

**Minutes of the Board of Commissioners
Multnomah Building, Board Room 100
501 SE Hawthorne Blvd., Portland, Oregon
Thursday, Feb. 5, 2015 @ 9:30 am**

REGULAR MEETING

Chair Deborah Kafoury called the meeting to order at 9:35 a.m. with Vice-Chair Jules Bailey and Commissioners Loretta Smith, Judy Shiprack and Diane McKeel.

Also attending were Jenny Madkour, County Attorney, and Lynda Grow, Board Clerk.

[ALL CAPS TEXT IS THE BYPRODUCT OF CAPTIONING THIS PROGRAM.]

Chair Kafoury: ALL RIGHT, GOOD MORNING, EVERYBODY. WELCOME TO THE REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETING OF THE BOARD OF MULTNOMAH COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS. THANK YOU ALL FOR COMING THIS MORNING.

CONSENT AGENDA

- C.1 BUDGET MODIFICATION # DCA-11-15: Multiple IT Job Class Conversions in Alignment with an IT Reorganization
- C.2 Amendment 3 to Government Revenue Agreement 1213033 with the USDA Forest Service for Summer Patrols

MAY I HAVE A MOTION ON THE CONSENT CALENDAR?

Commissioner Smith: SO MOVED.

Vice-Chair Bailey: SECOND.

Chair Kafoury: COMMISSIONER SMITH MOVES, COMMISSIONER BAILEY SECONDS APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT CALENDAR. ALL IN FAVOR, VOTE AYE. THE CONSENT CALENDAR IS APPROVED.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Opportunity for Public Comment on non-agenda matters. Testimony limited to three minutes per person. This is a time for the Board to hear public testimony, not for Board deliberation. Fill out a speaker form available at the back of the board room and give it to the Board Clerk. Unless otherwise recognized by the presiding officer, testimony is taken in the order the forms are submitted.

LYNDA, DO WE HAVE PUBLIC COMMENT THIS MORNING?

WE, MADAM CHAIR, WE HAVE THREE SIGNED UP IF YOU WILL COME

FORWARD WHEN I CALL YOUR NAME, MR. LIGHTNING, JOE WALSH AND PAUL PHILLIPS. WHY DON'T YOU GO AHEAD AND START MR. PHILLIPS.

YES, I AM PAUL PHILLIPS, AND I SPOKE HERE LAST WEEK, THE 29th OF JANUARY, AND TODAY'S SUBJECT IS THE SAME AS THEN. I HAD ALSO SPOKEN ABOUT BLIND, DEAF AND DUMB, AND THIS IS PART 3. WHEN I AM ADDRESSING BLINDS, DEAF, AND DUMB, THERE IS 500,000 BLIND PEOPLE OF WHICH I AM ONE OF IN THE UNITED STATES. AND AS FAR AS DEAFNESS, THERE IS 2 MILLION DEAF PEOPLE, OR HEARING IMPAIRED, IN THE UNITED STATES AND, OF COURSE, THERE IS -- THEY GOV AN AUDIOLOGIST DETERMINE THEIR DISABILITY FOR DEAFNESS. THAT'S DETERMINED BY A MEDICAL PROFESSIONAL. I DON'T KNOW THE STANDARDS OF IT. 2020 IS GOOD EYESIGHT, OF COURSE, AND 2200, IS AN INTERNATIONAL STANDARD FOR LEGAL BLINDNESS. WHEN I'M ADDRESSING BLIND, DEAF, AND DUMB, I AM INCLUDING ERIK HOLDER, SEPTEMBER 25, I HAD, ACTUALLY, SAID THAT ERIK HOLDER IS NOTHING BUT A WORKING STIFF THAT DOESN'T WANT TO WORK. WELL, APPARENTLY, THAT VERY SAME DAY, AS I WAS SPEAKING, HE WAS RESIGNING. HE WAS ASKED TO BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES, AND OF COURSE, I HAD WRITTEN THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE WHERE I'M LEGALLY BLIND. I HAD A SERVICE ANIMAL THAT WILL ATTACK SEVEN TIMES, AND I GOT SEVERELY INJURED FROM THE LAST DOG ATTACK, BY THE SAME DOG. SO ERIK HOLDER, HE, WHEN I'M SAYING BLIND, DEAF, AND DUMB, HE'S NEVER RESPONDED WITH ANYTHING, BUT STILL HAS HIS JOB. I FIND THAT RATHER HARD TO UNDERSTAND THAT THEY COULD ALLOW SUCH A THING TO HAPPEN TO A BLIND PERSON IN THE UNITED STATES BECAUSE GABBY GIFFORDS, SHE HAS A SERVICE ANIMAL, AND HER DOG IS CALLED NELSEN, AND IF HER DOG HAD BEEN ATTACKED SEVEN TIMES BY THE SAME DOG, I IMAGINE HER HUSBAND OR EVEN HIS BROTHER WOULD OFFER HIM A FREE TRIP IN SPACE FOR SUCH AN ORDEAL. THAT WOULD NEVER HAPPEN TO SUCH A DISTINGUISHED GABBY GIFFORDS. BUT IT CERTAINLY HAD TO HAPPEN TO ME. WITH 12 TO 20,000 SPINAL CORD INJURIES A YEAR, THAT MEANS THAT THERE IS A GREATER THAN 50-50 CHANCE OF HAVING A PERMANENT, WHAT THEY CALL COMPLETE SPINAL CORD INJURY. IF THERE WAS 20,000, 10,000 OF THEM ARE WHAT THEY CALL COMPLETE SPINAL CORD INJURIES, AND MINE WAS INCOMPLETE.

