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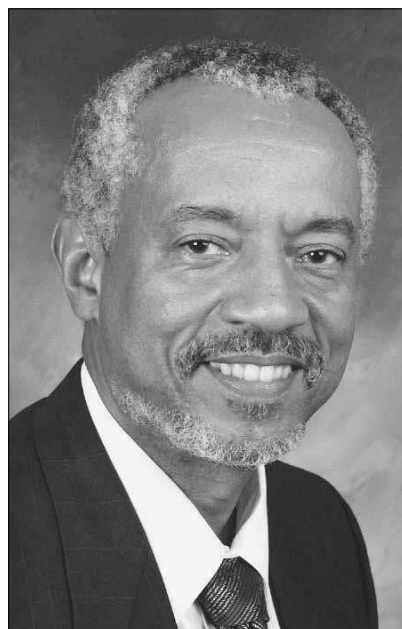
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LOCAL NEWS

Named First Citizen

Ron Herndon, education advocate honored



Ron Herndon

Ron Herndon, a leader in Portland's African American community who is well known for successfully advocating for children by promoting equity in the Portland School District, has been named Portland First Citizen, a prestigious award to honor civic achievements and business leadership within the community.

Presented annually by the Portland Metropolitan Association of Realtors, the individuals named Portland First Citizens form an honor roll of the city's most prominent leaders.

Herndon has been the Director

parent involvement services to low-income children and their families. He has taken the organization from 126 children in 1975 to more than 1,000 children today and expanded the number of Head Start sites from 1 to 25. He is a former teacher, counselor, college instructor and VISTA volunteer.

Herndon also served as president and board chair of the National Head Start Association from 1991 to 2013. As chair he provided leadership and support to Head Start programs across the nation including advocating for over 900,000 low-income children and families.

of Albina Head Start in Portland for more than 40 years, providing comprehensive early childhood education, health, nutrition, and

Herndon will be recognized at the 91st annual Portland First Citizen Banquet on Friday, April 19 at The Nines, downtown, from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.



PHOTO BY DANNY PETERSON/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

The impacts past and future to Portland's African American community were addressed last week in final comments on plans by the Oregon Department of Transportation to upgrade a 1.7 mile segment of I-5 at the Rose Quarter.

Does I-5 Fix Fail on Equity?

In final comments, impacts on black community cited

Governmental leaders from Portland and Metro have thrown shade to a plan to expand a segment of I-5 to fix a bottle neck at the Rose Quarter saying the Ore-

gon Department of Transportation failed to address equity issues when studying the project, including the impact to a black population which was displaced from the area and would return under a new vision for the neighborhood.

As the public comment period on the highway construction project came to a close last week, Portland City Commissioner Chloe

Eudaly called for a more extensive review of the impacts of the proposed \$500 million renovation, joining a large number of voices critical of the project, including the Portland School Board, and environmental and community groups.

The project involves adding

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