



PORTLAND HARVEY MILK STREET PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS & FAQ

- Portland's Harvey Milk Street Project is a grassroots coalition organizing to honor LGBTQ activist & icon Harvey Milk by renaming the 13 blocks of SW Stark Street to SW Harvey Milk Street. We're here to gather signatures to showcase the community's support of recognizing Harvey's legacy & message of hope – we need 2500 to move forward!
- Visible, positive acknowledgement is crucial for demonstrating our community values & fighting prejudice. Currently, Portland has no significant memorials or features that recognize, commemorate, & celebrate the LGBTQ community & its contributions.
- Renaming SW Stark after LGBTQ activist & icon Harvey Milk sends a powerful message of hope & acceptance to LGBTQ youth – our Portland values, respects, & honors the LGBTQ community
- Currently supported by 75%+ of businesses along the street, with the number increasing (no one has declined to support, but some corporate companies need approval from HQ)
- **Why Harvey?** Milk was a national leader in the early stages of the LGBTQ rights movement, serving as one of the first openly gay elected officials before he was assassinated in 1978. The scope of his activism extended well beyond San Francisco – Milk helped in the effort to defeat the anti-LGBTQ Measure 51 in Eugene in 1978, a critical campaign in Oregon's fledgling LGBTQ civil rights movement. He was featured in Portland director Gus Van Sant's critically acclaimed film *Milk*.
- **Other Harvey Milk recognitions:** Milk has been recognized on a US Postal Service stamp, a Navy ship, streets in San Diego & Salt Lake City, as well as various plazas, buildings, & features around the world. In 2012, President Barack Obama posthumously awarded Harvey Milk the Presidential Medal of Freedom, making him the only LGBTQ activist to ever receive this highest award.
- **Who else was considered?** Our organizing committee discussed many figures for this honor. City code requires street namings to be after someone who is a household name and has been deceased for 5+ years. Milk's LGBTQ activism, legacy, & nationwide household recognition were key factors in our decision, meeting Portland's street naming requirements & opening the door to further commemorate LGBTQ history & culture along the street. We are collaborating with the Portland Bureau of Transportation regarding additional projects.
- **Why SW Stark Street?** SW Stark Street was once a gathering place & sanctuary for LGBTQ culture, community, events & civil rights organizing in Portland – we hope to honor this historical significance to the LGBTQ community.
- **What is the cost?** Donors, supporters, & coalition members have pledged to pay for the street name change ourselves (estimated to be between 5-10k), as well as a fund to cover any associated costs faced by businesses along the street.
- **What is the timeline?** We have submitted our initial application & are currently gathering the 2500 required signatures – we hope to have our ultimate City Council hearing & vote by Portland Pride (June 2018) or shortly thereafter.

Want to join the effort/learn more/other questions?

Check out our website harveymilkpdx.org or email us at info@harveymilkpdx.org!