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## **Friends of Green Loop Announces Partnership and Proposal with Portland City Council for Relocation of Alder St. Food Carts**

***Proposal allocates \$269K to support the food cart relocation to the new site on SW 8th, Ankeny and SW Park***

**Portland, Ore. (April 30, 2021)** - Mayor Ted Wheeler, in partnership with Friends of Green Loop, announced Thursday the Alder St. Food Cart pod has been included in the budget allocation proposal for their relocation in downtown Portland. The proposal allocates \$269,000 to support the food cart relocation, which will cover improvements and electricity to the new site on SW 8th, Ankeny and SW Park. The Portland City Council will vote to approve the budget in June and funds would be allocated in July.

“This is an extremely exciting time and has been nearly two years in the making,” said Keith Jones, Executive Director for Friends of the Green Loop. “The combination of being displaced and the economic impact of the pandemic has been a one-two punch not only to our food carts but also our independent restaurant scene. This is about getting people back to work and rebuilding our culinary scene.”

This is a true collaboration at its core with public and private sectors working together to bring the food carts back to downtown.

“This is a win-win on many levels. This private-public partnership supports businesses owned by members of the Black, Indigenous and people of color community, creating safe outdoor dining opportunities amid the pandemic, all while bringing people downtown again,” said Mayor Wheeler. “Food cart pods are dining hubs for our city, and we want to bring back the unique Portland experience we all enjoy. This partnership supports our community, reinvigorates the park space and contributes to the livability of our city.”

Friends of Green Loop, an initiative to create a six-mile linear park throughout the city, is leading the private-public coalition along with support from Mayor Ted Wheeler’s office, Commissioner

Jo Ann Hardesty, Commissioner Mingus Mapps, Commissioner Carmen Rubio, Commissioner Dan Ryan, Prosper Portland, Portland Parks & Recreation, Portland Bureau of Transportation, Portland Parks Foundation, Travel Portland and the Portland Business Alliance.

“I’m thrilled to see these food carts have a potential new home and with all the work PBOT did to help get us there. Since becoming the Transportation Commissioner, one of my highest priorities has been utilizing public space in ways that promote community, culture, and sustainability. I appreciate all the partnerships that made this possible,” said Commissioner Jo Ann Hardesty

“This project is radical placemaking at its best. This summer the Ankeny West pod will be putting food cart owners back in business and transforming a blighted lot,” said Commissioner Mingus Mapps. “I’m grateful to Friends of Green Loop for bringing this creative plan forward,”

“Food carts are a highlight of Portland’s culinary scene, I am happy to support the food cart owners in finding a new location for them to operate,” said Commissioner Carmen Rubio. “The food carts will also bring positive activation to Ankeny West and the North Park Blocks and I look forward to dining there myself.”

In 2019, 55 Alder Street food carts were moved from SW 9th and SW Alder for the development of the Ritz-Carlton Hotel. The carts have since been stored at the former US Post Office site in northwest Portland. The new location, which hopes to open in time for the 4th of July weekend, will serve as a new home for the displaced carts, many of which are immigrant based and BIPOC owned businesses.

The proposed [Culinary Corridor](#), which is planned for SW 9th Ave. between Director Park and O’Bryant Park and SW Park from O’Bryant Park to Burnside, would be one segment of the city’s Green Loop. It would borrow the festival street concept, where a portion of public right-of-way has been designated for the purpose of pedestrian-oriented activities, and food carts would occupy the curbside parking spaces. The Green Loop is a long-term plan to deal with the shrinking number of surface parking lots due to rising land value, spanning throughout downtown, as well as Lloyd and Central East Side.

To learn more, visit: <https://www.pdxgreenloop.org/the-culinary-corridor/>

For renderings of Ankeny West, please see this [link](#).

### **About Friends of the Green Loop**

Friends of Green Loop is a community-based organization that promotes, advocates and helps to advance the development of the Green Loop. The organization was originally founded by Kiel Johnson, a dedicated bike advocate, community leader and owner of Go By Bike, the largest bike valet in the country. Together with friend Keith Jones, the organization quickly grew to gain larger participation in the design and development of the Green Loop. Quickly gaining supporters in the community, Friends of Green Loop is making steps to grow from promotion and advocacy to include design, development, programming and management.

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