

## **The Oregonian**

### **Portland Police won't cooperate with feds on potential ICE raids, chief says**

*By Kale Williams  
July 14, 2019*

The Portland Police Bureau said it would not be cooperating with any federal agencies, including Immigration and Customs Enforcement, in potential immigration raids promised by President Donald Trump this weekend, the agency said Sunday.

State law prohibits local law enforcement agencies from using "agency moneys, equipment or personnel for the purpose of detecting or apprehending persons whose only violation of law is that they are persons of foreign citizenship present in the United States in violation of federal immigration laws."

Portland police chief Danielle Outlaw said there were numerous factors causing fear in Oregon's immigrant communities.

"Now more than ever it is important to understand and recognize the uncertainty and fear for many in our immigrant communities, not just around immigration enforcement efforts, but also hate crimes," she said in a statement. "Members of the Police Bureau continue our outreach efforts to build relationships, especially in communities that may be distrustful of police."

Trump tweeted earlier this week that the raids, which had been scheduled and cancelled two weeks ago, would commence this weekend.

The raids would target roughly 2,000 people who had ignored final deportation orders in major cities like Chicago, Los Angeles, New York and Miami, according to the Associated Press.

Despite the fact that Portland has not been mentioned in potential cities that could see raids, Outlaw sought to reassure those who might fear Portland police were working with federal immigration officials.

"We want everyone in our community to feel safe and protected," she said, "which is why it is important to understand PPB's role and the laws related to immigration enforcement."

### **Portland leader defends push to end neighborhoods' 'devastating' special influence**

*By Gordon Friedman  
July 12, 2019*

Suk Rhee, the leader of Portland's civic engagement bureau, on Friday defended her agency's drive to lessen the powers of the city's storied neighborhood associations, declaring the change necessary to make government more inclusive and stating emphatically that it is not meant to diminish the influence of neighborhoods.

At a speech before the Portland City Club, Rhee offered her rationale for redoing the portion of city code that recognizes neighborhood associations and gives them official powers. That code was written more than four decades ago and today, she said, the government should not exclude some groups by bestowing recognition only upon neighborhood associations.

“When communities have not been named in code, or policy or law – or only when some groups have been named – this has had devastating impacts for being represented, served, resourced and valued in this country,” Rhee told the City Club. “We have a moral and legal obligation to remedy this in the next iteration of code.”

The City Council ordered Rhee’s bureau in 2018 to reexamine city code regarding neighborhood associations in light of shortcomings identified by city auditors, including unequal funding to neighborhood groups and lax oversight of the spending. The bureau, the Office of Community & Civic Life, then convened a 25-member committee to suggest new code language.

A draft of the recommendation includes removing all mention of neighborhood associations and deleting requirements that the groups abide by state public records and open meetings laws. The draft addresses auditors’ spending concerns by requiring “an equitable distribution of public resources.”

Those potential changes have leaders of neighborhood associations worried that the promise of greater inclusivity is a pretext to curtail their powers for political reasons. In particular, they fear the government wants to lessen the influence of neighborhoods over land use decisions, such as those to build apartment complexes or high-rise towers, because the groups have stymied development to the annoyance of some local politicians.

City planners are unsure of the ultimate effect of removing the recognition of neighborhood associations. Currently, the city must seek input from the groups on land use and zoning decisions and they may appeal City Council decisions free of charge.

At the City Club, Rhee said the code change “doesn’t speak to” land use powers and the issue is only “one of many things Portlanders care about.” She stated repeatedly that neighborhood associations would still have influence, but that clout would be shared among a wider crop of interest groups.

“If someone tells you that I or we do not want neighborhood associations in the city of Portland, they’re not being truthful, and I want you to know I don’t lie,” Rhee said.

Civic engagement is a cornerstone of democracy, Rhee said, and it’s incumbent on the city government to make that system more inclusive. She said that is especially so given that American democracy “has its origins in white supremacy and economic exploitation.”

