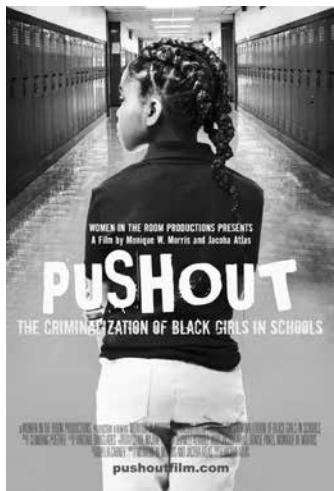


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LOCAL NEWS



An artist's rendering shows proposed caps over I-5 in the Rose Quarter area that could only support a park or plaza. The Oregon Department of Transportation will now consider making the caps suitable to hold buildings after complaints by advocates for the African American community who want buildable lots to restore historic displacement going back decades.

Back to the Drawing Board

ODOT to consider buildable lots over I-5

BY BEVERLY CORBELL
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

The proposed widening of I-5 in the Rose Quarter area to include new access roads and freeway caps has received a lot of press lately, as state and local governments and community leaders de-



Winta Yohannes

bate how to help heal the destruction of much of the old Albina neighborhood more than 50 years ago. The estimated cost of adding a 1.7-mile-long lane in both directions already has risen dramatically, adding about \$295 million to the 2017 estimate of \$500 million, but could go higher if buildable caps are added to the plans.

The caps or covers are meant to reconnect the community that was destroyed when hundreds of Albina neighborhood homes and

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'Squad' Progressive to Talk Housing

U.S. Rep. Rashida Tlaib, a voice for the most progressive wing of the Democratic Party and one of three new African American members of Congress who have gained notice for being members of 'The Squad,' will be in Portland Saturday to address housing justice.

Rep. Earl Blumenauer, Portland's representative in Congress, is bringing Tlaib to Jefferson High School in north Portland to hold an open forum to discuss solutions for the country's most vexing housing challenges. It will begin at 1:30 p.m., Jan. 25 in the Jeffer-



U.S. Rep. Rashida Tlaib

son High School auditorium.

As a progressive champion for social justice, Tlaib uses her po-

sition on the Financial Services Committee to advocate for fair housing policies, and Blumenauer has long been an advocate for affordable housing, addressing homelessness and ending housing discrimination.

The two representatives have partnered on legislation along with other progressive members of Congress to address the government's failed federal housing policy, which provides housing for some at the expense of others.

The forum is open to the public, but registration is requested at blumenauer.house.gov.



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