

Joseph E. Corcoran TACC FOUNDER

Joseph E. Corcoran is the founder and chairman of Corcoran Jennison Companies, a Boston-based development firm that has built and managed real estate in more than 15 states.

Corcoran is credited as a pioneer in advancing the concept of mixed-income housing and converting troubled public housing projects into successful communities. In the late 1980s, he led the partnership that transformed one of the worst such projects, Dorchester's Columbia Point, into Harbor Point, a 1283-unit apartment complex that became a national model for the federal government's HOPE VI program.

Since that time, the company has completed four HOPE VI projects, partnering with low-income residents to rebuild their neighborhoods in New Haven,

Pittsburgh, Stamford, CT and Washington, DC. A two-time winner of the Urban Land Institute's prestigious Award for Excellence, the firm has been recognized nationally for its commitment to changing the culture in distressed urban areas. Urban Land Institute named Corcoran developer of the year in 2000.

Corcoran's company also joint ventured with a minority led partnership in Boston to build Crosstown Center in Roxbury including the construction of a budget boutique hotel, 22,000 square feet of retail space and a 200,000 square foot office building. The development was a significant catalyst for job creation which resulted in more than 150 construction jobs and 125 permanent jobs in the area.

In 1994, Corcoran founded The American City Coalition to advocate for innovation

in urban revitalization. The non-profit organization has funded a number of projects including a planning study for Boston's Roxbury neighborhood and the production of "A Decent Place to Live," a community history of Columbia Point, published in 2000 by Northeastern University Press.

A graduate of Boston College, Corcoran has served on its board and received an honorary degree in 2009 for "his generosity of wealth and spirit" and "unwavering commitment to the Ignatian call to social justice." He has also served on the boards at Boston College High School, the YMCA of Greater Boston and The American Ireland Fund.