

## **The Oregonian**

# **Portland Group Wants to Rename Downtown Street to Honor Slain Gay Activist**

*By Lizzy Acker*

*November 7, 2017*

A Portland coalition, including former Oregon Governor Barbara Roberts and business owners, is hoping to rename 13 blocks of Southwest Stark Street after slain gay rights activist Harvey Milk.

Milk was elected to the San Francisco Board of Supervisors in 1977 and then assassinated in 1978. He was one of the first openly gay men to serve in office in the United States.

Portland has previously renamed streets to honor civil rights leaders: Martin Luther King, Jr, Boulevard was named in 1990; Naito Parkway in 1996; Rosa Parks Way in 2007 and César E. Chávez Boulevard in 2009.

"I am proud to add my enthusiastic support to this proposal to recognize Harvey Milk here in Portland," Roberts said in a release sent out by the group. "He was a role model of courage and honesty for our country."

The coalition said in their release that "over three quarters of the commercial entities on Southwest Stark Street" are on board with the plan, "as well as dozens of community groups, LGBTQ community organizations, and other members of the downtown business community."

While Milk didn't have a connection to Portland, Southwest Stark Street was once the epicenter of Portland's gay culture. The area was called "The Pink Triangle" and featured establishments that served the city's gay community.

Portland nightclubs have a long history, from its current focus on DJs and live music back through eras of hard-thumping disco and old-time supper clubs. Here's a look at how the city's nightlife has changed over the decades, along with notable places where Portlanders gathered.

Now, the only business that remains from that original collection -- which included places like Silverado, The Brig and Boxxes -- is Scandals. In the last decade, the neighborhood has morphed into a stretch of expensive eateries and fancy boutiques.

Still, said the group, they want to honor the neighborhood's past. "As the LGBTQ community has grown in Portland to areas well beyond SW Stark Street," the release reads, "so too has Southwest Stark become emblematic of the diversity and community values demonstrated by current local business owners."

Stacy Brewster, with the office of Portland City Commissioner Dan Saltzman said Tuesday that he is working with the group to help navigate the process around street renaming. The coalition said their formal application is "being submitted to the Portland Bureau of Transportation to begin the renaming process."

Stark Street is currently named after Benjamin Stark, one of the men who founded Portland, who later became a pro-slavery Oregon politician.

# The Portland Tribune

## Crypto increase has city officials scratching heads

By Jim Redden

November 8, 2017

**Water bureau does not know why parasite is repeatedly being found in Bull Run water for the first time this year.**

Portland Water Bureau officials do not know why cryptosporidium — a potentially deadly parasite — is being found this year in the Bull Run Reservoir that serves as the region's primary source of water.

Crypto, as the parasite is commonly called, was never found in the water at the intake site before last January. Now it is being found repeatedly, including in seven samples drawn in October.

"We cannot point to any data or evidence that says anything is different in the watershed," says Ann Levy, the bureau's environmental program manager in charge of the program that monitors for crypto.

There is no doubt that crypto has long existed in the Bull Run Watershed where the reservoir is located. It is found in animal feces and many different kinds of animals have always lived there, from small rodents to black bears. The Water Bureau has taken photos of many of them with wildlife trail cameras.

Crypto has been found in feces samples collected in the watershed since 2014, but not in reservoir water for many years until this January. Bureau officials believe rain is washing feces with crypto into the reservoir. But that has always happened, and officials do not know why the parasite was not found more often.

### Checking scat for crypto

The 2012 variance approved by the Oregon Health Authority requires regular testing of Bull Run water, which produced the positive findings this year. It also requires Portland Water Bureau employees to collect animal feces in high-risk areas in the watershed and send them to a laboratory to be tested for crypto. The results of the Wildlife Scat Monitoring program — as it is formally called — have been documented each year in the Bull Run Treatment Variance Watershed Reports filed with the Health Authority. The cost is approximately \$80,000 a year.

The monitoring program identifies the animals whose feces are to be collected and tested: American beavers, black-tailed deers, bobcats, black bears, Canadian geese, cougars, coyote, river otters, Roosevelt elk, snowshoe hares and small rodents, which include bushy-tailed woodrats, deer mice, mountain beavers, shrews and Townsend's chipmunks.

The number of each animal in the watershed varies greatly. According to a 2010 wildlife estimate by David Evans and Associates, they ranged from a low of six river otters to 35 black bears, 150 black-tailed deer and 204,000 small rodents.

The program also specifies how the samples will be collected.

