

ABOUT FRANKLINTON

Franklinton Board of Trade (FBOT), founded on March 2, 1904, is a membership organization comprised of Franklinton businesses, non-profits and citizens of Franklinton. As a 501c3 non-profit, we serve as the non-traditional Chamber of Commerce of our community. We actively work to connect local businesses to each other, make them aware of small business resources, and promote their products & services. FBOT holds regular networking lunches, after-hours socializing events, and special events throughout the year to raise the needed support for our mission to Advocate, Beautify, Connect. We encourage all Franklinton stakeholders to “be part of the change.”

We Advocate – so that our neighbors can speak with one empowered voice

We Beautify – so that everyone can take pride in their surroundings.

We Connect – so that all can know and respect the valuable resources we bring to each other.

For a full list of our membership, visit: www.franklintonbot.org/directory.

FRANKLINTON

BOARD OF TRADE

Advocate. Beautify. Connect.

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HISTORY OF FRANKLINTON

Franklinton is the oldest settlement of non-Indigenous settlers in Central Ohio, founded in 1797 by Lucas Sullivant on the west bank of the Scioto River, pre-dating the founding of a new state capital that would come to be known as Columbus. The land we now recognize as Franklinton, has known territory of Indigenous communities of Adena, Hopewell, and Shawandasse Tula, Wyandotte, Delaware, and Seneca.

From its inception, Franklinton has been a resilient community. The town was moved further west just one year after its founding due to what would become an unfortunate theme in Franklinton’s history: floodwaters. But the residents persevered, and by the early 20th century, the neighborhood (now annexed by the city of Columbus) had grown to nearly 30,000 residents.

It was at this peak that Franklinton suffered its biggest setback — the Great Flood of 1913, which destroyed the homes of 20,000 people. After this tragedy, and a second massive flood in 1959, investment in the area was restricted by law, which meant that those who stayed were legally barred from repairing and improving their properties. This led to neglect and flight which, in turn, led to poverty for those who remained and further disinvestment for the neighborhood as a whole. Still, residents pushed forward, and in 2004, a new flood wall was completed to protect the neighborhood and allow for neighborhood rehabilitation and hope for a better future. The low floodplain gave the neighborhood the nickname, “The Bottoms,” which is term of endearment many still use today.

PRESENT FRANKLINTON

Today, Franklinton remains resilient. From its peak of 30,000, the area is now home to around 9,000 people, and growing every day. Many households (which are primarily located in the western half of Franklinton) experience poverty, precarity, and poor health outcomes. As of 2019, median household income in Franklinton is around \$40,000 annually — far less than the median household income of nearly \$54,000 for the city of Columbus and nearly \$57,000 for the state of Ohio.

At the same time, around half a billion dollars have been invested in Franklinton since completion of the flood wall, primarily in the formerly industrial eastern half of the neighborhood nearest Downtown. This area has become home to artist spaces, restaurants, breweries, and one of the largest makerspaces in the world, which in turn has attracted mixed-use development and higher-income residents. Gravity Phase 1 and River & Rich were the first housing developments in the area, with more planned. This investment is cause for both celebration and caution: as new neighbors move in and visitors and land values increase, existing residents may fall further into poverty and be forced to leave the neighborhood. To remain a mixed-income neighborhood we want to be, more affordable housing is needed along with market-rate development.

FRANKLINTON AMENITIES

Parks

- [Dodge Park](#)
- [Cody Park](#)
- [Dorrian Green Park](#)
- [McKinley Park](#)
- [West Bank Park](#)

Museums

- [The Center of Science and Industry \(COSI\)](#)
- [The National Veterans Memorial and Museum](#)
- [Columbus Historical Society](#)

Food & Drink

- [Land Grant Brewing](#)
- [BrewDog](#)
- [Taft's Brewpourium](#)
- [Rehab Tavern](#)
- [Makers Social](#)
- [The Patio](#)
- [Charley's](#)
- [One Line Coffee](#)
- [Yellow Brick Pizza](#)
- [Strongwater Food & Spirits](#)
- [Roosevelt Coffeehouse](#)
- [Tommy's Diner](#)
- [Bottom's Up Coffee](#)
- [Josie's Pizza](#)
- [Street Thyme](#)
- [Two Fat Indians](#)
- [Grandma's Pizza](#)
- [Peking Wok](#)
- [Dos Hermanos](#)
- [Ray Ray's BBQ](#)

Arts/Maker Spaces

- [Idea Foundry](#)
- [400 W Rich / 400 Square](#)
- [The Vanderelli Room](#)
- [RoyGBiv](#)
- [Planthropy](#)
- [Secret Studio](#)
- [Beckett Forge](#)
- [Macabee Metals](#)
- [Chromedge Studios](#)

Retail/Services

- [Good Land Brand](#)
- [Jewelweed](#)
- [Body Beautiful](#)
- [Studio Torch](#)
- [Franklinton Market](#)
- [Citrine Hair & Skin](#)
- [Franklinton Cycle Works](#)
- [Plus Size Pretty Consignment Boutique](#)
- [The Witch Lab](#)
- [Franklinton Press](#)
- [Lower Lights Salon](#)
- [Axon Group & Personal Training](#)
- [Pinnacle Performance](#)
- [Columbus Pest Control](#)
- [Franklinton Square Shopping Plaza](#)
- [Geer Gas](#)
- [Reading Rock + CCL](#)
- [Lone Crow Printing](#)
- [Restaurant Equippers](#)
- [Sugarman Office Furniture](#)
- [Machinery & Tool Rentals Inc](#)

Healthcare

- [Lower Lights Health Center](#)
- [Mount Carmel Health](#)
- [Basecamp Recovery](#)
- [Complete Healthcare Addiction & Gynecology](#)
- [Planned Parenthood](#)
- [Majestic Care Columbus](#)
- [Equitas Safe Point](#)
- [Integrated Services for Behavioral Health](#)

Catering Services

- [Bleu & Fig](#)
- [Milo's Catering](#)

Auto

- [Mike's Foreign Car Service](#)
- [AMMCO](#)
- [Complete Brake Service](#)

Insurance & Legal Services

- [AA Affordable Insurance](#)
- [Anthony Gurvis Law](#)

Home Buying & Financial Services

- [Modern Ohio Realty](#)
- [New Nest & Company](#)
- [New City Homes](#)
- [Doorway Home Loans](#)
- [PNC](#)
- [Franklinton Rentals](#)
- [Franklinton Development Association](#)

FRANKLINTON ARTS DISTRICT

The Franklinton Arts District, which is east of SR315, is a small area bursting with new development, art, studios, small businesses, and more.

WEST FRANKLINTON

West of SR315 is the largest part of the neighborhood with mostly residential, but also a rapidly growing presence of great retail/services.