

Housing Authority to import windows for apartment weatherization project

Rejects windows made at former Republic Window & Doors in Chicago

By MICHAEL GUTWIG
Editor

With hundreds of billions of dollars being borrowed and spent to stimulate jobs in the U.S., it's surprising that the Housing Authority of Portland plans to replace windows at the Hollywood East Apartments with new ones imported from Canada.

Hollywood East is a 15-story, 286-unit, concrete apartment building located at 4400 NE Broadway in the Hollywood District. Built in 1969, residents there are low-income seniors and people with disabilities.

A Portland company, Medallion Industries, made a presentation to supply windows manufactured in the United States, but was rebuffed by the Housing Authority for what it said was a lack of a track record producing windows for buildings over five stories.

Instead, the windows will be supplied by Cascadia, which is located in Langley, British Columbia.

Medallion intended to use windows manufactured at the former Republic Windows & Doors in Chicago. If you recall, 275 unionized Republic Window employees held a six-day sit-in just before Christmas 2008 after the plant abruptly shut down. Workers demanded

that they be paid what was owed them. The sit-in drew national attention and was lauded by then-President-elect Barack Obama.

That national attention led to a California company, Serious Materials, stepping up to buy the plant. Serious — a highly successful company in the green, heating-efficient window market — agreed to the same contract Republic Windows had with members of United Electrical Workers Local 1110 at the time of its closure. Unfortunately, to date, only 35 employees have gone back to work, according to United Electrical Workers Western Regional President Carl Rosen.

Medallion Industries sells Serious Materials windows.

When the Northwest Labor Press was initially contacted about the imported windows, it was because the money for the Hollywood East weatherization project was to come from American Recovery and Reinvestment Act stimulus funds. ARRA is the \$787 billion economic stimulus package enacted by Congress to spur job creation in the U.S. in the wake of the Great Recession of 2008-09. Roughly \$8 billion is earmarked for weatherization and energy-efficiency projects nationwide. ARRA has "Buy American" language that requires manufactured products be produced in the United States.

"It was explained to us that this project was being funded with an ARRA grant," a spokeswoman for Medallion Industries told the Labor Press. "We had to submit an affidavit proving that

the windows were made in the U.S."

On Dec. 17, Medallion was notified by e-mail that the replacement windows at Hollywood East would be supplied by Cascadia. The Medallion spokeswoman said she was told Cascadia's product was selected because it had a track record with buildings similar to Hollywood East, and that they were able to "overcome" the Made in USA requirement by having the windows assembled locally.

Contacted by the Labor Press, Housing Authority of Portland public affairs director Shelly Marchesi confirmed the windows were to be imported, but said funding for that portion of the weatherization project was a "pass through" from Multnomah County. "You really should talk to Multnomah County," Marchesi said.

Mary Li, Community Services manager at Multnomah County's Department of Community and Family Services, said the county initially considered using ARRA funds, but later decided not to. She cited the imported windows as a reason why.

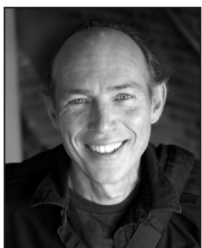
"We have 30 projects in the pipeline. We cobble from a variety of funding sources to make them happen," Li said, noting that the \$600,000 for windows at Hollywood East will come from various federal- and state-funded weatherization programs.

"You have to remember, we (Multnomah County) didn't call for these windows," Li said. "It's a HAP project. HAP and their architects determined

(Turn to Page 12)



James Coon



Raymond Thomas



Cynthia Newton



Kimberly Tucker



Chris Frost

The team at **SWANSON, THOMAS & COON** can help you:

We recognize the valuable community work done by these recipients of STC's Holiday donations:

- Northwest Workers Justice Project
 - Street Roots
 - Growing Gardens
- Campaign for Equal Justice
 - Outside In

Workers Compensation

Construction Injuries

Death Claims

Personal Injury/Product Liability

Social Security Disability

Occupational Disease/Mesothelioma

Call us today at **503-228-5222**
Straight answers. No cost for consultation.