Chair Kafoury: THANK YOU.

GOOD MORNING. MY NAME IS LIGHTNING. I REPRESENT LIGHTNING WATCHDOG X-1. ONE OF THE CONCERNS THAT I HAVE IS THAT WHAT WE'RE STARTING TO SEE IS A BIT MORE DISCUSSIONS ON THE JOINT TERRORISM TASK FORCE OVER AT THE CITY OF PORTLAND. WE'RE GOING TO HAVE A MEETING TONIGHT FROM 5:00 UNTIL 8:00 ON THAT ISSUE. ONE OF THE QUESTIONS, I GUESS, I HAVE IS HOW DOES MULTNOMAH COUNTY FIT IN WITH THE FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION, PERTAINING TO THE JOINT TERRORISM TASK FORCE? I HAVEN'T HEARD ANY DISCUSSIONS. I WOULD

ASSUME YOU ARE IN CONTACT WITH THE FBI ON CERTAIN ISSUES. AGAIN, THIS IS A TERRORIST TASK FORCE THAT THEY ARE TRYING TO CREATE, AND THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF PORTLAND WAS DENIED SECRET CLEARANCE THROUGH THE FBI TO PARTICIPATE IN THE JOINT TERRORIST TASK FORCE. NOW, THERE IS A LOT OF ISSUES ON THIS THAT WE MIGHT LOOK AT VERY CLOSE IS THAT WHY WAS HE DENIED? NOW, THE FBI HAS COME BACK AND SAID THEY HAVE A CERTAIN POLICY IN THERE WHERE YOU CAN'T BE ON THE JOINT TERRORIST TASK FORCE IF YOU ARE AN ELECTED OFFICIAL. NOW, I FIND THAT VERY INTERESTING CONSIDERING HE'S THE MAYOR AND ALSO THE POLICE COMMISSIONER THAT HAS THE AUTHORITY TO FIRE THE POLICE CHIEF. NOW, FOR HIM TO BE DENIED ACCESS, TO ME, I THINK THAT THEY CAN MAKE AN COMPENSATION ON -- AN EXCEPTION ON THIS, AND I BELIEVE THEY HAVE DONE THAT IN OTHER STATES. THAT'S JUST AN ALLEGATION I AM MAKING. I BELIEVE THAT THEY HAVE DONE THAT IN OTHER STATES, AND I MAY BE CORRECTED ON THAT AT TONIGHT'S MEETING. I JUST WANT TO HAVE A CLOSE UNDERSTANDING ON WHERE DOES MULTNOMAH COUNTY FIT ON THIS JOINT TERRORISM TASK FORCE. ANOTHER ISSUE I HAVE IS THAT -- AND I KNOW I BROUGHT THIS UP BEFORE ON THE WAPATO JAIL -- IS THAT I WANT TO SEE A SALE HAPPEN ON THIS JAIL, AND ONE OF THE THINGS AND ONE OF THE REASONS THAT I WANT TO SEE THIS HAPPEN IS THAT I WANT TO SEE POSSIBLY, AND THIS IS SOMETHING THE COMMISSIONERS AND THE CHAIR HAVE TO LOOK INTO CLOSER, I WOULD LIKE TO SEE SOME OF THAT MONEY BEING TRANSFERRED TOWARDS THE FINANCING OF THE NEW MULTNOMAH COUNTY JAIL. I THINK WITH THAT IN MIND, THERE IS, YOU KNOW, I FEEL THE SALE CAN HAPPEN ON THIS PROPERTY. I THINK THE BENEFITS NOT ONLY TO THE PEOPLE BUYING THAT PROPERTY, ARE GOING TO BE VERY GOOD, BUT ALSO, FOR MULTNOMAH COUNTY, I THINK THAT THERE MIGHT BE A FINANCING POSSIBILITY TOWARDS THE NEW COUNTY JAIL FROM THE FUNDING. AGAIN, I CAN'T SPEAK ON BEHALF OF THE COMMISSIONERS OR THE CHAIR, BUT I AM HOPING THAT YOU WILL LOOK INTO THIS VERY CLOSELY AND UNDERSTAND AGAIN, FROM OUR POSITION, TO HAVE THAT SITE LOCATED DURING THE CONSTRUCTION PHASE, WHICH IS GOING TO BE \$500 MILLION, ONE OF THE LARGEST PROJECTS TO HAVE THAT SITE, THEY ARE GOING TO HAVE ABOUT 800 CONSTRUCTION WORKERS, AND TO HAVE THAT SITE IS A MAN CAMP FACILITY, HOUSING, FABRICATION FACILITY, I THINK, IS VERY BENEFICIAL TO THEM. AGAIN, I WOULD LIKE TO SEE A PRICE ON WAPATO WHERE THAT MIGHT BE NEGOTIATED. THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

