Communit Profile

Population 9,495
Location Astoria

Position Description

Sponsor Astoria Downtown Historic District Association (ADHDA)
Supervisor Tiffany Estes, President

Assignment

Established in the 1980s, the Astoria Downtown Historic District Association is a non-profit organization whose mission is to facilitate community involvement in preserving the character of historic downtown Astoria. Further, the organization encourages investment in the area while promoting its health and future. Last year, the Astoria Downtown Historic District re-entered the Oregon Main Street Program and advanced to the second level of participation. The downtown district encompasses more than thirty square blocks and is the oldest U.S. settlement west of the Rockies.

The RARE participant placed with the Astoria Downtown Historic District Association will coordinate and support various components of the Main Street Program. Specifically, the participant will take on the role as Astoria Downtown Historic District Association’s lead coordinator, where he or she will attend Main Street Program meetings, work with appropriate organizations, and participate in joint activities and initiatives. Also, through implementation of a recently awarded streetscape grant, the participant will assist the City of Astoria in their current efforts to improve storefront and street signage, investigate upper floor residential use, and explore how to best maintain adequate parking within Astoria’s downtown core.

RARE Participant

Blaire Buergler grew up in Arlington, Virginia. She received a Bachelor of Arts in Public and Urban Affairs from Virginia Tech and focused on urban planning and policy. As a student at Virginia Tech, Blaire was selected to be a Resident Advisor and volunteered for the “The Big Event” which allowed her to give back to the local community. Prior to joining RARE, Blaire worked as a Visitor Services Counselor for Arlington Economic Development where she was responsible for everyday management of the Visitors Center and providing visitor services to local conference and conventions including the Marine Corps Marathon. Following Blair’s second year with the RARE program, she hopes to work in the planning field and eventually return to school to continue her studies in Urban Planning.