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Black-led Vision for Russell-Williams

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As part of the overall redevelopment plan, Legacy Health, the current owner of the site, is prepared to grant the property to the Project Working Group or an entity the group designates, officials said.

The Williams and Russell project is a collaborative effort that also involves the city's economic development agency, Prosper Portland, the Portland Housing Bureau, Legacy Health and the City of Portland.

The project property is located in an area of north and northeast Portland that the Portland Development Commission (now Prosper Portland) and the city condemned in the early 1970s under urban renewal for an expansion of Legacy Emanuel Hospital; action that displaced 171 families, 74 percent of which were African American.

For the past four years, the Project Working Group has defined and led a community-centered visioning and development process.

"Though the land may be unoccupied at this moment, we know

that it is not a blank slate. It carries a strong history and a connection to the past," said Kymberly Horner, executive director of Portland Community Reinvestment Initiatives, Inc. (PCRI). "We think about community leaders who gathered in these very blocks in the past and we honor their legacies by imagining an abundant Black community thriving here long into the future."

Colas Construction President Andrew Colas said his company was proud to participate in a construction development model that emphasizes community with intentional project values and equitable opportunities for individuals and businesses of the Black community while placing a greater emphasis on improving the lives of people over profit.

LEVER Architecture principal Chandra Robinson said the vision for Russell and Williams to include the Black community "was paramount to countering a legacy of undervaluing one of our most treasured resources: our people."

"Portland is my hometown and it's an honor to help create a place where future generations of Black Portlanders will thrive," she said.

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The past year has been hard on all of us, as we put on masks and spent more time alone. But now it's time to get the care you and your family need. This summer is a great time to get healthy. If your child or teen hasn't been seen by their primary care provider (PCP) because of the COVID pandemic, now is a great time to schedule a visit. Providers are ready to see them for physical, dental and mental health needs, and are taking precautions to keep everyone safe. Call your child's clinic to make an appointment. **All free to Health Share/CareOregon members.**



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- ▶ Get the vaccines adolescents need to help them fight serious illnesses. These include meningococcal, Tdap and HPV.
- ▶ The COVID vaccine is now approved to children ages 12 and older. The CDC has confirmed it's safe for the COVID vaccine to be given at the same time as other routine vaccines.
- ▶ Make sure kids are healthy before they start school and fall sports.
- ▶ Get the mental health services your teen needs, including counseling and behavioral therapy.
- ▶ Contact their dentist to maintain good oral health. They should visit the dentist at least once a year.

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