Chair Kafoury: GOOD MORNING.

GOOD MORNING. MY NAME IS JOE WALSH, I REPRESENT INDIVIDUALS FOR JUSTICE. YESTERDAY, I WAS RUNNING AROUND, AND I HAD THREE MEETINGS TO GO TO, SO I WAS RUNNING AROUND A LOT, AND I WITNESSED SOMETHING THAT REALLY BOTHERED ME. THERE WAS A SENIOR STAFFER, AND NOT IN THIS BUILDING, THAT'S THE GOOD NEWS. TREATED A SERVICE

PERSON WITH ARROGANCE. IT'S SOMETHING THAT YOU WOULD SEE IN A MOVIE, AND I STOOD THERE, AND I COULDN'T BELIEVE THE WAY THAT PERSON WAS TREATING THIS PERSON WHO WAS SERVING THEM. I GOT ON THE BUS, AND THERE WAS A WOMAN THAT GOT ON THE BUS, AND SHE GAVE THIS BUS DRIVER A TERRIBLE TIME, SOMETHING ABOUT CHANGE AND I WAS NOT CLEAR EXACTLY WHAT IT WAS. AND THE THOUGHT WENT THROUGH MY MIND, YOU KNOW, THIS IS 2015. IT SEEMS TO ME THAT WE HAVE TO BE A LITTLE MORE SENSITIVE TO THE PEOPLE THAT SERVE US, THAT SERVE US, BAR TENDERS, CAB DRIVERS, COFFEE DEPOTS THAT MAKE OUR COFFEE FOR US IN THE MORNING, THAT WE NEED TO BE MORE SENSITIVE. SO, I WOULD JUST ASK PEOPLE THAT ARE KIND OF TRAPPED HERE, TO LISTEN TO ME FOR THREE MINUTES, THINK ABOUT YOUR STAFF AND THINK ABOUT YOURSELF, WHEN YOU ARE TREATING SOMEBODY, TO ME, I EVALUATE A HUMAN BEING, HOW THEY TREAT SOMEBODY WHO IS SERVING THEM. IF THEY TREAT THEM BADLY, I WON'T TOUCH THEM. I WON'T GO NEAR THEM. IF THEY TREAT THEM WITH RESPECT AND THEY TREAT THEM WITH DIGNITY, THEY ARE MY BUDDIES. I AM READY TO DO WHATEVER THEY ASK ME TO DO. SO, ANYWAY, THAT'S WHAT HAPPENS TO -- WHAT HAPPENED TO ME YESTERDAY, AND MR. BAILEY AND I WERE IN A MEETING TOGETHER. I LEFT SOONER THAN YOU DID. BUT THAT'S WHAT HAPPENED. AND SOMETIMES WE GO BUSY AND SOMETIMES WE ARE RUNNING AND SOMETIMES WE'RE HAVING A BAD DAY, BUT THESE PEOPLE WORK REALLY HARD, SO WE OUGHT TO PAY ATTENTION TO THAT, AND THEIR VALUE IS THE SAME AS OURS. WHEREVER WE ARE, WHETHER YOU ARE THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE COUNTY OR THE MAYOR OR AN ACTIVIST, THOSE PEOPLE WORK VERY HARD. THANK YOU.

