

Food for the
needy



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Ballot Measure 1:

Yes
 No



Portland
crime



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PORTLAND OBSERVER

Volume XV, Number 45
September 11, 1985
25¢ Copy

Two Sections

USPS 090-850-000
Gannett Publishing Co., Inc. 1984

Fred Meyer meets neighborhood resistance on Hyster Plan

Oregon Fair Share targets District 18 on sales tax vote



At a press conference held at the Hyster Co. site, Cheryl Perrin of Fred Meyer discusses the results of a poll and questionnaire that was favorable to the building of a superstore at the location. (Photo: Richard J. Brown)

by Robert Lothian

"Fred Meyer wants to shoe-horn a suburban shopping center into an urban neighborhood," said Grant Park neighborhood resident Bill Gaylord. Gaylord testified Monday night at a packed land use hearing on the proposal by Fred Meyer, Inc., to build a new superstore on the Hyster

Co. site near N.E. 28th Ave. and Clackamas St.

Fred Meyer wants a zone change so it can go ahead with plans for a \$12.3 million full service store on the 17-acre site.

Those against the proposal, mainly residents of nearby neighborhoods,

wore green ribbons and appeared to far outnumber supporters. Much of their testimony dealt with the potential for increased neighborhood traffic, for attracting crime and prostitution, and harm to businesses in the Hollywood area, on Broadway and Sandy Blvd. "Our neighborhood is vital and doesn't need to be revitalized," said

Gaylord. "My kids can ride their bikes safely, they can walk to school, they can trick or treat." Gaylord said the new store would harm liveability in nearby neighborhoods.

Those in favor said the new store would create jobs, bring business into the area, revitalize the Hyster site and nearby business district, and fill a need for a new store in the area. They discounted the potential for increased crime, and several said increased traffic would actually benefit local businesses.

"They need those extra 12,000 cars," said E. E. Green, a 35-year resident of the neighborhood near the site. Green said he has watched the deterioration of the Hyster property. "It would be a tremendous mistake to prevent the development that Fred Meyer is proposing for this location," he said.

Anthony Barsotti, a resident of Grant park neighborhood, testified representing the Ad Hoc Committee on the Hyster-Fred Meyer proposal, a coalition of residents opposed to the store from nine surrounding neighborhoods. Barsotti listed three requests — that the zone change be denied, that the city help Fred Meyer upgrade its Hollywood store, and that a task force be formed to find an alternative use for the site. The coalition "approves development that promotes neighborhood liveability and protects the viability of existing business in the area," Barsotti said.

Cheryl Perrin, Fred Meyer vice-president for governmental affairs, led a company delegation that included architects and public opinion researchers. They came prepared with a slide show and colored plastic overlays.

Approving the new store would be an opportunity for the city to demon-

strate that Mayor Clark's slogan, "Portland is open for business," is more than "just words," said Perrin. The company reported the results of a poll conducted by TH Research, Inc., which showed 56 percent approval of the proposal by residents of the nine neighborhoods. Of responses to 17,000 questionnaires mailed by the company to residents near the site, 75 percent approved the new store, said Perrin.

An architect's drawing of the new store showed a modern, landscaped facility similar to stores in Clackamas, Vancouver and Eugene malls. Perrin said the company has already invested heavily in the project.

Some of the most damning testimony against the proposal came from the City Planning Bureau. Bureau representative Jean Harrison read a bureau staff report recommending against the new store.

The company proposal fails to meet the criteria for a zone change and conflicts with the Comprehensive Plan, said Harrison, reading from the report, because traffic will increase as shoppers attempt to cut through neighborhoods, the new store will encourage strip development, and it will draw business away from the Hollywood area where the city has made a substantial investment in street improvement to attract business. "The public is not served by granting the request at this time," she said.

Perrin said the company planned to fight the Planning Bureau report with technical studies of its own. She called the report "erroneous, biased and slanted."

The land use hearings process will take several weeks, with time for rebuttals by both sides possibly followed by another full public hearing.

Oregon Fair share, the state's largest consumer organization and a leading opponent of the proposed sales tax is launching an extensive "Get Out the Vote" campaign in District 18. Mary Cavill, of Fair Share's Portland Chapter, stated that the central reason for Fair Share's opposition to the sales tax plan is that it would shift the burden of taxes off businesses and onto households. District 18, a primarily low and moderate income area, has been targeted for a major election turnout campaign because this is an area which will be hardest hit if the sales tax is approved.