“We need all of us and not just some over others,” Rhee said. “That is not government’s role, to pick winners and losers.”

Rhee’s comments will likely do little to quell the uproar. Last month, for example, neighborhood association members stated vehemently at a meeting of the code change committee that they would never support removing their organizations from city lawbooks.

The committee, officially called Committee 3.96 after the section of city code it seeks to modify, is scheduled to hold a final vote on the matter Thursday. The City Council has scheduled a special session on the code change for Sept. 3.

# City leaders, police, community thank Antoinette Edwards for inspirational leadership and ‘unconditional love’

*By Maxine Bernstein*

*July 12, 2019*

Guardian angel. Sister. Community healer.

That’s how former gang members and drug addicts, parents of children murdered on Portland’s streets, probation officers and police, Portland’s mayor and chief described Antoinette Edwards as she retires after 10 years as director of the city’s Office of Youth Violence Prevention.

Prosecutor David Hannon recounted how Edwards recently answered his call for help to provide support for the father of a man killed in a Gresham hate crime as the case proceeded to trial.

Ex-gang member Lionel Irving told how he came home from prison and Edwards showered him with “unconditional love,” spurring him to get involved in a group called Men Building Men, which allows men to come together, support one another and hold each other accountable.

O’Nesha Cochran said she looked up to Edwards when she was struggling with a crack cocaine addiction and was so impressed how Edwards presented herself as a bold black woman, unashamed of her background.

“I saw this woman who was unapologetically black, walking with power and grace,” Cochran told Edwards at her retirement sendoff Friday. “You told me to undo all the lies that I thought about myself ... and you told me I could do anything that I set my mind to do ... Because of you, I took chances in life that I never would have taken.”

Portland Chief Danielle Outlaw, who came to Portland from Oakland in 2017, said Edwards has been that “glue of understanding between the community and the police bureau” and has been able to “communicate everyone’s perspectives, neutrally, in a way that not a lot of people can do.”

The chief said Edwards helped the city during tense times and worked to avoid further crises by bringing angry and grieving community members to the table with her and other police in difficult conversations, such as in the wake of last fall’s fatal police shooting of Patrick Kimmons.

Outlaw described Edwards as fair, balanced and open, and, as an African American leader in this city, authentic and “true to her values.”

“Immediately when you see her, whether you’ve known her for years or for days, you pick up on her grace, poise, compassion, kindness, someone who’s caring, sharp, on point, can cut you in a minute with the tongue ... in control, in command, but all very well put together,” the chief said.

Edwards, 66, began as director of the city violence prevention office in 2009. She started working out of City Hall but more recently has worked out of an office adjacent to North Precinct in Northeast Portland, providing support to police and gang outreach workers, and crime victims and their families.

Since 2014, she has led bi-monthly meetings of the Community Peace Collaborative, formerly called the Gang Violence Task Force, attended by city and county representatives, police and community members.

Edwards also helped with the formation of a group called, Enough is Enough, made up on family members who lost loved ones to violence.

At one of its first meetings in 2014, held after the fatal shooting of a 21-year-old pregnant woman, Edwards implored, “Where’s the outrage?”

The Enough is Enough campaign was started to encourage residents and victims’ relatives to speak out against the violence and work as partners with police to help investigators solve the crimes.

An Alabama native, Edwards came to Portland with her grandparents at age 7. Before working for the city, she served as director of diversity for the American Red Cross in Oregon and Southwest Washington, worked as a parent coordinator at Self-Enhancement Inc. and as a family intervention specialist with Multnomah County. As the mother of a gay son, she also started Portland’s first black chapter of Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays, now called Sankofa Collective Northwest.

Hermann Green, a pastor at Abundant Life Church in North Portland, recounted how a meeting with Edwards is often filled with her doing some preaching, some singing, and even some good-natured ribbing to put one in their place.

“Thank you for bringing everybody together no matter what side we come from,” he said.