"Scat samples will be visually inspected for freshness based on a sheen indicating high moisture content, remaining fraction of digestion byproducts, and pliability," it reads. "For most wildlife species, a scat sample will consist of one fecal deposit. For species such as rodents and hare that have small scat volumes, multiple fecal deposits collected from one area will be combined to make a composite sample. Each scat sample will be photo-documented and then collected

aseptically. The scat samples will be packaged on ice and shipped overnight to the analyzing laboratory."

### **Changing labs**

According to the reports, no crypto was found in any of the samples in 2013. However, Water Bureau officials believe that was a fault of the lab being used, and they switched to another one. The next year, 15 percent of all samples tested positive for crypto. In 2015, the positive results increased to 21 percent. In 2016, they dropped to 17 percent.

The rates of crypto vary between animals by year. Black bears are the only animals that have never tested positive. The highest rate was 67 percent for cougars in 2016. Water Bureau officials say not enough samples are collected for the results to be scientifically accurate, however. They have ranged from 146 total samples in 2016 to 162 in 2015.

Bureau officials say inspections around the reservoir have not detected any more animals accessing it. And based on scat and camera monitoring, bureau officials do not believe the large mammal population has changed significantly in recent years. There is not enough data to know for sure about the small rodent population.

"No one is even able to make educated guesses" about why the positive crypto findings have increased, Levy says.

### **Concentrations minimal**

Bureau officials note the amount of crypto found in samples is very low. For example, just one or two oocysts, a microscopic indicator of crypto, were found in each of the October samples. And officials say the strain of crypto was very unlikely to harm people. The most dangerous ones are found in the feces of humans and livestock, and both are barred by federal law from the watershed, except for Water Bureau employees.

Exposure to the most dangerous strains of crypto can cause cryptosporidiosis, a serious illness. Symptoms can include diarrhea, vomiting, fever and stomach pain. People with healthy immune systems recover without medical treatment. According to the Centers for Disease Control, people with severely weakened immune systems are most at risk for more serious illness and even death.

Despite this year's findings, Water Bureau and Multnomah County health officials insist Bull Run water is still safe to drink. No increase in crypto-related illnesses has been reported this year, so far. Nevertheless, officials advise those with compromised immune systems to consult their doctors.

Examples of people with weakened immune systems include those with AIDS; those with inherited diseases that affect the immune system; and cancer and transplant patients who are taking certain immunosuppressive drugs.

But the findings have had serious consequences. Because Bull Run water has historically been so clean, in 2012 the Oregon Health Authority granted the city a variance from U.S. Environmental Protection Agency rules requiring municipal water providers to treat for crypto. Because of the findings, the Health Authority notified the city it was revoking the variance this month, prompting the City Council to approve a filtration plant that will physically remove crypto from the water before it reaches consumers. The plant will cost as much as \$500 million and take up to 10 years to complete. Water rates will probably have to be raised to pay for it.

And if this year is any indication, water consumers will repeatedly learn of crypto being found in Bull Run water until the plant is completed.

In addition to the city of Portland, the Water Bureau provides Bull Run water to Burlington, the cities of Gresham, Sandy and Tualatin, and several water districts: Green Valley, GNR, Hideaway Hills, Lake Grove, Lorna Portland Water, Lusted, Palatine Hill, Pleasant Home, Raleigh, Rockwood, Skyview Acres, Tualatin Valley, Two Rivers, Valley View and West Slope.

To learn if your drinking water comes from Bull Run, contact your local drinking water provider.

The PWB is required to report all positive crypto findings. The public is encouraged to view all sampling results posted to the city's website at [www.portlandoregon.gov/water/cryptoresults](http://www.portlandoregon.gov/water/cryptoresults).

Customers with questions regarding water quality can call the Water Line at 503-823-7525.

## City, county release winter weather response for homeless

*By Lyndsey Hewitt*

*November 7, 2017*

### **Last winter at least four people died of hypothermia. Outreach workers look for volunteers, donations ahead of cold weather.**

The city-county Joint Office of Homeless Services has issued its strategy for severe weather response this winter.

Last winter at least four people died of hypothermia or exposure on the streets. Their commitment is that no one who needs a dry place to sleep will be turned away during severe weather response. They're also looking for more volunteers to help.

A severe weather event, as defined by local government, occurs whenever temperatures forecast at 25 degrees or below; forecasts predict at least an inch of snow; overnight temperatures forecast at 32 degrees or below (with at least an inch of driving rain); and other conditions including severe wind chills or extreme temperature fluctuations.

On the busiest night of last year's crisis, officials reported 750 people were sleeping in severe weather shelter, which was in addition to the more than 1,500 year-round and winter beds already around Portland. Last winter the Portland Building opened as a shelter while many others continually operated at capacity. The most recent count of homeless people on Portland's streets and staying in homeless shelters was 4,177.