"We feel that a strong voter turnout in District 18 will be an important component in the defeat of the sales tax. We have found strong support against the sales tax here. We need to insure that this support is carried to the polls on election day, September 17."

Fair Share's "Get Out the Vote" effort will include a literature drop throughout the district on Saturday, September 14. It will also include a phone-calling campaign on Monday, September 16 and on election day, September 17. Volunteers are needed to wage a successful campaign. Those interested in becoming involved in the "Get Out the Vote" efforts should contact Oregon Fair Share, 223-2981.

Correction:

In the article in last week's *Observer* (Sept. 4, 1985) entitled "Payroll deductions fund National Black United Front," all references to the National Black United Front should have been references to the National Black United Fund. Our apologies for any confusion which may have arisen from the error.

South African picket



Protestors march in front of the offices of the Port of Vancouver in an effort to convince management that they should not allow ships carrying cargo from South Africa to use the port. Protestors were also at the port when the Nedlloyd Kingston arrived with South African cargo Wednesday night. (Photo: Richard J. Brown)

Year of the Dragon boycott called

by Jerry Garner

Community organizations held a press conference Tuesday at City Hall to protest the recent release of the film *Year of the Dragon*. Asian Americans across the country have called for a national boycott of the MCM picture. The movie filmed in the Chinatown district of New York and produced by Michael Cimino has been blantly called anti-Asian, racist, violent and sexist. Asian Americans say *Year of the Dragon* recycles the worst stereotypes of Asians for the U.S. movie-going audiences, especially in the context of a growing anti-Asian climate and rise in incident of anti-Asian violence in this country. It promotes the view of Chinese and by extension all Asians as "the enemy."

Speaking at the press conference was Chisao Hata of the Japanese American Citizens League, Portland chapter. Ms. Hata stated, "The recently released film *Year of the Dragon* has raised strong opposition across this nation. Not only have Asian American communities been vocal, but all communities who are concerned with abolishing racist and sexist attitudes have taken a public stand against *Year of the Dragon*. We must progress toward creating a better day for all Americans. This is a dangerous film."

Hata contends that the movie maintains for our youth negative role models of Asian Americans, Black Americans, women, men and even law enforcers. The *Year of the Dragon* fuels the burning fires of violence towards Asians and other communities of color. It bombards us with needless images of violent warlike destruction of human life. The movie is about a Polish police



(Left - right) John Blank, Rainbow Coalition; Dr. Fay Lee, Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Ass'n.; Chisao Hata, Co-Vice President Japanese American Citizens League; Dr. Ron Eng, Chinese American Citizens Alliance and Reymundo Marin, Executive Director MHRC, speak out against the movie *Year of the Dragon* at a press conference. (Photo: Richard J. Brown)

captain who declared a private war against drug peddling and youth gangs in Chinatown. The cop, played by actor Mickey Rourke, is the only person who can save Chinatown from its evil elements. Asian women are depicted shabbily; they are portrayed as either whores, molls or appendages of men. The movie also has been criticized for its degree of violence. Shootings, stabbings and stranglings can be seen throughout the picture. Public protests of *The Year of the Dragon* have already been held in New York, Chicago, Boston, Los Angeles, Washington, D.C., and other cities. Hata asked that citizens and or-

ganizations become involved in a public education program that includes the following actions: support prefacing the film with a verbal and written disclaimer that states the film does not portray activities and life in the Chinese American communities; support activities and productions that create a positive and accurate image of Asian Americans and other ethnic communities and women; write letters to producers, directors, distributors, and theater owners to protest the creation of the film and encourage production of shows that portray ethnic communities with respect to human dignity. Some of the local organizations who

have voiced concern with the film are: Chinese American Citizen's Alliance, Chinese Chamber of Commerce, Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Association, Japanese American Citizen's League, Chinese Social Service, Black United Front, Metropolitan Human Relations Commission, Native American Resource Network, American Jewish Committee, Rainbow Coalition, Oregon Committee for Hispanic Advancement, Metropolitan Ethnic Minority Executive Coalition. Citizens and organizations who are concerned about this film are invited to attend a meeting on Wednesday, September 18th, 7:30 p.m., City Hall.