

## **The Oregonian**

### **Portland to Build 50 units in Cully Neighborhood with Housing Bond Funds**

*By Gordon Friedman  
July 12, 2018*

Portland officials will use housing bond dollars to buy a lot in Northeast Portland and build at least 50 units on it, Mayor Ted Wheeler's office announced Thursday.

The Portland Housing Bureau will purchase the 19,000-square-foot lot at 5827 Northeast Prescott Street in the Cully neighborhood, the mayor's office said. The sale price is \$500,000.

The project announced Thursday is the latest in a string of purchases and developments triggered by voters' approval of the \$258 million bond.

Officials promised to build at least 1,300 affordable housing units with the bond by 2023. To date, slightly more than 300 units are available to rent or move-in ready.

Hundreds more, including the Cully units, are in the pipeline, officials say. Projects have already been announced for properties on Southeast Powell Boulevard and Burnside Street.

Wheeler called the Prescott purchase "another strong step" in achieving bond goals.

"With the 50 new units planned for this site, plus hundreds more under active negotiation, we are making aggressive progress to meet our commitment well ahead of schedule," he said.

## **Willamette Week**

### **Portland Will Spend Half a Million Dollars on an Affordable Housing Property in Cully**

*By Rachel Monahan  
July 12, 2018*

**The Northeast Portland a neighborhood has a large immigrant population.**

The Portland Housing Bureau has selected a fourth project on which to spend a chunk of Portland's \$258 million housing bond.

The new location is in Cully, a neighborhood where 40 percent of households include an immigrant, the city fact sheet says.

The city plans to develop at least 50 affordable apartments on the 19,000-square-foot site on Northeast Prescott Street, though the project won't break ground for at least a year. Portland City Council is expected to vote on the \$500,000 purchase price next week.

The site currently has a single-family dwelling on it. Housing Bureau spokeswoman Martha Calhoun says the residents have been notified of the purchase.

"This opportunity to bring new housing to a critically important and underserved area is another strong step forward toward our Bond goals," said Mayor Ted Wheeler in a statement. "With the

50 new units planned for this site, plus hundreds more under active negotiation, we are making aggressive progress to meet our commitment well ahead of schedule."

Voters approved the \$258 million bond in November 2016

The city moved quickly with the purchase of the first property using the bond—then halted. In late 2016, the city agreed to purchase the Ellington, an existing 263-unit building, with \$37 million in bond funds.

Wheeler halted further purchases for the first year he served in office. But in the last eight months, the city has committed to three new locations.

In December, the city committed to developing the site of former site of a strip club on Southeast Powell Boulevard with housing bond money.

Last month, the city announced the \$14.3 million acquisition of a new 51-unit building in East Portland.

## **The Portland Mercury**

### **City Selects Cully Neighborhood for New Affordable Housing Complex**

*By Alex Zielinski  
July 12, 2018*

The Portland Housing Bureau (PHB) has unveiled its fourth location for a major affordable housing complex funded by the city's housing bond. According to Mayor Ted Wheeler's office, the bureau's in the process of acquiring a 16,000-square foot lot on Northeast 58th and Prescott and turning it into a permanent affordable housing complex with up to 75 apartments. Per the bond's requirements, the new building will only rent to families or individuals who are earning no more than 60 percent of the region's median income.

Shannon Callahan, PHB interim director, says this location in Portland's Cully Neighborhood was selected for its vulnerability. "This is a rapidly gentrifying area where families are facing a growing risk of being priced out," Callahan said.

The land, which would cost the city \$500,000, is currently occupied by one single-family home. [Here's the bird's eye view:](#)

If Portland City Commissioners vote to purchase this lot next week, it'll be the fourth development bankrolled by the city's first-ever housing bond, which was approved by voters in 2016. Since the vote, PHB has announced plans to build a complex on Southeast Powell (famously replacing a strip club), one on Southeast 66th and Halsey and another built specifically for families transitioning out of homelessness on 105th Ave and East Burnside. If this latest project gets a green light, the city will have created almost 600 housing units for lower income Portlanders.

The \$258.4 million bond promised to create 1,300 units of affordable housing by 2023. In a media statement, Mayor Wheeler said the city may meet that deadline before schedule.

"We are making aggressive progress," Wheeler said.

**OPB**

## **Portland Officials Won't Crack Down On ICE Fence, After All**

*By Dirk VanderHart*

*July 12, 2018*

A tall fence separating protesters from a U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement facility in Southwest Portland doesn't have proper permits and is blocking a public sidewalk.

But three days after a city code inspector issued a violation notice to ICE for the fence, it now appears City Hall is no longer interested in taking action. The city's code enforcement and transportation bureaus both say they're holding back on enforcing violations, in light of the volatile Occupy ICE PDX protest that has led to recent clashes between federal police and activists.

"Commissioner [Dan] Saltzman, in close coordination with the mayor and his colleagues in the building, has taken a hands-off approach to the situation as it currently stands down there," said Matt Grumm, chief of staff to Saltzman, who oversees the Portland Bureau of Transportation.

Part of that decision, Grumm said, was due to the fact Saltzman feels "there are most likely many code violations happening down there," between ICE and the adjacent encampment of dozens of tents.

The camp straddles a public walking and biking path, along with trolley tracks. The Willamette Shore Trolley service has curtailed its route due to the protest.

Also taking a hands-off approach: the Bureau of Development Services, which on Monday said ICE had not obtained proper permits last week when it erected a fence to keep out demonstrators. After it issued the warning, BDS said it would follow up with a letter to the building's owner. Now it's backing off.

"Since it appears that the fence is primarily located in the public right-of-way, this matter has been deferred to PBOT," BDS spokesman Thomas Ngo said in a statement Wednesday.

The code enforcement bureau is controlled by City Commissioner Chloe Eudaly, who's been a vocal opponent of ICE immigration policies and has cheered on the Occupy camp. But Eudaly's office has said she did not order an inspector to assess the fence earlier this week. Another official said the inspector had "gone rogue" in handing out the violation.

In fact, Eudaly's office sees value in ICE's barrier. Chief of Staff Marshall Runkel told OPB on Monday that "the fence is providing some useful functions. It's a dangerous situation down there."

The volatility between protesters and Department of Homeland Security officers was showcased twice this week. On Monday, officers arrested several protestors in the camp. On Wednesday, they arrested eight demonstrators attempting to block a van from leaving the facility. A video showed officers deploying less-lethal weapons at short range.

The decision not to enforce the fence violation reduces the likelihood that officials will intercede in ICE's activity in the facility — even as protesters call for the agency to be evicted. Runkel said Monday that Eudaly had researched whether a permit that allows ICE to use the facility had been violated, and concluded the city had no leverage.

The protest has sat outside of ICE's South Waterfront facility since June 17, a response to new hardline immigration policies by the Trump administration. The quick growth of the camp spurred federal officials to temporarily cease activity at the building. It was reopened last week.