, Plans Examiner and Combination Inspector and serves as the Building Official for multiple jurisdictions in Oregon. Jack Currently serves on the ICC International Building Code Action Committee where he dedicates his volunteer time evaluating and writing code change proposals for the International Building Codes with emphasis on Historic Buildings. Jack also serves on ICC Certification Exam Development Committee and is Board Member for the ICC Region II 5 state region. Jack was the 2014 winner of the Institute for Market Transformation's National Standard and Bearers Award for his work on historic building education and code development programs. Jack is currently employed as the Building Department Manager for The Building Department LLC and manages more than 24 Jurisdictions in Oregon, Idaho and Washington. Jack has also been an instructor at Clatsop Community College teaching building codes in the Historic Preservation Program since 2009.

Kevin Cronin: Kevin started as the Community Development Director for the City of Astoria in July 2015 where he manages a portfolio of two urban renewal areas, economic development, historic preservation, housing, city planning, building codes, and code enforcement. He has worked in the city planning and development field for close to twenty years. He most recently spent 9 years working for the Portland Development Commission as a senior project manager and business development officer for the Lents area, a predominantly lower income neighborhood in Outer Southeast Portland. Kevin has worked in the local government sector for the cities of Sherwood and Talent as well. He serves as VP on the Board of the Lower Columbia Youth Soccer Association where he also coaches his son. When not attending countless meetings, Kevin can be found on local fields coaching youth sports, on the trail hiking the area, or exploring Astoria on bike and foot. His next trip includes a backcountry excursion with his son to Olympic National Park in June and a national park tour in Washington in August.

John Goodenberger: Educated in architecture at University of Oregon, John Goodenberger has guided the restoration of commercial and residential buildings in Astoria. Working also as the City's historic building consultant, he has analyzed the integrity and historic significance of more than 1,000 properties. John was the chair of the State Advisory Committee on Historic Preservation and is currently a regional representative for Restore Oregon. He teaches hand drawing, history and theory in Clatsop Community College's Historic Preservation program.

Kevin Leahy: Kevin is the executive director of CEDR (Clatsop Economic Development Resources) and the Clatsop Community College Small Business Development Center (SBDC), and a member of America's Small Business Development Center. Clatsop's SBDC received the 2015 "SBDC Excellence and Innovation Award," presented each year by the U.S. Small Business Administration to an outstanding SBDC for "providing exceptional value to small businesses, and advancing program delivery and management through innovation". In addition to the statewide award, Clatsop's SBDC also took home the Center of Excellence and Innovation Award for SBA's Region 10, which includes the states of Oregon, Washington, Alaska, and Idaho. Previously, Leahy was the owner along with his wife Karen of a candle, home décor, and home fragrance store in southern California, and co-owner of a national franchise organization. In addition, he served for many years as Vice-President, footwear and fashion home, for Meier & Frank in Portland and Robinsons-May in Los Angeles. Leahy serves on the board as Past President of the Astoria Regatta Festival, an Oregon Heritage Tradition Event founded in 1894, and also currently serves as the President of the Seaside Rotary Club.

Peggy Moretti: Peggy brings over 20 years experience as a marketing executive and business entrepreneur to her role as Executive Director of Restore Oregon, where she has served since 2009. She is ever grateful for the opportunity to combine a knowledge of management and communications with her passion for preservation and place-making. In addition to leading Restore Oregon, Peggy has served on the Board of Directors for the Pittock Mansion in Portland, spent several years with the Bosco-Milligan Foundation, and is the proud owner/steward of the Louis G. Pfunder House listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Jay Raskin, FAIA: Jay was the architect for the rehabilitation of a number of historic commercial buildings in Astoria, starting with the Hotel Elliott. He has been the Chair of Columbia Pacific Preservation, a collaborative effort to establish the Columbia Pacific region as a center of excellence for historic preservation. He helped create Clatsop Community College's Historic Preservation Program and taught the drawing class. He has been a regional advisor for Restore Oregon and was chair of the Restore Oregon work group that created the "Resilient Masonry Buildings: Saving Lives, Livelihoods and the Livability of Oregon's Historic Downtowns" Special Report. He is currently the Chair of the Community Resilience Panel and Vice-chair of the Oregon Seismic Safety Policy Advisory Commission. He currently has his own architectural practice and is a founding associated of Salus Resilience (a multi-disciplinary group offering resilience planning and resilient design services).

Lucien Swerdloff: Lucien is the coordinator of and an instructor in the Historic Preservation and Computer Aided Design & Graphics programs at Clatsop Community College in Astoria. He earned Master of Architecture and Master of Science degrees from the State University of New York in Buffalo. Lucien is on the board of Columbia Pacific Preservation, a collaborative group promoting education and economic development through historic preservation. He is also on the board of Astoria Ferry, working to preserve, protect and operate the historic Tourist No. 2 ferry. He has organized numerous preservation workshops throughout Oregon and Washington and worked on the restoration of many historic structures.