



David Campbell Memorial Association

330 S. Curry Street, Portland OR 97239

www.DavidCampbellMemorial.org - Info@DavidCampbellMemorial.org

Greetings. I don't often put out an ask for help, but I think the time has come to do so.

As most of you probably know, I have been working with the David Campbell Memorial Association (DCMA) since May 2019. During that time, and with the support of the DCMA Board, I have pushed to restore the David Campbell Memorial and build a proper accompanying memorial to honor all Portland Firefighters who have given their lives in service. These 77 names have no place of public display. In fact, even the names that were on the David Campbell Memorial (14 of which were stolen in September 2023) were incomplete and simply a poor memorial our Fallen Firefighters.

With collected funds, we have completed the restoration of the David Campbell Memorial. However, we remain unfunded to complete the remaining elements of a memorial to all of Portland's Fallen Firefighters.

I have personally spent hundreds of hours pursuing funding. Portland Firefighters contributed the first \$103,000 in 2016. Commissioner Nick Fish matched that with another \$100,000 in City funds. In 2023, Commissioner Joanne Hardesty added another \$250,000 to the project. Recently, three other city councilors (Clark, Zimmerman, and Kanal) added \$75,000. Another \$100,000 has come from a variety of other sources and donors to bring the total raised to about \$630,000. That leaves us about \$1.2 million short of the funds needed to complete this project. The DCMA has saved the city hundreds of thousands of dollars, if not over a million, by spearheading the project that would have never been considered otherwise. The time has come to tell every elected Portland official the importance of this project.

Private donations are always welcomed, but I am of the belief that this city-owned asset and heritage site deserves additional investment by the City of Portland. So, my ask is for those who believe the same, to help by communicating this to city hall. This project intends to preserve and improve a city heritage site that serves as a memorial to public servants who gave their lives to Portlanders. It is important for so many reasons.

If you agree, please consider communicating this to city leaders. The attached pages contain contact information, key points about the project to consider, and a sample letter if you prefer. Whether our template, or your own words, the message needs to be clear...This project is poised for completion and needs the City's help to cross the finish line.

Together, we can make the case that this project must be a priority, even during challenging fiscal times. Your support is needed. Please take a moment to help this cause. Please contact me with any questions or ideas.

Don Porth
Portland Fire & Rescue, Retired
David Campbell Memorial Association, President
503-805-8482
Don@PreventThink.com

The Importance of the Portland Firefighter Memorial

The completed project will host:

- **The David Campbell Memorial** – A memorial to Fire Chief David Campbell, whose sacrifice has inspired generations of Portland Firefighters and reflects community support during that difficult time.
- **The Memorial Wall** – A tribute to all 77 current (with space for future) Portland Firefighters who have given their lives in service to Portlanders. There is no public display sharing their story or names.
- **The Messenger Bell** – the largest alarm bell in Oregon history, used to summon firefighters to duty beginning in 1874. It represents the memory and lessons learned from the 1873 conflagration known as “Black Saturday” that leveled 22 square blocks of Portland.
- **The Architecture of Paul Phillip Cret** – The architectural design of the David Campbell Memorial was an architectural gift to Portland from renowned architect Paul Cret. Its unique and artistic design distinguishes this site from any other in Portland.
- **Interpretive Panels** – The Portland Firefighter Memorial has long suffered from an identity crisis. This project will install interpretive panels to share the rich history of Portland Fire & Rescue and the Fire Bureau’s 173 year history of protecting the citizens of Portland.
- **A Public Space** – The memorial triangle is a community asset that serves the surrounding neighborhoods and the city. A public plaza like this is a rare feature in the SW Portland community and will provide a place for community connection, remembrance, and respite from urban bustle.

If you would like to voice your support for this project, please communicate this to city leaders.

District 4 Councilors:

- Olivia Clark: councilor.clark@portlandoregon.gov
- Eric Zimmerman: councilor.zimmerman@portlandoregon.gov
- Mitch Green: councilor.green@portlandoregon.gov

District 3 Councilors:

- Angela Morillo: councilor.morillo@portlandoregon.gov
- Steve Novick: councilor.novick@portlandoregon.gov
- Tiffany Koyama Lane: councilor.koyamalane@portlandoregon.gov

District 2 Councilors:

- Dan Ryan: councilor.ryan@portlandoregon.gov
- Elana Pirtle-Guiney: councilor.pirtle-guiney@portlandoregon.gov
- Sameer Kanal: councilor.kanal@portlandoregon.gov

District 1 Councilors:

- Candace Avalos: councilor.avalos@portlandoregon.gov
- Jamie Dunphy: councilor.dunphy@portlandoregon.gov
- Loretta Smith: councilor.smith@portlandoregon.gov

Mayor

- Keith Wilson, Mayor: mayor.wilson@portlandoregon.gov

To Mail a Letter of Support, use this Address:

c/o FILL IN NAME OF COUNCILOR/MAYOR
1221 SW 4th Avenue
Portland OR 97204

[SAMPLE LETTER]

(if you would like an editable copy, please contact Don Porth by one of the means listed on page one)

Dear [Name Of Elected Official],

I am a supporter of Portland Firefighters and I'm writing to ask for your support in securing the necessary funding for the completion of the Portland Firefighter Memorial. There is currently no public display or tribute to the 77 Portland Firefighters who have given their lives in service to the citizens of Portland.

The Portland Firefighter Memorial Triangle (1864 SW Alder Street) contains the historic David Campbell Memorial, which is itself an important piece of Portland's history. In addition to a memorial wall to finally display the names of our 77 fallen firefighters, this site will also host the historic Messenger Bell - the largest alarm bell in Oregon history - dating back to 1874. Interpretative panels at the memorial will share the 173-year history of Portland Fire & Rescue's service protecting the citizens of Portland. Finally, the completed Memorial site will be a public space for the surrounding neighborhoods. It can once again be a place for all Portland citizens to gather and celebrate our community.

This project is a long-overdue tribute to the sacrifice by Portland Firefighters and the history of Portland Fire. It is also an investment in preserving Portland history for future generations.

I respectfully request your support for the completion of the Portland Firefighter Memorial.

Thank you,

[Your Name]