

# Biggest Chair at the Table

CONTINUED FROM FRONT

“TriMet knows what they can expect from us. That’s one of the cornerstones for which we were able to win the project,” Bruce said.

Though Bruce has only been working with Raimore for the past two years, his relationship to the firm has spanned over 20 years as he worked for one of the prime contractors for the Interstate Max Project under Stacy and Witbeck, a Bay Area contractor who enlisted Raimore for trucking and flagging services during the project.

TriMet’s approach to that project is lauded by Bruce and is generally considered to be a landmark national model for the federal DBE program.

“Interstate Max was the largest public project that had meaningful involvement from local minority firms, specifically black firms,” Bruce said.

National Association of Minority Contractor co-founder James Posey of Portland, then-TriMet executive director Fred Hanson, and others were instrumental in setting up the Interstate Max Project’s DBE program at the time, providing meaningful opportunity to minority firms in Portland.

Bruce, under Stacy and Witbeck, helped Raimore acquire some of the



PHOTO BY DANNY PETERSON/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Raimore Construction Project managers Jesse Jackson (left) and Bill Bruce are two of the top assistants to Raimore co-founder and owner Jeff Moreland. The African-American owned company has grown from a small trucking firm into a prime contractor over the past 20 years.

skill sets they needed to grow as well. Stacy and Witbeck held monthly classes for Raimore and other DBE firms on finance, payroll, invoicing, and other subjects to assist in their businesses, a TriMet workforce study stated.

Since then, the company has grown tremendously, in part due to continued work with TriMet for varying projects over the years.

Two years ago, for instance, Raimore was the recipient of a \$6.8 million contract to build shelters for the Max Orange Line servicing Milwaukie. That was considered at the time be the first black general contractor to complete a major construction project in Oregon.

The project earned praise from Posey, who in 2016 called TriMet a “perennial leader among governmental agencies for successful results in hiring and supporting minority contractors and workers over several decades.”

In addition, Max Orange Line shelters were Raimore’s largest contract ever. That high water mark is expected to be topped by the upcoming Division Interstate Project, in which Raimore will also be building shelters and street improvement work to accommodate a new high-capacity bus service stretching a 15 mile corridor between Gresham and Downtown Portland.

Raimore received a \$395,000 contract for the pre-construction phase for the Milwaukie project. The contract on the Division project may happen as soon as early 2019.



PHOTO BY DANNY PETERSON/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Raimore construction employees, of which over 50 percent are people of color, work on renovations at Couch Park in northwest Portland. Pictured (clockwise from top) are Yohalayne Moya, Jason Lacroix, and Pedro Interian.

## GOLDEN BALL


**PORTLAND PARKS & RECREATION**  
 Healthy Parks, Healthy Portland

### SATURDAY YOUTH BASKETBALL TEAM REGISTRATION

**Grades 3<sup>rd</sup>-High School; Boys and Girls Teams**

Join the Portland Parks and Recreation Saturday Youth Basketball Program for the Upcoming 2018-19 Season!

Form your recreational team and join up. Parent volunteers are needed for coaching your youth teams.

Team registration begins: October 8<sup>th</sup>-November 26<sup>th</sup>.

Practice begins the week of November 5<sup>th</sup> and League games begin Saturday, January 5<sup>th</sup> for an 8 week season in PPS school gyms

For team registration forms/costs and coach information please see our league page: <https://www.portlandoregon.gov/parks/48527>

**Come Hoop it UP!**



**Recreational Team  
Basketball**

---

Learn  
**Sportsmanship**

---

Make Friends

---

Learn Basketball  
**Fundamentals**

---

Have Fun!



**DELTA PARK SPORTS**  
 10850 N. Denver Ave.  
 Portland, Or 97217  
[www.portlandparks.org](http://www.portlandparks.org)  
 503-823-5124  
 503-823-5126

Sustaining a healthy park and recreation system to make Portland a great place to live, work and play.  
[www.PortlandParks.org](http://www.PortlandParks.org) • Nike Fish, Commissioner • Kia Selley, Interim Director

