



Cliff Wood

Executive Director, The Providence Foundation: 2017 – present

Executive Director, Downtown Providence Parks Conservancy: 2008 – present

- Collaborating with Foundation executive committee, membership, the Downtown Improvement District and community and government partners on legislative, advocacy, policy and strategic efforts supporting Providence Foundation mission to assist downtown physical, economic and cultural development.
- Leading a public-private partnership to preserve and transform Providence's downtown core into a prosperous economic and cultural center through the development and management of exceptional public spaces.
- Skillfully advancing organizational mission through team building and management, public advocacy, constituency building, public programming, enhancement of the city's security and maintenance efforts, and fundraising for capital improvements.
- Building a broad coalition of state and city government, economic development and transportation advocates, the business community, building owners and tenants, the arts community, local labor unions, downtown residents and visitors, and those who enjoy and support our public spaces.
- Chaired \$35 million state ballot initiative to build a 21st century intermodal transit center in the state capital.
- Attracted support from preeminent placemaking practitioners and funders, including the Project for Public Spaces, the National Endowment for the Arts, and international corporations such as Southwest Airlines and Hasbro.

Director of Public Advocacy, The Providence Foundation: 2012 – 2017

Senior Associate, Cornish Associates, LP: 2006 – 2012

- Supported real estate and public policy goals of the company through work with business and downtown improvement communities, and interaction with city and state government.

Deputy Majority Leader, Providence City Council: 2007 – 2010

- Created and chaired the City Council Special Committee on Public Education. Served as Vice-Chair of the Committee on Ordinances and as a member of the Committee on Finance.
- Led a successful campaign to defeat a long-term incumbent in first run for public office.
- Catalyzed rehabilitation and reprogramming of Nathan Bishop Middle School.
- Cultivated citizen efforts in the rehabilitation and repurposing of Brown Street Park and the creation of Blackstone Boulevard bike lane on East Side of Providence.

Director, Department of Art, Culture and Tourism: 2003 – 2006

- Served as founding director to create an effective, high profile, start-up city department.
- Cabinet-level post, reported to mayor, and worked across disciplines to promote the arts as an economic development tool through legislation, tourism, media relations, housing, community development and the film industry.
- Created and managed annual Celebrate Providence! Neighborhood Arts Programming Initiative.
- Co-created and co-produced Providence Sound Session and FirstWorks festivals.
- Managed \$100,000 revolving loan program to arts organizations for operation related expenses.

Deputy Chief of Policy, Mayor's Office of Policy: 2003

Downcity Associate, Cornish Associates, LP: 1997 – 2002

- Implemented the Downcity District revitalization plan supporting the company mission to rebuild Downcity Providence through historic preservation, public advocacy, housing creation, the arts and retail programming.
- Managed community relations, including city, state and federal government, universities, businesses, media, real estate developers, advocacy groups, banks, arts organizations and foundations.
- Raised funds to develop company's historic downtown properties.

Coalition Coordinator, US Climate Action Network: 1995 – 1997

- Coordinated joint political efforts of national coalition of energy and environmental organizations working in Washington, DC, and at the United Nations toward an effective Kyoto Protocol, an international treaty on climate change.

Other Relevant Experience

Vice Chair, Providence Redevelopment Agency: 2011 – present

Advisor, Providence Cultural Equity Initiative: 2016 – present

Chair, Providence Charter Review Commission: 2012

Providence Police Advisory Board: 2007 – 2012

Vice President, FirstWorks Providence Board of Directors: 2006 – 2008

Member, Congress for the New Urbanism, 1998 – present

Professional Awards and Recognition

Providence Children's Museum honors for fostering community well being through shared fun and learning, 2013

Preserve Rhode Island and the Rhode Historical Preservation & Heritage Commission, Rhody Award for preservation and rehabilitation of Nathan Bishop Middle School, 2009

Education

Master of Arts, Environmental Science & Policy

Clark University, Worcester, Massachusetts

Bachelor of Arts, Political Science

State University of New York at Albany, Albany, New York

Phi Beta Kappa and magna cum laude honors