SWANSON, THOMAS & COON ATTORNEYS AT LAW
820 S.W. Second Avenue, Suite 200
Portland, Oregon 97204
www.stc-law.com



FREE
BARGAIN COUNTER

Free classified ads to subscribers

DEADLINE: Friday prior to publication
Published 1st and 3rd Fridays

Now accepting e-mails

Send to: Michael492@comcast.net
Mail to: NWLP, PO Box 13150, Portland OR 97213
(Please include union affiliation)

• 15-20 words • No commercial or business ads • 1 ad per issue
• All lower case (NO CAPITAL LETTERS, PLEASE) •

Ads MUST include area code *or they will not be published*

AUTOMOTIVE

'98 CHEVY VAN 3500 overdrive, CD/am/fm, alarm, runs great, extra tires and wheels, \$1,195. 503-665-9297
'04 FORD ESCAPE XLT, V-6 with extras, black, \$6,800. Grady 503-784-8326
'95 FORD ESCORT, 92,000 miles, 4 door, manual trans, 4cyl excellent car for school or work, \$1,800. 503-387-5073
'98 CADILLAC DEVILLE, excellent condition, \$3,500. 503-281-6624
'07 CHEV IMPALA LT, red, \$9,900, power everything, exc cond, sporty, roomy, great gas mileage, 47k miles. 503-250-1148
MUD FLAPS (2), 24"x 30" water trapor type, \$100 OBO. 503-254-3587 or 503-348-5055
4 GOODYEAR WRANGLER tires, p275/65/R18, excellent condition only 9k miles, \$300. 503 287-6482

HOUSING

LINCOLN CITY vacation rental, 3 br, 2 bath, \$90/night, sleeps 8. 503-804-7976
ROCKAWAY OCEAN front, 503-777-5076
<http://home.comcast.net/~rockaway.beach>
5 bdrms, 2 bath, now booking summer.

WANTED

WORKING TYPE 4-wheeler, will trade Harley-Davidson and/or guns, Mike. 503-360-8681
MOTORCYCLES, running or not, whole bikes or parts, cash paid. 503-880-8183
OLD WOODWORKING Tools, Planes, Levels, Chisels, Handsaws, Slicks, Adzes, Wrenches, Folding Rulers, Old Leather Tools, Tool Chests. 503-659-0009
COLLECTOR PAYS cash for older toys, oil paintings, art pottery and unique items. 503 653-1506
WORKING TYPE 4 wheeler and small pull-behind work cart, have guns and Harley-Davidson motorcycle for trade. 503 360-8681
BUTTER WARMER sets. 503 252-5571
FIREARMS, one or complete collection and related items. 503 231-1208

SPORTING GOODS

1,100 ROUNDS 7.62x 39 AP, \$410; 30 cal. ammo cans, \$8; 50 cal, \$10; FHT 50, \$12. 503 852-6791
RUGER MK II stainless .22 pistol, 4x scope, tuned trigger, shoulder holster, 2 clips, orig box, excellent condition, \$450. 503 798-6517 from 3:30 to 8:30 p.m.
CANNON DIGI-TROLL II electric down-rigger w/ball and boat mount, \$500. 503 252-2136
SIG ARMS trailside target .22 full adjustable sights 6" barrel, extra magazine, \$475. 503 593-9242
2 AVION CAMPERS 66, 69 FSC aircraft construction, fishing poles, reels, wood stabs, burls, 503-775-3681

MISCELLANEOUS

275 GALLON indoor heating oil tank, filter and gauge, \$150. 503-805-4001
JEANS LIP SERVICE, side laced rocker style, 307-G, size 36, red twill w/black lacing, new w/tags, \$40. 503-568-6159
TRAILER, 6X15 flatbed, 18" siderails, back 12' tilts, single axle, 25/16 ball, \$650 OBO. 503-307-3934
PREMIUM BEEF, \$3 per lb. hanging weight includes cut/wrap, ready for freezer. 503-630-4647
STAINLESS STEEL mag gun wire .035 308 new stool, \$100; other wire for Mig gun. 503-643-6897 (Dale)
3-WHEEL RALLY electric cart, needs batteries, \$250. 503-761-1133
BLOCK STORAGE building, 11x30 10' high, secure SE storage, \$150. 503 774-1780
SPECIALTY WHEELCHAIR, \$450; electric wheelchair/three-wheel scooter, \$395; tub transfer bench, \$45. 702-524-8207

FOR THE HOME

TWIN SLEEPER pullout, \$250, ottoman, with storage, \$175, beige. 503-669-5324
WHIRLPOOL ELECTRIC range, white 30", looks new, \$250. 360-254-6174
STEEL BED frame only, 83" long, width adjustable to twin size (39"), \$45. 503 753-1714

HEMORRHOIDS

**The Non-Surgical Treatment
Keesey Technique Since 1954**

THE SANDY BLVD. CLINIC PORTLAND

503-232-7609 or toll free@ 888-750-1432

Visist us @ www.sandyclinic.com • E-mail: sandyclinic@aol.com
Steven G. Cranford, DC, ND

We also treat anal fissure's fistula/abscess disease and severe itching.

2026 NE SANDY BLVD., PORTLAND, OR 97232