Chair Kafoury: THANK YOU.

REGULAR AGENDA

Non-Departmental – 9:30 am

R.1 PROCLAMATION Proclaiming February 7, 2015 as National Black HIV/AIDS Awareness Day in Multnomah County, Oregon. Sponsor: Commissioner Smith, D-2 Presenters: Tricia McClendon, Cascade AIDS Project; Maurice Evans, Cascade AIDS Project; and, LaQuasha Thompson, Disease Intervention Specialist, Health Dept.

Commissioner McKeel: SO MOVED.

Commissioner Shiprack: SECOND.

Chair Kafoury: COMMISSIONER McKEEL MOVES, COMMISSIONER SHIPRACK SECONDS APPROVAL OF R1.

THANK YOU. GOOD MORNING.

Commissioner Smith: COULD ALAIYO FOSTER, I KNOW YOU ARE NOT HERE, MAURICE, COME UP TO THE FRONT. GOOD MORNING, EVERYONE.

GOOD MORNING.

Commissioner Smith: HOW ARE YOU?

DOING WELL, THANK YOU.

Commissioner Smith: OK. GREAT. IT IS AN HONOR TO BE HERE WITH YOU THIS MORNING. GOOD MORNING, MAURICE. AS WE COMMEMORATE FEBRUARY 7, 2015, AS NATIONAL BLACK HIV AND AIDS AWARENESS DAY, BLACKS AND AFRICAN-AMERICANS IN OREGON ARE FOUR TIMES MORE LIKELY THAN THEIR WHITE COUNTERPARTS TO ACQUIRE HIV INFECTIONS. DESPITE THE FACT THAT AFRICAN-AMERICANS MAKE UP ONLY 2% OF IS THE TOTAL POPULATION OF THE STATE OF OREGON, APPROXIMATELY 7% OF PEOPLE LIVING WITH HIV IN OREGON ARE BLACK AND AFRICAN-AMERICANS. IT IS VITAL TO THE HEALTH OF OUR COMMUNITY THAT WE WORK TOGETHER TO EDUCATE PEOPLE REGARDING SAFE PRACTICES AND THE IMPORTANCE OF TESTING. AT MULTNOMAH COUNTY, WE HAVE TAKEN THIS CHALLENGE VERY SERIOUSLY BY PROVIDING INFORMATION TO OUR CITIZENS IN A VARIETY OF SERVICES AVAILABLE TO THEM. AS A COUNTY COMMISSIONER, I HAVE AND WILL CONTINUE TO SUPPORT THE WORK OF OUR HEALTH DEPARTMENT AND COMMUNITY PARTNERS TO COMBAT HIV AND AIDS. THANK YOU TO THE CASCADE AIDS' PROJECT, THE OREGON HEALTH AUTHORITY, HIV PREVENTION PROGRAM, PLANNED PARENTHOOD, OF THE COLUMBIA WILLAMETTE, THE PORTLAND CHAPTER OF THE LINKS, INCORPORATE, AND THE ALBINA MINISTER ALLIANCE FOR THEIR EFFORT IN COMBATING HIV AND AIDS. AND WE WILL START WITH WHO FIRST? MAURICE.

OK.

Commissioner Smith: INTRODUCE YOURSELF.

Mr. Evans: I AM MAURICE EVANS, AND I AM THE TEAM LEAD FOR NAVIGATORS FOR MULTNOMAH COUNTY HEALTH SERVICES IN THE CLINIC. I AM, ACTUALLY, EMPLOYED BY CASCADE AIDS PROJECT WORKING ON A PROJECT FOR HERSHA, HELPING THE HUMAN SERVICES ADMINISTRATION THAT IS BASED IN THE MEDICAL HOME MODEL AT MULTNOMAH COUNTY, HIV CLINIC, OR BETTER KNOWN AS THE HEALTH SERVICES CLINIC. AND SO, I AM HERE TODAY JUST TO TALK ABOUT WORK THAT WE'VE BEEN DOING. LORETTA GAVE YOU THE STATS, SO WHAT WE ARE -- WHAT WE HAVE PLANNED IN THE FUTURE IS MOVING FROM DOWNTOWN PORTLAND AND, ACTUALLY, GOING TO THE COMMUNITY TO WORK WITH PEOPLE. WE HAVE A HUGE CHALLENGE TO GET RID OF STIGMA AROUND HIV AND AIDS. BUT, THE BLACK COMMUNITY