The Columbia Shelter, a 100-bed emergency shelter, is still in operation at the former Shleifer Furniture building.

The response has three levels — **including level one, when there's three days or less of severe weather.**

Transition Projects Inc., the county's largest shelter provider, opens one or more shelters with hundreds of other beds ready.

Locations include Imago Dei in southeast Portland, the Bud Clark Commons in downtown Portland, and a shelter in Gresham. Shelters are low-barrier, with space for carts and bikes, and access for pets. (Others in the community may also open spaces if needed.)

- The Joint Office works with 211Info (an information referral hotline for housing, shelter and transportation), TriMet, outreach providers, first responders and taxi companies to coordinate transportation of people and supplies to warming centers, and also to distribute cold weather gear to those who choose not to come to shelter.

- Trained volunteers fill shifts at warming centers as needed.
- The joint office convenes a daily call of first responders, outreach providers and shelter providers to monitor shelter capacity and assist in logistics coordination.

### **Second-level response includes four or more consecutive days of severe weather**

- The response shifts to a 24-hour operation for the joint office and 211Info. Multnomah County's emergency management department assigns a liaison to support the response.
- All level one responses continue, including ongoing expansion of shelter capacity as needed.

### **Third-level response: Extreme or extended severe weather**

- All level one and level two responses remain in effect. Emergency management officials assist in coordinating transportation resources to ensure people are moved to shelter, staff and volunteers reach warming centers, warming center supplies are delivered in timely fashion, and cold weather gear can get to anyone still refusing shelter.
- As more shelter capacity is needed, emergency management officials use their resources to support all aspects of managing that expansion. Public buildings may open.
- Government workers are enlisted to expand the response and relieve volunteers and staffers who have been working for days.
- Because it can be challenging to move people from nighttime warming centers to day spaces and back, certain nighttime warming centers may remain open during the day.

For those looking to volunteer, Transition Projects Inc. is providing 90-minute training sessions for adults 18 and older.

Those interested should go to 211Info to sign up.

Volunteers will do hands-on work and should be comfortable working with people experiencing homelessness.

Interested people should have reliable transportation to use during inclement weather.

In addition to volunteers, outreach workers are in need of winter gear to pass out now in case of emergency.

Needed items include warm socks, waterproof gloves or mittens, waterproof winter coats, sleeping bags and warm blankets, fleece hats, tarps, hand warmers, and rain ponchos.

For drop-off locations and other tips, call 211 or go to [211info.org](http://211info.org).

## **Willamette Week**

### **City Hall and a Local Brewer Both Claim They Own the Trademark to Portland's Most Famous Deer**

*By Katie Shepherd  
November 8, 2017*

**Portland City Hall aggressively defends licensing of its White Stag logo. But somebody else owns part of the trademark.**

Adam Milne's brewpub is fighting City Hall. And as of today, Milne is winning.

The issue is trademark rights, and Old Town Brewing prominently uses one of Portland's most popular images.

The white sign hanging above the front door of Old Town Brewing's taproom on Northeast Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard features the silhouette of a leaping buck. Behind the bar, a herd of white stags bound across eight wooden beer tap handles. The glasses, the coasters, and every bottle of Pilsner brewed in-house are festooned with the jumping deer—the same one that glows on the iconic "Portland Oregon" sign.

For seven years, Portland City Hall has owned that neon sign at the west end of the Burnside Bridge. Shortly after its purchase, the City Attorney's Office set out to obtain federal trademarks for the image.

Trademarks give the owner the right to control use of the image and to license that use to others. For the past seven years, Portland has aggressively sought payment from anyone who used the image for marketing, from Pabst Blue Ribbon beer to Christmas ornament vendors on Etsy. The city collected \$39,330 in licensing fees in fiscal year 2016.

But in fact, the city owns only bits and pieces of the federal trademark. Although the city now has a federal trademark for items like T-shirts, baseball caps and mugs, it still doesn't have one for beer, wine and alcohol.

That's because the trademark for the category that covers beer, wine and alcohol belongs to Old Town Brewing.

In the fall of 2016, the city attempted to expand its trademark into the territory of beer. This September, a year later, the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office rejected the city's request, citing the similarity to Old Town Brewing's trademark, issued in 2012.

"Getting the trademark was a very long, challenging process," Milne says. "We've built a brand we're so proud of."

Bryant Enge, director of the city's Bureau of Internal Business Services, says he's not discouraged by the patent office's rejection of Portland's trademark application. "Initial trademark application rejections are not uncommon," Enge says. "We're confident that the trademark will be approved."

