

A General Forum on Ethereum Localism

October 13-15, 2023
Hosted by PDX DAO



Welcome!

"Machinery can exist in the garden quite as finite games can be played within an infinite game. The question is not one of restricting machines from the garden but asking whether a machine serves the interest of the garden, or garden the interest of the machine."

- J. Carse, *Finite and Infinite Games*



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Introductions

Safety and Code of Conduct

About PDX DAO and The Forum

Why Portland & Why Ethereum

Event Overview

– 5 minute break –

Watch ‘Localism Around the World’ short video

Panel: “Experiments in Ethereum Localism”

Safety Best Practices

Health and Wellness: Take whatever precautions that you deem necessary to protect both yourself and others. Respect the precautions or lack thereof that others choose to take.

Event Contacts: Be sure that you have a way to contact event organizers from your phone. The event Telegram group is the best channel of communication. In case of any issues, don't hesitate to reach out.

Venue Safety: Familiarize yourself with this building's exits and procedures. Please report any safety concerns to an event organizer immediately.

Personal Safety: Be mindful of your personal belongings and surroundings. At night walk in a group if possible, and use well-lit streets and populated areas.

Code of Conduct: All attendees are expected to abide by the Code of Conduct, and show respect and courtesy to one another throughout the event. Attendees will refrain from harassment of any kind. Please be careful and mindful of the words that you choose. Sexist, racist, and other exclusionary comments can be offensive to those around you and will not be tolerated. <https://pdxdao.xyz/localism/safety/>

About PDX DAO and The Forum

PDX DAO

EthPDX + Portland Commons Technology Project

The Forum

Intention: Create a container where the Ethereum community can elaborate for itself, in a plurality of directions, what Ethereum localism can mean and look like.

What is PDX DAO?

Our goal is to build, engage and support Portland's raddest experiments in pluralism, decentralization, and economic democracy using the Ethereum toolkit.

As an organization, we have three points of focus, representing three perspectives on Ethereum localism we hope to see proliferated as adoption expands:

- Creating a vehicle to seed and support local experiments in Ethereum and web3 technology, especially for the public good, with an emphasis on monetary localism, the ownership economy, and novel cooperative enterprises.
- Initiating onboarding games to bring diverse communities of artists, makers, planners and designers into the crypto fold, along with their perspectives and knowledge-sets.
- Generating an opportunity for local Ethereans to build experience and dip their toes into the new economy by contributing to and participating in DAO work and governance.

Our Working Principles of Ethereum Localism: **Rough draft for an inverted city**

Ethereum is the capstone of three movements of inversion:

- **Cybernetics/Open source/P2P**

Discovery of emergence, feedback and complexity; practical superiority of the bazaar model (Raymond); efficiency of stigmergic systems and the power of spontaneous orders

- **Financial Sovereignty Movement**

Money as unity of three social coordination faculties: means of exchange, unit of account, store of value. Any social group with enough consensus can program these three inputs to prosocial ends.

- **Counterculture experiments in organization**

Leaders of movements get killed, imprisoned, co-opted. Decentralized movements are capture resistant and censorship resistant.

1st principle:

The power of DAOs is their **inverted relationship to the world of traditional institutions**: nations, companies, individuals are turned upside, and instead DAOs see movements, material and value flows, protocols.

Where other organizational structures correlated to entities, early DAOs needed to correlate to processes (in the form of decentralized web protocols). The first DAOs were built to promote and secure decentralized web protocols in the absence of corporate and bureaucratic infrastructure.

Local DAOs can follow this spirit and maximize their utility by dealing not with organizations, companies, government agencies, but with **decentralized, open social protocols**.

Luckily, the city is a furnace for these inverted forms. A shortlist of open social protocols we've had contact with in the past six months:

- mutual aid protocols
- regenerative agriculture protocols
- open hardware protocols, protocols of **reuse and repair**
- street medicine protocols
- street art protocols
- protocols of self-assembly
- protocols of **regulatory flight** and **civil disobedience**

Like the bazaar model, or leaderless organizing, these open social protocols are the fruits of practical wisdom: they exist to solve real material problems in the city **because they work.***

*In the inverted world, ethical stances are practical stances.

2nd principle:

It's must be both the ethos of and practical prerogative of local DAOs to concern themselves with the basic needs of their community.

Implicit in the ‘negative space’ of the decentralized protocols forged in the last decade is a practical ethic of voluntarism and pluralism that loathes **coercion*** and values **consent** and **freedom to exit**.

*Yes, i said it, **the point of the decentralized web is to generate technologies of nonviolence - fight me.**

These values are meaningless in conditions of insecurity and resource deprivation. Repeat: **those who don't have basic resources and security cannot make agential choices.** Environments of resource insecurity and violence are low-agency environments.

When these two priorities are thought together, magic happens, because a fusion of means and ends is reached. (“**Anarchy is key**” - Mariano)

Open protocols thrive in conditions of robust agency.

Open protocols are effective at providing basic resources.

Those who have reliable access to basic resources increase the effectiveness and legitimacy of open protocols.

3rd principle:

when filtered through “inverted world”
systems, **robust agency engenders robust
agency.**

In the inverted world, **the provision of basic needs is a non-negotiable, because the systems we strive for, both on the web and on the social level, can only thrive in environments of robust agency.**

Wait, wen Eth toolkit?

Rather than imposing use cases, we believe if local DAOs elevate '**inverted world**' values on the front end, we'll discover organic use cases for these tools on the back end.