IS STILL UNDERSERVED, SO I WON'T STOP WORKING UNTIL THERE IS A CURE, UNTIL WE, ACTUALLY, BEGIN TO ADDRESS THE SOCIAL INJUSTICES AND THE HEALTH AND EQUITIES THAT BLACK PEOPLE FACE. WE WON'T SEE AN END TO HIV, AND I WILL CONTINUE TO WORK UNTIL WE WORK ON THOSE THINGS.

Mr. Evans: SO, HOW I SEE MYSELF DOING THAT IN 2015, IS NOT SITTING AT CAP IN MULTNOMAH COUNTY WAITING FOR THE PEOPLE TO COME TO ME, BUT GO TO THE COMMUNITIES AND HAVE THOSE CONVERSATIONS WITHIN THE COMMUNITY, OFFER CLASSES AND WORKSHOPS WITHIN THE COMMUNITIES IN WHICH THE PEOPLE LIVE, SO PORTLAND, BEING, I DON'T KNOW TO SAY THIS NICELY, BUT BECAUSE OUR POPULATION IS FRAGMENT AND HAD WE'RE EVERYWHERE, YOU WILL SEE ME IN NEW COLUMBIA, AND YOU WILL SEE ME IN NORTHEAST PORTLAND, AND YOU WILL SEE ME IN THE ROCKWOOD AREA, WHEREVER MY PEOPLE ARE, I'M NOT GOING TO BE SITTING DOWNTOWN WAITING ON THEM TO COME TO ME. BUT, ACTUALLY, GOING INTO THE COMMUNITY AND JUST REALLY HOPE THAT, WHAT I WOULD LIKE TO SAY TO THE COMMISSION, IS TO UNDERSTAND HOW HOMELESSNESS IS IMPACTING FOLKS WITH HIV AND HOW HOMELESSNESS IS DRIVING NEW SECTIONS OF HIV, HAVING PEOPLE TO HAVE TO HAVE SEX TO SURVIVE, TO HAVE A PLACE TO SLEEP. THEY ARE VERY CONNECTED. UNTIL WE START WORKING ON SOME OF THESE ISSUES, THE PROBLEM IS JUST GOING TO GET WORSE. YOU ARE GOING TO HEAR SOME OTHER STUFF FROM THE PANEL ABOUT SOME OTHER DISEASES THAT ARE, YOU KNOW, IN THIS SAME HOT BED. SO, YOU KNOW, TO THE COMMISSION, I SAY PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE, ANYTHING THAT YOU CAN DO TO HELP US WITH HOUSING AND HOMELESS INDIVIDUALS WILL GO A LONG WAY TO HELP US IN THE FIGHT AGAINST HIV AND AIDS. THERE IS A COUPLE OF EVENTS THAT I WANT TO TELL YOU ABOUT THAT ARE COMING UP. WE HAVE THE FIFTH ANNUAL WOMEN AND GIRLS CONFERENCE, AND IT'S ACTUALLY IN WOMEN AND GIRLS, HIV AWARENESS HEALTHY MONTH, BUT IT WILL START AT THE END OF THIS MONTH, THE 27th, THE 28th, AND THE 1st. AND IT WILL BE AT PORTLAND COMMUNITY COLLEGE. AND IT WILL BE ADDRESSING SOME STUFF AROUND HEALTHY RELATIONSHIPS. WE ALSO ARE GOING TO BE STARTING A COMMUNITY CONVERSATION TONIGHT. SOUL CAFE IS WHAT IT'S CALLED, AND THERE WILL BE A SERIES OF CONVERSATIONS THAT START TONIGHT, AND THEY WILL CONTINUE AT THE WOMEN AND GIRLS' HEALTH FAIR. IF YOU WILL GO TO THE NATIONAL WOMEN AND GIRLS' HEALTH FAIR, WEBSITE, YOU CAN READ ABOUT ALL THE SPECIFICS.

