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## NAMCO To Face City Council

BY E.T. OTTOK, STAFF WRITER

The National Association of Minority Contractors of Oregon (NAMCO) was granted an opportunity to speak before the Portland City Council during its October 30, 1992 session. There was no opposition to have the Minority Business Advocate Organization placed as part of its regular agenda this coming October 14, 1992.

In a letter addressed to the council, O.B. Hill, NAMCO Chairman, requested that members be placed on the agenda to discuss a number of issues of utmost importance to Minority Business Enterprises and to The African American Community in general.

"The issues", Hill said, "are based on decisions the council has made and the negative impact they are having economically on small enterprise zone based businesses."

NAMCO has been highly critical of council decisions under Mayor Bud Clark's leadership. The mayor and some council members are viewed as being ignorant on issues dealing with con-

tracting. Earlier this year the organization led an informational demonstration at the Holladay street improvement, Public Works Project, claiming that the council had allowed an out of town contractor to discriminate against a local black contractor, Holefield Construction.

Amongst the topics to be discussed by NAMCO members is the city's application to the Oregon Economic Development Department to amend the boundaries of the north/northeast Portland Enterprise Zone. This action was taken to assist Pacific Aircraft maintenance Corporation (PAMCORP).

The city designated Economic Development Agency, The Portland Development Commission (PDC) used the unemployment hardship criteria, which emphasized jobs created in significant numbers for N. E. Portland Enterprise Zone Residents to convince the state to approve the change in the boundaries. What it also made possible was the clearing of obstacles to begin construction of a 50 million dollar facility on Port of

Portland property without any consideration or requirements for minority business participation.

The PAMCORP facility now under construction will be a main focal point of discussion. NAMCO contends that efforts have been made to induce Howard S. Wright Construction Co., a Seattle Firm, to work with its membership and provide opportunities to enterprize zone based contractors.

Other items NAMCO members will report on before the council are the city's first source hiring program, and the status of two reports dealing with providing assistance and equity in opportunity for African-American Contractors.

The council will be facing some issues that few public officials want to deal with, especially, two weeks prior to a major election. NAMCO representatives contend that a change in the council membership will probably mean a change for the better for small businesses.

# We Salute Minority Business Enterprises

*"Building Our Community  
With Their Determination  
to Excellence"*

**The Portland Observer**

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### Local Leaders to Deliver Clothes for Homeless Kids to Portland Shelter

A group of local leaders October 7, will help deliver a truckload of new and used clothing for homeless children that was donated recently by 5,000 area residents.

The truck will arrive at 1:00p.m. at the loading dock on the west side of the Salvation Army warehouse at 1712 NE Sandy Boulevard in Portland. Helping to unload it will be City Commissioner Earl Blumenauer, Mark Anderson of Babyland Diaper Service, Inc., and Mrs. Major Bettie Love of the Salvation Army.

The clothing in the truck was collected in September by Babyland Diaper Service from its 5,000 customers in Oregon and Washington. The truck contains 30,000 items of clothing, six times the original goal.

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