At a ceremony honoring her at North Precinct on Friday morning, supporters presented her with flowers and plaques, offered prayers for her and her family, and even sang for her.

The lyrics carried through the standing room-only conference room, where well-wishers crowded in the open doorway and into the precinct’s entry.

“You bring out the best in me, when everyone else around can only see the worst in me,” the song’s lyrics went. “Never would have made it without you.”

## **The Portland Tribune**

### **Controversial public engagement committee to meet Thursday**

*By Jim Redden  
July 13, 2019*

#### **The final meeting of the citizen committee advising on the rewrite of the City Code is scheduled for July 18 in North Portland**

The controversial rewrite of Portland’s public engagement policy is expected to move forward on Thursday, July 18.

That is when the citizen committee advising the rewrite is scheduled to hold its final meeting from 5:30 to 8:00 p.m. at a Portland Water Bureau building at 664 N. Tillamook St.

The committee is advising the city Office of Community and Civic Life, formerly known as the Office of Neighborhood Involvement. The City Council has directed it to rewrite Chapter 3.96 of the City Code, which recognizes and regulates Portland’s neighborhood associations as the official vehicle for public engagement. Among other thing, they have an official role to play in land use matters within their boundaries.

The rewrite is intended to expand the avenues for public engagement to include a wider variety of community-based organizations. The current draft is controversial because it would eliminate all reference to neighborhood associations from the code, although it does not abolish them.

Some neighborhood activists argue there is no need to remove all references from the associations from the code to formally allow other organizations to play similar roles. But office director Suk Rhee defended the proposed rewrite Friday before the City Club of Portland. Speaking on a panel on civic engagement, she said the city has a moral and legal obligation to represent all Portlanders.

"When communities have not been named in code, or policy or law, or only when some groups have been named, this has had devastating impacts for being represented, served, resourced and valued in this country," said Rhee.

Rhee also promised neighborhood association would continue to be part of the "circle of engagement," just not the center of it.

Also speaking to the longstanding civic organization was Carl Abbot, a Portland State University professor emeritus who is an expert on cities and who has written two books on Portland. He said neighborhood associations were the first influential grassroots organization beginning in the 1960s and suggested that some city officials might be annoyed with them now because they oppose current redevelopment policies, such as increasing residential densities.

Committee 3.96, as it is called, was originally scheduled to complete its work on June 26, but not enough members showed up to constitute the forum necessary to conduct business. Some neighborhood activists claimed the meeting was poorly publicized and promised to attend the next one.

The council has scheduled a work session on the proposed write for Sept. 3rd of this year.

[You can learn more about the rewrite project here.](#)

## **Hardesty boosts Blumenauer's 'climate crisis' declaration**

*By Zane Sparling*

*July 15, 2019*

### **Rep. Earl Blumenauer rallies in Portland for resolution declaring climate change a national emergency.**

Forty-five co-sponsors in the U.S. House have signed on to a proposal by Congressman Earl Blumenauer, D-Oregon, which would declare climate change a national emergency.

Commissioner Jo Ann Hardesty and other local officials gave the joint resolution a boost during a Sunday, July 14, rally held at the Oregon Sierra Club, 1821 S.E. Ankeny St.

"First the resolution, and then the revolution," said Rep. Blumenauer. "The point I guess we need to make — again and again — is this is in fact a climate crisis."

To cheers, Hardesty suggested that Blumenauer tell his colleagues on Capitol Hill about Portland's newly-imposed Clean Energy Community Benefits program. The fund adds a 1% surcharge to large retailers, and is now expected to raise between \$52 and \$73 million annually due to an expansive judicial interpretation of what constitutes a "retailer."

"Portland has already created the new Green Deal," Hardesty said, noting it "very intentionally makes sure that corporations pay their fair share."

Blumenauer's resolution is somewhat symbolic in nature, as it wouldn't give the federal government any special emergency powers. But presidential candidate Sen. Bernie Sanders, I-Vermont, and Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, D-New York, have become high-profile supporters.

