

The Portland Observer

## Sustainability



## Home Repairs Help Offered

Program targets Interstate, Lents

The Portland Housing Bureau has funding to help approximately 32 homeowners in the Interstate corridor and 15 homeowners in the Lents Town Center make critical repairs to their homes.

Homeowners can borrow up to \$15,000, but the Home Repair Loan Program doesn't require monthly payments or charge interest. At the beginning of the 11th year of the loan, 20 percent of the loan will be forgiven. After the 15th year, the loan will be completely forgiven.

The loan is a zero-percent deferred payment loan with an annual percentage rate of .0012 percent, which results from \$400 in fees the

housing bureau charges to administer each loan. PHB allows these fees to be financed.

Funds must be used to make critical repairs like fixing electrical hazards, replacing leaky roofs, removing mold, repairing failing porches, and addressing other health and safety items or building code violations.

Funding is limited to home owners who own and occupy properties located in urban renewal areas. The program is an urban renewal strategy to improve the housing stock and address blighted homes within these areas.

To learn more or to request applications, call 503-823-3400.

## Grocery Goes Green

### Hawthorne Fred Meyer earns LEED Silver rating

A significant remodel at Fred Meyer's southeast Hawthorne location attained a Silver-LEED certification for the 128,000-square-foot building.

The new design maintained the same footprint as the site's original 1950s Fred Meyer, and The Kroger Co., which operates all Fred Meyer stores, reports that it has determined that for every dollar spent on the remodel, nine dollars in energy consumption would be saved down the road.

The two-story remodel, designed



The southeast Hawthorne Fred Meyer's remodel by MulvannyG2 Architecture earned it a LEED Silver certification, making it one of the most sustainable supermarkets in the United States.

by MulvannyG2 Architecture, added 3,000 square feet and increased the store's programmatic density. The design is projected to reduce utility costs by between one and two percent. It's the first LEED-

certified supermarket among Kroger's 2,500 stores nationwide. LEED certification provides independent, third-party verification that a building project is environmentally responsible, profitable and a healthy place to live and work.

"While there are about a dozen LEED-certified supermarkets in the United States, mostly smaller, niche grocers such as Whole Foods and Washington state's PCC Natural Markets, Fred Meyer serves a more broad-based demographic," said Randy Sauer, Principal at MulvannyG2. "And this brings green architecture, and the expectation to have green architecture, to everybody."

## Seed Fund Managers Chosen

Jim Huston and Angela Jackson of Portland have been selected to manage the Portland Seed Fund. This fund is an economic development tool proposed by Mayor Sam Adams to provide capital to entrepreneurs and early stage start-ups.

Huston and Jackson will establish and manage the fund, which will receive the city's initial \$500,000, and actively work to identify additional investors to reach the targeted goal of \$1.5 million in capital.

The lack of seed funding has long been an issue for high-growth start-ups and entrepreneurs with innovative product ideas. Portland's emphasis on entrepreneurship in the city's Economic Development Strategy has led to the emergence of a seed fund as a critical initiative to spur job creation and economic growth in the city.

Additional information can be found at [portlandseedfund.com](http://portlandseedfund.com).

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