



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Donna Moodie joins Capitol Hill EcoDistrict as new Executive Director

Longtime community advocate, small business leader, and restaurant maven hired by Capitol Hill Housing to lead the EcoDistrict's efforts

Seattle, WA – Donna Moodie, owner of Marjorie Restaurant in the Central Area, began her role as the new Executive Director of the Capitol Hill EcoDistrict in late January. Moodie brings years of engagement with both the Capitol Hill and Central District business communities to her new role.

Her motivation for this transition can be summed up succinctly: “I wanted to do something that makes a difference in a very local way.”

Currently, Moodie co-chairs the Mayor’s Small Business Advisory Council, participates in the Central Area Land Use Review Committee, and serves on the Seattle Center Advisory Commission. She was a founding board member of the Capitol Hill Housing Foundation and chaired the Central District Forum for Arts and Ideas Board. As a consultant, Moodie has advised food business startups and architects on diversity and inclusion.

Christopher Persons, CEO of Capitol Hill Housing, said Moodie represents a vital part of Seattle’s vibrancy.

“I am amazed every day at how deeply connected Donna is in the community,” Persons said. “Her experience as a small business owner brings invaluable insight to the mission of the EcoDistrict.”

The Capitol Hill EcoDistrict is a neighborhood-based sustainability initiative led by Capitol Hill Housing. The EcoDistrict works in partnership with the local community to test and deploy innovative solutions that address Capitol Hill’s most pressing challenges. In 2020, the EcoDistrict signature project will be developing a Public Life Plan for the neighborhood.

“Donna Moodie has a long history of working in central Seattle communities. We’re excited that she’s bringing so many ideas and connections to the work of the EcoDistrict,” said Whitney Fraser, EcoDistrict Steering Committee Co-Chair. “I’ve worked with Donna for years. Her passion for community building and environmental sustainability is just what’s needed to lead the Capitol Hill EcoDistrict,” added Co-Chair Chasten Fulbright.

Born in Jamaica, raised in Chicago, and now a resident of Seattle for over 20 years, Moodie is well-acquainted with the interconnectedness of social justice, community building, and neighborhood



activism. Together with EcoDistrict staff members Akeyla Jimerson and Erin Fried, Moodie looks forward to continuing the legacy of the EcoDistrict as well as building awareness and community participation in their mission.

“I truly believe that we can *make* our environment,” Moodie said. “I see a lot of opportunity in Seattle to build on.”

As a parent, Moodie is committed to work that improves the optimism of future generations. In addition to being an advocate for environmental sustainability, Moodie is passionate about equity, access to opportunity, and the preservation of small businesses.

“The EcoDistrict provides that opportunity by focusing on sustainability not just through a lens of environmentalism, but also inclusion and diversity – that’s why I’m so enthusiastic to be on board.”

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Since 1976, Capitol Hill Housing has worked alongside the community to build and preserve apartments affordable to working families and promote the qualities that make Seattle a vibrant and engaged city. Today, we provide safe, affordable homes to over 2,000 of our neighbors in 47 buildings across the city, while working to make neighborhoods safer, healthier, and more equitable throughout the region. Learn more at capitolhillhousing.org.

The Capitol Hill EcoDistrict, staffed by Capitol Hill Housing, is a neighborhood-based sustainability initiative serving the most densely populated urban village in the Pacific Northwest. It is a community-driven effort that promotes a socially equitable, environmentally resilient, and culturally vibrant neighborhood. The EcoDistrict works in partnership with the local community to test and deploy innovative solutions that address Capitol Hill’s most pressing sustainability challenges. We look to cities around the globe for inventive approaches to centering neighborhood development around long-term health for people and the planet. Learn more at <https://capitolhillecodistrict.org/>.