At the rally, other backers included Multnomah County Commissioner Lori Stegmann, state Rep. Rob Nosse and newly-elected Portland Public Schools board member Michelle DePass.

"Communities of color have been environmentalists before it was cool," DePass told the Tribune. "This resolution is not only important for Portlanders, it's important for all Americans."

## **Amid crackdown, PPB says no role enforcing immigration laws**

*July 14, 2019*

### **The Portland Police Bureau released a statement Sunday as the Trump Administration began announced immigration sweeps**

Portland police want to remind the public that they will not be enforcing federal immigration laws, according to Oregon law.

The Trump administration's nationwide crackdown on immigrants is expected to begin this weekend, targeting migrant families in cities across the country.

Although Portland is not on the list of major cities targeted in the crackdown, the Portland Police Bureau released a statement saying they adhere to Oregon law and do not enforce federal immigration laws. Oregon law states "No law enforcement agency of the State of Oregon or of any political subdivision of the state shall use agency moneys, equipment or personnel for the purpose of detecting or apprehending persons whose only violation of law is that they are persons of foreign citizenship present in the United States in violation of federal immigration laws."

In the statement, Chief Danielle Outlaw said she wants the immigrant community to feel safe.

"Now more than ever it is important to understand and recognize the uncertainty and fear for many in our immigrant communities, not just around immigration enforcement efforts, but also hate crimes," said Outlaw. "Members of the Police Bureau continue our outreach efforts to build relationships, especially in communities that may be distrustful of police. We want everyone in our community to feel safe and protected, which is why it is important to understand PPB's role and the laws related to immigration enforcement."

# The Daily Journal of Commerce

## Affordable housing project could set precedent

*By Alex Visser*

*July 12, 2019*

A team planning to build affordable housing in Southeast Portland on Thursday received advice from the Portland Design Commission for the second time, and got mostly positive feedback. The subject property, at 3000 S.E. Powell Blvd., is owned by the Portland Housing Bureau; the project is being developed by Home Forward, the city's housing authority. Colas Construction is serving as construction manager/general contractor.

Holst Architecture is behind the design, which sees a five-story building of 180 housing units making up a nearly 50,000-square-foot site. Townhomes are planned on the ground floor, and units ranging from studios to three-bedroom apartments are in the works on the upper floors. Plans call for 30 parking spaces to be made available to residents.

When the design team previously met with the Design Commission in May, the renderings showed blockier-shaped buildings that commissioners said lacked character. The new design shows large structures with angled edges and concave features.

The team did a good job of listening and responding to the criticisms provided previously, and the new façade is attractive, Commissioner Zari Santner said. Fellow commissioner Don Vallaster similarly said the changes were effective, especially the more dramatic edges. He added that the smaller and more subtle curves were awkward and did not create the same effect.

The design features two courtyards, the first of which is public and sits at the entrance to the complex. A second courtyard wedges itself through the middle of the building and features a zigzag path through planters, intended only for residents.

A major point of discussion for the Design Commission was what role the building might play within the context of Powell Boulevard. Vallaster said he has not yet heard a compelling argument for how it would fit within the neighborhood, although he did say that it could create its own context.

The design team expressed a desire to do as much, with hope that future buildings in the area can follow the project's example. The designers described Powell Boulevard's current makeup as "an eclectic mix of frontages."

Commissioner Chandra Robinson, in her first hearing on the board, said the building would be a great context creator for the street, especially at its entrance, which would be warm and exciting to passersby.

"It is precedent-setting in that it is providing a stopping place that we do not have now," she said. "I really appreciate that it's not mirroring the rest of what's on Powell, but it's adding something new."

While some criticism was given to more nuanced aspects of the building, including a ground-floor scale disproportionate to the upper floors and a large swath of blank concrete on the backside wall, commissioners generally expressed satisfaction at where the project is heading.