Ms. McClendon: GOOD MORNING TO THE COMMISSIONERS AND TO FELLOW PANELISTS AND THOSE WHO WILL BE PRESENTING AND OBSERVERS. I AM TRISHA MCCLENDON, AND AS COMMISSIONER SMITH SAID, ALAIYO FOSTER WAS NOT ABLE TO ATTEND, AND SO I AM HERE IN HER STEAD. I SERVE WITH MY COLLEAGUE, MAURICE EVANS, AT CASCADE AIDS PROJECT, AS ONE OF THE SERVICE NAVIGATORS, AND I, SPECIFICALLY, WORK WITH AFRICAN-AMERICANS WHO ARE HIV POSITIVE, AND I HAVE BEEN IN THE FIELD OF HIV

SERVICES FOR OVER 20 YEARS, WORKING OFTENTIMES WITH THE COUNTY, ANOTHER PROGRAM, WOMEN'S INTERCOMMUNITY AIDS RESOURCE, AND I HAVE SEEN THE SHIFT WITH MORE WOMEN WHO ARE HETEROSEXUAL AND MEN MORE HETEROSEXUAL, AFRICAN-AMERICANS, WHO ARE CONTRACTING HIV LAST YEAR, WAS VERY DIFFICULT FOR ME BECAUSE IN MY 20 PLUS YEARS OF DOING CASE MANAGEMENT AND HIV SERVICES, I LOST FOUR OF MY CLIENTS. TWO OF WHOM DIED A DAY APART, AND ONE OF THEM I HAD TO DO A WELL CHECK BECAUSE HE DID NOT ANSWER HIS DOOR, AND THE POLICE FOUND HIM THERE DEAD.

Ms. McClendon: I WANT TO SAY THANK YOU FOR YOUR PROCLAMATION, AND MAKING THE AWARENESS, PUTTING INFORMATION OUT THERE TO OUR COMMUNITY BECAUSE AS COMMISSIONER SMITH READ, THE POPULATION OF AFRICAN-AMERICANS ARE VERY SMALL HERE, BUT TOTAL, WE, FROM CASCADE AIDS PROJECT CLIENTS, A TOTAL OF SIX AFRICAN-AMERICANS, AND THAT'S SIX TOO MANY IN 2014, WHICH WAS LAST YEAR, IT IS MY PASSION TO CONTINUE TO WORK DEFEATING STIGMA. I AM ALSO AN ORDAINED MINISTER IN THE METHODIST TRADITION, SO IT IS MY GOAL IN 2015 TO BE AT THE TABLE WITHOUT MY MINISTERIAL ALLIANCE, TO BE AT THE TABLE WITH ECUMENICAL MINISTRIES OF OREGON AND CONTINUE TO WORK WITH MY PEERS AT CASCADE AIDS PROJECT TO DESTROY THE STIGMA AND WORK TO DEFEAT AND FIND A CURE FOR HIV AND AIDS. MANY TIMES, WHEN THE DOORS WERE OPEN FOR ME TO CONTINUE ON HIV SERVICES, I DIDN'T WANT TO, AND I'VE BEEN WITH CASCADE AIDS PROJECT SINCE 2012, AND WHEN I LEARNED ABOUT THE POSITION, I SAID, I DON'T WANT TO GO BACK INTO HIV SERVICES, BUT MY SPIRITUAL VOICE SAID, WITHIN ME, IT'S NOT ABOUT YOU. I HAVE CALLED YOU TO LOVE ON THE PEOPLE. I CALLED YOU TO GIVE HOPE TO THE HOMELESS. I CALLED YOU FOR SUCH A TIME AS THIS, AND I WILL DO MY BEST TO SERVE, THE PEOPLE THAT I HAVE BEEN CALLED TO SERVE, AND EVEN THOUGH THERE ARE CHALLENGES, AND MANY OF MY CLIENTS, AS MAURICE MENTIONED, STRUGGLE WITH HOMELESSNESS AND MENTAL HEALTH CHALLENGES, AND I TAKE THEM TO THEIR APPOINTMENTS, AND SOMETIMES, I SEE THE DIFFERENT STAFF BEHIND THE COUNTER LOOK AT THEM A CERTAIN WAY OR TALK DOWN TO THEM, AND IT'S EVERYTHING WITHIN ME NOT TO JUMP ACROSS THE COUNTER AND CATCH A CASE AND WIND UP ON CHANNEL 2, 6, AND 8, AND MAYBE EVEN FOX. BUT, I TAKE A DEEP BREATH AND I SAY A PRAYER, AND I GO UP AND I ADVOCATE FOR MY CLIENT, AND ENCOURAGE THE PERSON WHO HAS BEEN RUDE AND HOPE THAT THEY HAVE A NICE DAY, BUT THEY WILL NOT TREAT MY CLIENTS WITH DISRESPECT. SO, AGAIN, I THANK YOU AND AS MAURICE MENTIONED, THIS YEAR WE WILL BE CONTINUING TO WORK TOGETHER AND GOING TO OUR CLIENTS. MANY OF OUR CLIENTS HAVE ALSO STRUGGLED WITH VARIOUS ADDICTIONS, AND CASCADE AIDS PROJECT IS LOCATED DOWNTOWN, AND SOME OF THEM HAVE SAID, WELL, TRISH, I DON'T WANT TO GO DOWNTOWN. I DON'T WANT TO GET TEMPTED TO BUY CRACK OR SEE MY OLD DRUG DEALER COMING UP