Why would he want the trademark? To partner with national brewers who want to use the image for marketing purposes. Such an agreement could lead to lucrative licensing fees for ad campaigns—but Old Town Brewing stands in the way.

The city bought the "Portland Oregon" sign in 2010 to save it from being unplugged and torn down.

The city set out to pay for the costs of maintaining the sign by obtaining federal trademarks for the image—but WW has learned it began selling licenses even before any federal trademark was approved.

The city can legally sell licenses, but its ability to enforce them is limited without a federal trademark. As soon as city attorneys started demanding license fees between \$100 and \$20,000 from businesses and artists who used the image of the sign in their products, people started to push back.

When city attorneys sent cease-and-desist letters to a number of Etsy artists who were using the image in their work, the creative community balked. Local company Roadside Vintage sued the

city for trying to enforce a licensing fee for prints of photos that were taken before the city bought the sign. The case settled out of court, and Roadside Vintage did not pay a licensing fee.

"We understand what the city is trying to do; it's a noble cause," says Kohel Haver, the trademark lawyer who represented Roadside Vintage. "But I don't think they're doing it correctly. They're going after the little guy, and that's just a shame. We shouldn't be paying our city attorneys to go after that stuff."

Not every business owner feels the same way. Nathan Verhoeven, who sells graphic T-shirts at Portland Saturday Market, says he's happy to pay the city's fees. He paid about \$1,500 for a five-year license to use the image.

"The fees feel like they're fair," he says. "The shirts do really well. I don't feel like it's a burden."

Curiously, while the federal patent office ruled that Old Town Brewing's claim to the White Stag image is "incontestable," the city continues to negotiate with big brewers over licensing rights.

Perhaps the largest conflict over the licensing of the sign involved Pabst Brewing Company. In 2015, Pabst hosted a music festival that it advertised with an image the city claimed was "confusingly similar" to the sign: an outline of the state with a unicorn jumping from the top and the words "Project Pabst" where "Old Town" appears on the original sign.

In the end, Pabst paid the city \$30,000 to use the image in its promotions, settling a lawsuit the city filed against the brewer. (Disclosure: WW has partnered with Pabst to run music festivals.)

The Pabst deal with the city doesn't bother Milne—a unicorn isn't going to be confused with a stag, he says. But the local beer makers at Old Town Brewing fear the city will try to license the image of the stag to large, corporate alcohol sellers.

An Anheuser-Busch ad campaign in 2014 included coasters and glasses with the sign featured prominently. Milne says the image was too similar to his brand's logo. He sent a cease-and-desist letter to the beer giant, and the stag disappeared from the macrobrewer's coasters and glasses.

City officials say they didn't license the image of the sign to Anheuser-Busch for the marketing campaign. But this year, it granted a \$20,000 license to Widmer Brothers, a Portland-based brewery owned by a national company, Craft Brew Alliance. Anheuser-Busch holds a 32.2 percent stake in CBA. Widmer uses the "Portland Oregon" sign on bottles of its PDX Pils, but it leaves off the leaping stag.

Milne says Old Town Brewing will keep on locking horns over the stag.

"They feel like they should be able to license to whoever they want," Milne says. "We feel that licensing trademarks to multinational corporations is not really a Portland value. We're very prideful of our local food, our local outdoors and—especially in Portland—our local beer."

## **A Nonprofit Spent Millions of Public Dollars to House Native American Seniors and Foster Families. It's Failing.**

*By Rachel Monahan  
November 8, 2017*

**NAYA Generations currently doesn't house a single foster family.**

In February, the city's top housing officials gathered in Southeast Portland's Lents neighborhood to celebrate a project that promised to meet a significant need for Native Americans.

The \$11.5 million, 40-unit affordable housing complex called NAYA Generations was built with more than \$10 million in public funds to address a systemic ill: More than 1 in 5 Native American children in Multnomah County lived in foster care, according to a 2011 study.

In response, the Native American Youth and Family Center, which goes by the acronym NAYA, pledged to build a community for foster families with elders living on-site to support them. Ten apartments would be set aside for foster families, and another 30 units would go to seniors.

"It will be a model project ensuring the success of Native children currently in foster care," said Rey España, NAYA's then-director of community development, in a 2014 promotional video still on the NAYA website.

But the results don't match those promises.

NAYA Generations currently doesn't house a single foster family, says Guardian Real Estate Services, the project's property manager. And only seven of the 40 households include seniors age 55 and older.

Guardian's president says NAYA simply failed to recruit enough foster families and senior citizens.

"They didn't fulfill that part of the deal," says Tom Brenneke, president of Guardian. "Somebody needed to be engaged with the Native American community and with the foster system."

