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Established in 1970 Committed to Cultural Diversity



PHOTO BY DANNY PETERSON/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Community leaders break ground Friday on a new 70 unit affordable housing complex at Northeast Martin Luther King and Rosa Parks Way. The project by Portland Community Reinvestment, Inc. (PCRI), a housing provider rooted in the African American community, is the nonprofit's second major effort to create housing for people who have been displaced from inner north and northeast Portland. Pictured (from left) are Nancy Merryman of Merryman Barnes Architects, Oregon Public Health Institute Chief Executive Officer Cyreena Boston Ashby, PCRI Executive Director Maxine Fitzpatrick, former City Commissioner Dan Saltzman, Colas Construction's Andrew and Hermann Colas, Office of Mayor Ted Wheeler representative Cupid Alexander, Umpqua Bank Affordable Housing Manager Gina Leon, and US Bank CDC Manager Jodi Enos.

Mitigating Displacement

Nonprofit breaks ground for second major build

BY DANNY PETERSON

THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

A new 70 rental-unit affordable housing development in the heart Portland's historic African American community began construction Friday, marking continued progress on a longtime housing provider's effort to mitigate and reverse displacement of primarily the black community, indigenous populations, and other long-term and low-income residents, in partnership with the city of Portland.

Officials with Portland Community Reinvestment Initiatives, Inc. (PCRI), the nonprofit behind the soon-to-be Kings + Parks building on the corner of Northeast Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard and Rosa Parks Way, said the effort is a part of its Pathway 1000 initiative designed to address a long history of urban renewal and other actions by city government in north and northeast Portland that have historically marginalized and displaced many residents, mostly low income and people of color.

"King Parks is another step in the right direction that seeks to correct the housing issues caused by income disparities in the city of Portland and State of Oregon. Beyond the brick and mortar development, this project, implemented through the Pathway 1000 strategy, also addresses unemployment, under employment, wage disparities and the inequitable treatment

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