OWB's mission is to enhance the quality of life in Erie's West Bayfront neighborhoods through civic engagement, thoughtful development, historical preservation and neighborhood pride.

FALL 2026

So Much to Be Grateful For

It is hard to believe that we are already heading into the final months of 2026. As the days get shorter and we enter a season that naturally invites gratitude and reflection, I find myself thinking about just how much has happened across Our West Bayfront this year—and how many people have helped make it possible.

This summer was especially full. We celebrated new and renovated homes, welcomed neighbors to WestBayFit, gathered for National Night Out, enjoyed another incredible PorchFest, and saw hundreds of volunteers step forward to care for our neighborhood. When severe storms hit Erie in September, we were reminded once again what community looks like as neighbors, volunteers, organizations, and partners came together to help one another.

We also continued investing in affordable housing, neighborhood properties, parks and public spaces, small businesses, and the West 8th Street corridor. And through Our West Bayfront Forward, we have been listening to residents and partners as we think about what the next decade of this work should look like.

Our West Bayfront's work happens because people believe that strong neighborhoods matter. If you have attended one of our events, enjoyed a neighborhood park, volunteered with us, watched a vacant property come back to life, or simply appreciated the work happening throughout the West Bayfront this year, I hope you will consider making a year-end gift to OWB.

You can donate on our website at www.ourwestbayfront.org by clicking the **DONATE** button on our home page, mail us your donation, or drop it by the office.

Every gift, large or small, helps us continue investing in the people, places, and possibilities that make this community special.
Thank you for being part of another remarkable year. I am grateful for how far we have come together, and excited about where we are headed next.

With gratitude,

Gretchen Kerr
Executive Director
Our West Bayfront



OWB OUR WEST BAYFRONT

PARTNER RECOGNITION







OWB's mission is to enhance the quality of life in Erie's West Bayfront neighborhoods through civic engagement, thoughtful development, historical preservation and neighborhood pride.

FALL 2026

OWB | FORWARD

HONORING OUR PAST
SHAPING OUR FUTURE

From Community Voices to Action

Our planning process is about listening first, then turning what we hear into a clear plan for the future.

Over the past several months, OWB has been gathering input from residents, businesses, community partners, Board members, and other stakeholders. We are pairing those voices with data about housing, businesses, properties, infrastructure, safety, and neighborhood conditions.

The next step is to bring that information together and identify the priorities that should guide OWB's work in the years ahead. Those priorities will help shape our strategic plan, Board and staff work, partnerships, investments, and implementation.

Our comprehensive survey is now live and waiting for you!

This is not just about creating another report. Our goal is to build a practical roadmap that reflects community voices and helps OWB focus our time, partnerships, and resources where they can make the greatest impact.

r.plan











The OWB Survey is LIVE! Please take a few minutes and thoughtfully share your input. We are a resident, neighborhood driven organization! Your voice matters!

Scan the QR code to take our 2026 community survey!

OR visit the **OWB Forward Website** to complete the survey and learn more!
ourwestbayfront.org/about/forward/



We have a new mascot! Can you help us find a name for him?
Send your ideas to: info@ourwestbayfront.org

ERIE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION
Erie Insurance
KeyBank
GANNON UNIVERSITY
Marquette SAVINGS BANK
ECGRA
MLK CENTER
National Fuel
GREAT LAKES INSURANCE SERVICES GROUP, LLC
PA pennsylvania DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
PNC FOUNDATION
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF THE COVENANT