As the city of Portland prepares to spend more than \$250 million with an affordable housing bond, NAYA Generations presents a cautionary tale about good intentions.

Portland housing officials are increasingly focused on addressing historical injustices with their policies. The city, for example, has said it plans to spend the bond with a goal of serving people of color. In addition, the city is spending more than \$50 million in North and Northeast Portland to encourage the return of Portlanders, many of them black, who were pushed out of those gentrified neighborhoods years ago.

But the failure of NAYA Generations to reach its own benchmarks raises questions about how well the city monitors the nonprofits it uses to build housing.

City Commissioner Dan Saltzman, who oversaw the Housing Bureau when it approved funding for the project, says he's troubled that NAYA has fallen so far short of what it proposed.

"It's disappointing to me in the extreme," he says. "I believe sponsors of the project should be held accountable."

Mayor Ted Wheeler says the city should reassess how it watchdogs nonprofits. "If our partners do not or cannot hold themselves accountable for delivering the program they promised," he tells WW, "then we have to.

NAYA Generations was based on a similar, successful housing development: Bridge Meadows, which opened in 2011 in North Portland. Seniors and families adopting children out of foster care live side by side: 25 foster children and 28 seniors moved in within the first nine months of the project's opening, according to the Bridge Meadows nonprofit.

Funding for NAYA Generations included federal low-income tax credits worth \$8.7 million; \$600,000 from the Housing Bureau; and free lease of the property on the site of a former school.

When Portland Housing Bureau officials awarded \$600,000 in funding, they also trumpeted the project's goals: "permanent supportive housing with 30 units for seniors and 10 units for families with children," they wrote in a 2014 press release.



A year later, Meyer Memorial Trust awarded \$545,000 to the project using similar criteria.

But NAYA says finding foster families and elders who met the requirements to live there—incomes for a family of four of less than \$44,820 a year, with no significant criminal history and no evictions in the past year—proved difficult.

NAYA executive director Paul Lumley also cites federal housing laws.

"NAYA did not expect that fair housing laws would be as constraining and inflexible with regard to implementation as it turns out they are," he says. "This was coupled with the complexity of Native families with difficult backgrounds who just could not get their applications approved. We found the application and lease-up process frustrating and made even more difficult by the holidays and prolonged extreme winter weather."

One family at NAYA Generations is in the process of trying to become foster parents, according to Guardian. Children in two other households were previously in foster care and have reunited with their families at NAYA Generations.

The Portland Housing Bureau has no way to penalize NAYA for not keeping its promises—because the only requirement the city put in writing was that Generations would serve low-income people.

"Our regulatory agreement on this project is specific to the rent/income restrictions and financial performance," says Housing Bureau spokeswoman Martha Calhoon.

The Meyer Trust says such problems with grant awards are not uncommon.

"Our expectation is that grantees are transparent with both successes and challenges," says Candy Solovjovs, director of programs at Meyer.

News that NAYA did not end up serving the population it had hoped is just the latest problem with the project.

NAYA last year abandoned plans for a second phase of development for the site: a longhouse-style community center, built in cooperation with the school district. NAYA could not raise the \$3 million for its contribution to the longhouse's costs as the organization struggled financially and the leadership of NAYA changed.

NAYA nevertheless defends what it has achieved with the project: 48 percent of the residents identify at least partly as Native American, and 78 percent are people of color.

"While we have not yet met our goals," Lumley says, "we are providing the kind of low-income housing relief for the Portland area that is in dire need."

## **Portland Civil Rights Leaders Seek a New Address: Southwest Harvey Milk Street**

*By Nigel Jaquiss  
November 8, 2017*

Leaders from Portland's LGBTQ, civil rights and business communities want to change the name of 13 blocks of Southwest Stark Street to Harvey Milk Street.

Milk, the first openly gay elected official in California history, won a seat on the San Francisco Board of Supervisors in 1977. He was killed in City Hall in 1978 by a former colleague on the board.

Benjamin Stark, the man for whom the street is currently named, was a New York merchant who made a fortune in Portland after buying out the holdings of another man who would later have a Portland street named after him, Asa Lovejoy.

Proponents of the name change launched a campaign this month and are seeking permission from the city of Portland. Milk had no known connections to Portland, but before its recent gentrification, Southwest Stark Street served as the center of gay life in the city.

There's precedent for naming the city's streets after civil rights leaders with little connection to Portland: Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard in 1990, Rosa Parks Way in 2007, and César E. Chávez Boulevard in 2009.

The Chávez name change was contentious and took two years. This time, the committee seeking to make the change, which includes former Oregon Govs. Barbara Roberts and Ted Kulongoski, says it has already secured approval from 75 percent of the businesses along Southwest Stark as well as many neighborhood groups.