"Context is a little difficult to figure out in this neighborhood," Commissioner Samuel Rodriguez said. "I think this is creating context."

## **The Portland Business Journal**

### **Groundbreaking marks start of \$600M Ritz-Carlton project**

*By Jon Bell  
July 12, 2019*

Walter Bowen, founder of BPM Real Estate Group, greeted a select gathering of guests this morning to ceremonially break ground on his most ambitious project yet: a 35-story tower that will be home to a 251-room Ritz-Carlton hotel, 138 luxury condos, 165,000 square feet of office space and 10,000 square feet of ground-floor retail.

"Never in my wildest dreams did I think as a poor kid from southeast Portland that I'd one day be able to change Portland's skyline," Bowen said at the event.

Close to 100 people — investors, developers, financiers, Portland Mayor Ted Wheeler and others — gathered for the celebration. While only ceremonial ground was broken, Bowen said actual work should begin by month's end.

Earlier this month, BPM secured a \$460 million loan for the project, which Bowen said will ultimately cost about \$600 million to build. At least some of the funding will come thanks to the Opportunity Zone program, which offers tax breaks to investors who set up Qualified Opportunity Funds to invest in real estate projects and business investments in designated areas.

The project is expected to create more than 2,000 direct and indirect jobs. It will also generate about \$25 million in systems development charges for the city and more than \$8 million in fees that will go toward affordable housing in Portland in lieu of including any affordable housing in the tower.

The tower, designed by Portland's GBD Architects, is expected to be completed by December 2022.

## **OPB**

### **City Of Portland To Host Forum On Zenith Tar Sands Terminal Expansion**

*By Kristian Foden-Vencil  
July 12, 2019*

The city of Portland is holding a community forum Monday evening at the University of Portland, on the proposed expansion of the Zenith Energy tar sands terminal.

Zenith Energy wants to almost quadruple its rail car capacity at an old asphalt plant along the Willamette River.

Environmentalists are concerned that with the loosest rules on the West Coast, Oregon has become the path of least resistance for oil transport.

"Portlanders have every right to be concerned about the domestic and international shipment of crude and tar sands oil," said Portland Mayor Ted Wheeler.

“I am proud to serve as mayor of a city that has a long history of environmentalism. I remain opposed to any expansion or activity that would endanger the health and safety of communities in this city – and pose a serious threat to our natural environment.”

Hundreds of people are expected to attend the meeting. The city is billing it as a time to share what actions have been taken so far, where residents stand, and a discussion of the next steps.

Amy Rathfelder is the environmental policy advisor for Wheeler. She said the forum will consider all kinds of questions.

“How are cities going to look in 50 years? And what are our priorities in terms of where are we getting our energy from?” said Rathfelder.

Portland City Commissioner Chloe Eudaly said the city’s ability to regulate oil trains and Zenith’s activities is limited.

“But we should leave no stone unturned in finding ways to protect Portlanders. From extraction to transport to refinement, tar sands oil is the dirtiest and most dangerous form of fossil fuel,” said Eudaly.

“We don’t need it and we don’t want it in Portland or anywhere on our planet.”

## **Groundbreaking Held For Portland Ritz-Carlton At Shuttered Food Cart Site**

*By Donald Orr*

*July 12, 2019*

Portland will soon be home to the Northwest’s first Ritz-Carlton luxury hotel.

Portland Mayor Ted Wheeler joined BPM Real Estate Group and investors for the groundbreaking of Block 216, the site of a 35-story tower at Southwest 10th Avenue and Alder Street.

Wheeler said the project will generate one of the largest single investments in affordable housing in Portland.

“A lot of people talk about housing affordability in this community — I know I do,” Wheeler said. “This project will contribute \$8 million in payments and lieu payments towards affordable housing in our community.”

Managers and investors expect the project to generate 2,000 construction jobs and over 550 jobs for hotel and residential operations.

The development of the project recently displaced Portland’s largest food cart pod.

Completion of the project is expected in late 2023.