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INSIDE! SPECIAL EDITION
Minority Business
Enterprise 2017

A NEW VISION FOR ALBINA



Retired Urban League CEO Michael Alexander, left, and Rukaiyah Adams, chief investment officer at Meyer Memorial Trust unveiled drawings last week by Hennebery Eddy Architects, Inc. that were the result of two years of conversations on a new vision for inner Northeast Portland.

Community group unveils ambitious plan for inner NE Portland

By Christen McCurdy
Of The Skanner News

A group of volunteers has put together an ambitious new plan for Northeast Portland – one they envision as livable, equitable and taking full advantage of Willamette River access.

Group members Rukaiyah Adams, chief investment officer at Meyer Memorial Trust and Michael Alexander, the retired CEO of the Urban League and a former member of Regence Blue Cross Blue Shield's management team, unveiled drawings last week that were the result of two years of discussion and visioning by a group involving community members, developers and leaders in the business

community.

The plan – which for now is called the Albina Vision – includes mixed-use buildings and dense hous-

“Time doesn't stop. We'll continue to see change. We can either direct the change or witness it

ing that can accommodate multiple income levels, as well as easy access to amenities. Adams noted that when she commissioned the drawings, she guided

architects to portray residents of many races, and to include cultural signifiers that show the envisioned neighborhood is not just for affluent White people.

The 20-person group – which includes Moda Health executive vice president Steve Wynne, former city commissioner and Moda public policy executive Jim Francesconi and developers John Carroll and Tom Cody – was convened two years ago by officials at Moda and the Portland Trail Blazers to investigate a possible future for the area. The region includes undeveloped property owned by the Blazers – more specifically, by Vulcan, a business development venture owned by Blazers owner Paul Allen.

Adams said the group was convened at the behest of then-Mayor Charlie Hales and that the guiding concept has been twofold: to push back against the “primacy of the car” in urban design, and to buck a longstanding trend of displacing Black communities to neighborhoods with lower property values and fewer amenities.

The plan incorporates an area situated on the north by the Broadway Bridge and the Blanchard school site, on the south by the Steel Bridge, on the west by the river, on the east by the Lloyd district.

Adams took inspiration from the city of Berlin, Germany, the Presidio in San Francisco and Battery Park City in New York, and

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Joanne Fuller, director of Multnomah County Health Department, retired Monday.

County Settles, Fuller Retires

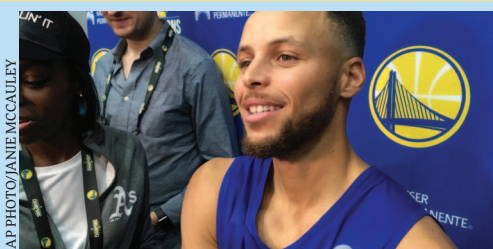
Days after the county reached a settlement over Tillman's firing, the director of the county's health department retired abruptly

By Melanie Sevchenko
Of The Skanner News

More weeks following Tricia Tillman's firing as public health director of Multnomah County, her boss, Health Department Director Joanne Fuller, announced her sudden retirement Monday morning.

“As some of you know, I have been thinking about retiring for some time. I have decided that now is the time,” wrote Fuller in an email to county staff, first reported by the *Portland Tribune*.

See FULLER on page 9



Golden State Warriors Stephen Curry takes questions from the media after NBA basketball practice in Oakland, Calif., Sept. 23. President Donald Trump doubled down on denouncing protests by NFL players and rescinded NBA star Stephen Curry's White House invitation on Saturday, a series of tweets that quickly inflamed football and basketball stars and even prompted LeBron James to call the president a “bum.”

NFL Protests Evolve

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'A Question of Faith' Interview

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Tubman Proposed to Reopen, KairosPDX Displaced

PPS rethinks middle school model for equity, but cuts Black charter school from the equation

By Melanie Sevchenko
Of The Skanner News

When Harriet Tubman finally opened in the early 1980s, it was the culmination of community persistence to establish a middle school in Portland's historically Black neighborhood.

At that time, African American students were still being bused from

their North and Northeast neighborhoods to attend predominantly White schools, as part of an integration practice implemented during the 1960s.

The district's plan to desegregate, however, backfired. As it turned out, busing Black students into White schools only upped the enrollment of White schools, which further vindicated the majority-White school board in shuttering schools in Black



KairosPDX students

communities.

Yet through tenacious protest from groups like the Black United Front, See PPS on page 3