"We felt this could be a really positive, affirmative step, especially when President Trump is attacking some of the gains LGBTQ made," says Mikki Gillette of Basic Rights Oregon.

### **Here's a rundown of the street's current and prospective namesakes:**

#### **Harvey Milk**

Born: Woodmere, N.Y., May 1930

Time on the water: U.S. Navy veteran

Best move: Left New York City for San Francisco's Castro District

Political highlight: Helped beat anti-gay Proposition 6 in 1978

Died: Shot by ex-city supervisor Dan White, 1978

Lasting Portland connection: The movie Milk, directed by Portland filmmaker Gus Van Sant

#### **Benjamin Stark**

Born: New Orleans, June 1820

Time on the water: Sailed to Portland, then China

Best move: Bought Asa Lovejoy's land in Portland

Political highlight: Appointed to U.S. Senate, 1861

Died: Old age, 1898

Lasting Portland connection: The Ben Stark Hotel, now called the Ace Hotel

## **The Portland Mercury**

### **The City Relents, Releases the Names of Unionized Workers**

*By Dirk VanderHart*

*November 7, 2017*

Bogged down in two lawsuits over the matter, the City of Portland has released the names of roughly 600 employees represented by a public-employee union to an anti-labor group.

As we reported last week, the city has freely released the names of union-represented employees in the past. But faced with a recent request from the right-wing Freedom Foundation, officials balked.

The city attorney's office denied the foundation's request for the names of employees represented by Laborers' Local 483. Then, when the Multnomah County District Attorney ordered the names be released, attorneys won approval from Portland City Council to appeal the matter in court.

The Freedom Foundation, which works to destabilize public sector unions, subsequently filed a lawsuit of its own, attempting to force the records' disclosure. It got them today.

"We didn't get much of an explanation, they just suddenly decided to give it to us," says Ben Straka, a Freedom Foundation policy analyst who made the request. "I wish I had a better explanation why."

The stand-off between the city and the foundation was confusing. The Freedom Foundation put in a request for employees represented by Local 483. Straka says that was meant to cover both full-on union members and so-called "fair share" employees, who don't pay full union dues, but do contribute money to pay for bargaining.

The city's response said it was refusing to release the names of full-on union members. It directed Straka to identify all of the job classifications represented by the union, and then request a list of the employees that belonged to those classifications—a workaround that would have answered Straka's initial request.

Deputy City Attorney Heidi Brown tells the Mercury that the city decided to release the information on its own.

"They did not file a new request but that is what we gave them," Brown says. "Given all the misunderstanding in this, we just said we'll give it to you at this time."

It's not totally clear what this means for the two lawsuits. Brown says the city is unwilling to drop its appeal of the DA order to release records, because it believes that order requires the city to specifically identify which employees are union members, and which are fair-share employees. Local 483 has argued such a disclosure would violate its members' privacy, and could lead the union to file an unfair labor practice complaint against the city.

Meanwhile, other jurisdictions have routinely released the names of union-represented employees.

The Freedom Foundation plans to use the roster of employees represented by Local 483 to help force a vote to "deauthorize" the union, which would free up employees to cease paying any amount for representation. To force such a vote, 30 percent of employees represented by the union would have to sign a petition by late November.

# The Daily Journal of Commerce

## Portland officials unveil coliseum upgrades

*By Chuck Slothower*

*November 7, 2017*

Veterans Memorial Coliseum has received a face-lift intended to help the Rose Quarter venue compete for events.

The \$5 million, two-year project focused on deferred maintenance needs, Mayor Ted Wheeler said during an event Friday to tout the updates.

The project is a “prelude to further investment” and will help Portland compete for a future NBA All-Star Game, said Amanda Mann, general manager of the Rose Quarter.

It also comes ahead of the PK80-Phil Knight Invitational, a college basketball tournament featuring 16 teams, including Duke, North Carolina, Connecticut, Florida, Ohio State, Gonzaga, Oregon, Portland State and the University of Portland, to the coliseum and the Moda Center on Nov. 23-26.

The project included:

- renovating the existing center video board and installing new HD video replay screens;
- installing new programmable LED lights in the arena;
- renovating concessions areas for more food and beverage options, and adding a new point-of-sale system for faster transactions;
- fully replacing the roof of the coliseum, pagoda and entry canopy; and
- restoring glulam columns in the lobby to reveal their wood finish.

R&H Construction served as the general contractor for the project.

The coliseum now is used for Portland Winterhawks hockey games and concerts. Wheeler said the venue hosted 430,000 visitors last year and turned an operating profit despite its reputation as a “white elephant.”