4th principle:

Because the world of traditional finance sees a world right side up, it can only support physics of supremacy and opposition.

Inverted world systems need the web3 toolkit to be viable.

With their help, we can actualize an inverted physics, where agency, freedom and mutual aid can compound each other.

Why Portland

- Portland is a **hotbed** for the **regenerative protocols** and communities leading the **Just Transition**
- Portland's values are rooted in **radical experimentation** and **pluralism**
- Portland is **ready** for our community to supercharge the **regenerative turn**







**REB
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EDU SHOP

EDUCATION NEEDS

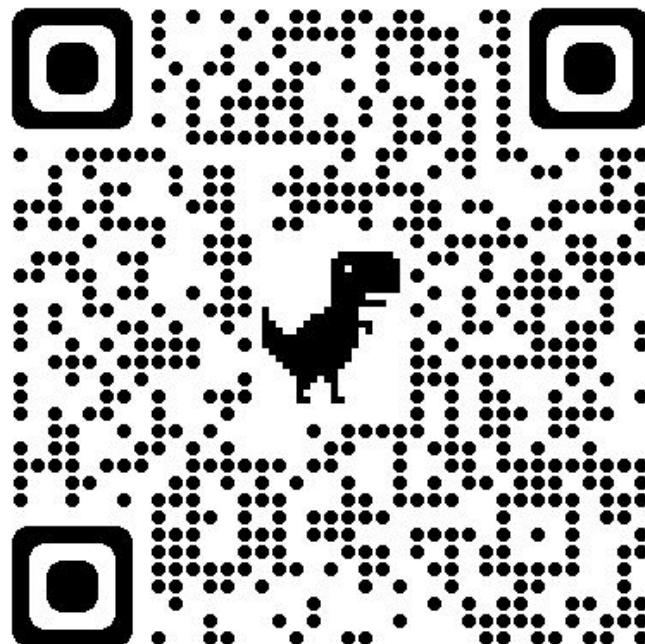








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Why Portland

Portland History

- Building & Maintaining the Commons
- Open Source Technology
- Social & Political Experimentation

Why Ethereum

Paul Wackerow, Friday the 13th, October 2023

Why Ethereum?

- RIPCORD blockchains
- Scalability trilemma
- Ethereum governance
- Roll of trust
- Infinite gardens and infinite games

RIPCORD blockchains

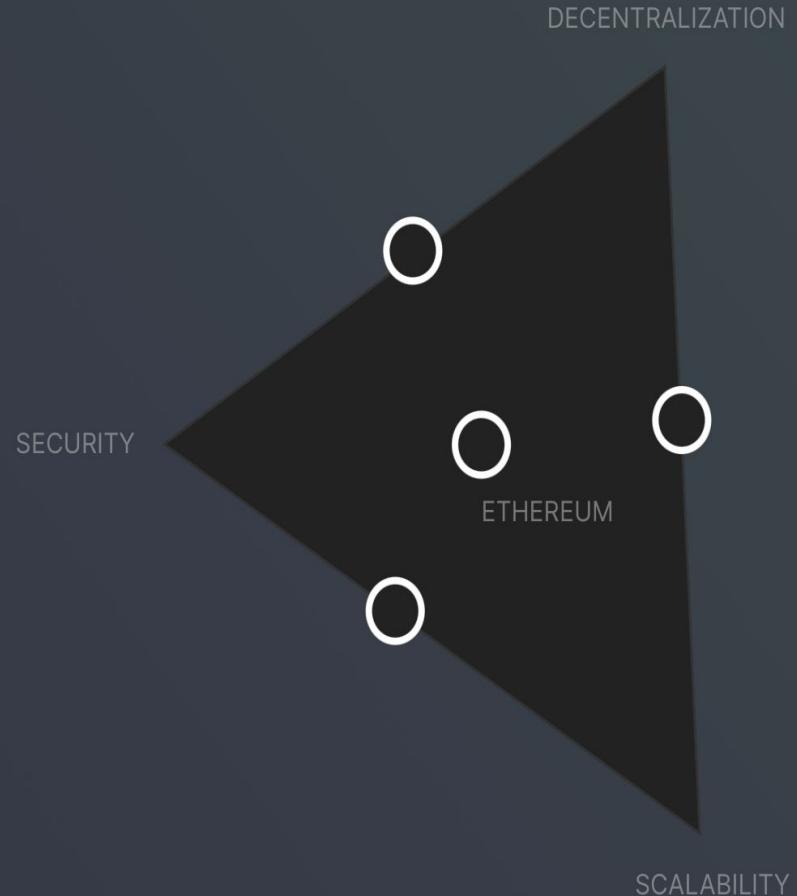
Because a “blockchain” by itself isn’t interesting

- Revolutionary
- Immutable
- Public
- Collaborative
- Open
- Resistant
- Decentralized

Can anyone run a node?

Scalability trilemma

How is Ethereum scaling to billions, while maintaining what matters?



Ethereum governance

Who decides?

Trust

Infinite garden

For infinite games



Event Overview

Pre-forum Recap

Makerspace Tour @ Green Anchors PDX

Kailash Ecovillage Tour

Urban Farm Tour @ Tryon Community Life Farm

Past Lives Makerspace

JaJa Makerspace



"In the world of impact networks, building relationships *is* the work.

Forward motion happens when people have conversations they don't normally have, with people they don't normally have them with."

– from *Impact Networks* by David Ehrlichman

ethpdx.eth