“It is in the black and has been for three years,” he said.

The coliseum has been the subject of considerable debate. The building is owned by the city, and has attracted some attention from developers. Preservationists fought back, forming the Friends of Memorial Coliseum and enlisting the National Trust for Historic Preservation in a campaign to save the building.

The City Council in 2015 commissioned from Bora Architects a report that examined various renovation and redevelopment scenarios without offering a recommended path. More recently, a group of community leaders has set forth a framework plan they call Albina Vision. The plan would reintroduce a street grid and housing into the Rose Quarter, while leaving the coliseum and Moda Center in place.

Wheeler said the city is still a long ways away from making any decisions on the Rose Quarter’s future.

“We’re way premature to say we’ve settled on any concept or idea around this development site,” he said. “There’s a lot of pre-work that still needs to happen.”

Veterans Memorial Coliseum was completed in 1960 and is on the National Register of Historic Places. The building was designed by Skidmore, Owings and Merrill and is regarded as a strong example of International Style architecture. Four concrete pillars hold up the exterior glass box, with a bowl in the center. The design offers wide views from the building.

The coliseum has a notable place in Portland history. Over the years, it has hosted acts including the Beatles, Jimi Hendrix and Elvis Presley. It was also home to the Portland Trail Blazers until 1995, when the basketball team moved next door to what is now the Moda Center. Barack Obama, the Dalai Lama and other significant public figures have spoken at the coliseum.

Wheeler said his first event at the coliseum came during Alice Cooper's "Billion Dollar Babies" tour. According to the singer's website, Cooper played at Veterans Memorial Coliseum on May 24, 1973. Among the songs Cooper performed? "Elected."

## **The Portland Business Journal**

### **City backs timber high-rise with \$6M in affordable housing funds**

*By Jon Bell  
November 7, 2017*

The Portland project being billed as the first new high-rise in the country constructed out of wood has landed \$6 million from the Portland Housing Bureau for the building's 60 affordable housing units.

In a release, Home Forward, local developer project^ and the team behind the Framework building announced that PHB had awarded the project \$6 million from its Fast Starts program. That initiative helps speed up construction of affordable housing units.

"By investing in Framework, our city will now be home to the first skyscraper made from wood in the United States," Portland Mayor Ted Wheeler said in the release. "This project not only reflects Oregon's leadership in the newly emerging wood products industry of Cross Laminated Timber, it also demonstrates our city's commitment to finding innovative ways to quickly deliver affordable units during our housing crisis."

PHB selected the project, which landed its building permit back in June, based on its readiness, its alignment with the city's equity goals and its innovation in sustainable materials and earthquake resilience, among other factors. The affordable units in the building will be reserved for households making 60 percent or less of area media income. The building will also include ground-level retail and five floors of office space for B Corp businesses.

The project, in the works for well over two years, has undergone extensive fire and seismic testing to ensure its feasibility. According to LEVER Architecture, the Portland firm that designed the building, more than 40 tests were done, including eight fire tests, 24 structural tests and eight acoustic tests.

Located at Northwest 10th Avenue and Northwest Glisan Street on a quarter block that's currently home to Albina Community Bank, the project was originally expected to break ground this fall. Work is now planned to begin in early 2018, with a projected completion date of mid-2019.

# The Portland Observer

## Albina Visionaries

*By Danny Peterson*

*November 7, 2017*

### **New non-profit offers plan for Rose Quarter**

Momentum is growing for a plan to remake the Rose Quarter district into a fully functioning neighborhood, embracing its diverse past and re-creating a landscape that can accommodate much more than its two sports and entertainment venues.

The Rose Quarter is home to the Moda Center, Veteran's Memorial Coliseum, Interstate 5 and parking garages. Visitors to the area are typically there for 1 or 2 hours to catch an event and then leave, but the land used to be a contiguous part of north and northeast Portland's street grid system where folks lived, worked and played. The new non-profit group Albina Vision wants to make it a community again.

Former Portland Parks Bureau Director Zari Santner and former Urban League of Portland director Michael Alexander are the visionaries behind the idea. They have been friends for over 10 years and worked together when Alexander served as a Parks board member. Now retired, they helped form the Albina Vision organization as civilians. The group's aim is to have a community driven plan that determines the future development of the Rose Quarter area for the next 50 to 60 years.

"We want the community to know about it. We want the community to, if they believe us, to join us to really be part of this happening. That's what it takes," Santner told the Portland Observer.

Albina Vision has created renderings of what the Rose Quarter development could look like. The supporters hope to bring the area back to a more neighborhood-friendly place that can house community gathering spaces, affordable housing, and local businesses.

A new waterfront park could resemble Tom McCall Waterfront Park, located across the Willamette River from the Rose Quarter.

"We want this place to be truly inclusive, integrated, livable community, and affordable community," Santner said.

Though the current renderings of the area are only ideas, Santner and Alexander said they've been met with a lot of support from community members and have so far gotten the ear of Mayor Ted Wheeler and the city council.

Before urban renewal and the neighborhood razing actions of the 1960s and 1970s, the Rose Quarter was home to residences, shops, and community gathering spaces. It was the historical neighborhood for African American residents and immigrants.

Santner said the intent of Albina Vision is to resurrect a fully functioning neighborhood again so that North and Northeast Broadway Avenue once again can become "the spine of the community, rather than a division between it."

The name "Albina" comes from the town that once legally comprised most of inner north and northeast Portland in the late 19th and early 20th century before it was annexed by the city of Portland. The black population in Albina exploded after World War II, but subsequent displacement from urban renewal dispersed many of the residents.

The major property owners of the Rose Quarter area are the city of Portland and Portland Public Schools. When you add the several blocks of property the school district owns on the north side of Broadway it comes to a potential 95-acres of property that could be developed in the area.

Santner and Alexander are optimistic that reuse of this public, tax-payer funded property, can be influenced by a community driven initiative like Albina Vision.

“We want to have an entity that will make [the city] listen to the community and do the right thing here,” Santner said.

One possible hurdle that revitalizing the Rose Quarter may face is the widening of Interstate 5, which was approved by Oregon lawmakers earlier this year. The \$450 million project would add a lane in each direction and add shoulders in the stretch between I-405 and I-84, smack dab in the middle of the Rose Quarter. That widening of the highway isn't stopping Santner and Alexander from pursuing their vision, but they said they will need to work around it.

“The discussion right now whether we widen or narrow I-5, we're agnostic on that. We just want it to be capped. I mean, because that gives us the opportunity to have land that allows you to walk right down to the water,” Alexander said.

A redeveloped community would also stem the tide from gentrification that has displaced people from their historical neighborhoods over the past 20 years.

Alexander, who used to direct the Urban League of Portland on North Williams Avenue and Russell Street, said he has seen the alterations firsthand since his move here in 2005.

“I mean you almost need a post card of 10 years back to have an understanding around what had been here, even in 2010, let alone 2000, 1990, and those years before. Just radically transformed,” Alexander said.

Alexander grew up in Brooklyn, which stands alongside Portland as another famously gentrified part of the United States. But the changes he saw in his own childhood neighborhood are nothing compared to the “wide scale displacement” that has taken place here, Alexander said.

“We understand the new 'here' is going to be different than the old 'here'. But if it is honoring and embracing and inclusive, then we have an opportunity to now build in a way that unifies rather than divides. And I think that's the promise. We are there to make sure that woven into the DNA of this vision is the acknowledgement that this community needs to be reflected in whatever the rising phoenix is,” Alexander said.

## **OPB**

### **Multnomah County, Portland 'Preparing For The Worst' This Winter**

*By Ericka Cruz Guevarra  
November 7, 2017*

Standing between city and county leaders, John Sherman pointed to the corner of the Bud Clark Commons room in downtown Portland where he slept when he was homeless.

“I can only speak for myself as a person in recovery when I say that had I been stuck outside when the wind was blowing and the ice was everywhere, I may have looked to alcohol to get me

through,” said Sherman, now Transition Projects’ peer health navigator. “I know now that this is a recipe for tragedy.”

On Tuesday, Sherman spoke alongside Multnomah County and city leaders about the lessons learned from last winter — a year of record-breaking snowfall and trouble for officials dealing with a rise in homelessness.

“We were talking about the upcoming winter at this time last year, but I don’t think anyone could’ve predicted the level of intensity, the sheer number of days that the roads were closed, that the snow was bearing down, that we have ice outside,” said Multnomah County Chair Deborah Kafoury.

“This year we’re really preparing for the worst, and hoping that the worst doesn’t come.”

The severe winter weather plan involves opening one or more shelters with hundreds of beds at the ready. The shelters will include spaces for carts, bikes and pets.

The plan would take effect when the Joint Office declares a severe weather event. The threshold for such a declaration includes temperatures forecast at 25 degrees Fahrenheit or below or at least an inch of snow in most areas. It also includes overnight temperatures forecast at 32 degrees Fahrenheit or below with at least an inch of rain.

“This year is completely different in terms of the preparation, the planning, the collaboration, the protocols that we’ve put into place, the communications system we put into place, thinking in advance about the opportunities around community participation and volunteerism,” Portland Mayor Ted Wheeler said.