IN MY FACE, AND SO WITH THE CONCEPT THAT MAURICE HAS DEVELOPED, IT IS TO TAKE SERVICES TO THE PEOPLE SO THEY CAN GET THEIR NEEDS MET, AND IN THE MEANTIME, CONTINUE TO WORK TO DESTROY STIGMA. THANK YOU FOR HEARING US. THANK YOU FOR YOUR PROCLAMATION. WE THANK YOU FOR ANY ADDITIONAL SUPPORT THAT YOU MAY DISCOVER THAT WILL HELP US IN THE WORK IN HIV SERVICES. THANK YOU, COMMISSIONERS.

Chair Kafoury: THANK YOU.

Commissioner Smith: THANK YOU, MADAM CHAIR. I HAVE A QUICK QUESTION, AND THANK YOU FOR NOT CATCHING A CASE. WE NEED YOU HERE SERVING FOLKS, AND AS JOE WALSH SAID, DOING WORK IN THE PUBLIC, YOU HAVE TO TREAT EVERYONE WITH RESPECT, AND SO FOR ME TO HEAR YOU SAY THAT, IT WAS VERY SOOTHING TO MY EARS, AND I KNOW YOU ARE DOING THE RIGHT THING. I AM SORRY FOR YOUR LOSS. IT'S OBVIOUS THAT YOU REALLY, REALLY CARE ABOUT THE PEOPLE IN THIS WORK, BUT I WAS CURIOUS TO KNOW THE FOLKS WHO HAD PASSED ON, DID THEY HAVE APPROPRIATE ACCESS TO HEALTH CARE, OR HOUSING? WERE THERE ANY PARTICULAR REASONS?

Mr. Evans: CAN I SPEAK TO THAT? UNFORTUNATELY, ALL OF THESE PEOPLE WERE ENGAGED IN MEDICAL SERVICES. MARGINALLY HOUSED. ONE OF THE PROBLEMS THAT WE HAVE, AND I AM JUST GOING TO CALL OUT, IS RACISM, YOU KNOW, AND WHEN AFRICAN-AMERICANS HAVE DRUG PROBLEMS AND THEY OVERCOME -- THEY HAVE -- THEY ARE HELD TO THAT. THEY HAVE ALL THESE BARRIERS. WE WORK VERY HARD TO REMOVE THE BARRIERS. BUT, YOU KNOW IS, PEOPLE STILL SEE THEM IN A CERTAIN LIGHT. ONE INDIVIDUAL WAS LIVING IN THE HENRY BUILDING. HE HAD BEEN LIVING THERE FOR LIKE FOUR YEARS, WITH A HUD VOUCHER THAT WE COULD NOT PLACE BECAUSE ANYWHERE WE WENT TO APPLY, THEY WOULD TAKE ONE LOOK AT HIM, AND THEY WOULD -- THEY WOULD JUST DENY HIM AN APARTMENT.

AND YOU KNOW NOW THERE IS A LAW IN OREGON THAT WILL PROHIBIT LANDLORDS FROM DENYING ACCESS TO HOUSING IF YOU HAVE A VOUCHER ON SECTION 8.

SO THAT MEANS THEY HAVE TO ACCEPT YOU, OR THEY CAN SCREEN YOU OUT. THERE ARE WAYS OF SCREENING FOLKS OUT.

Commissioner Smith: I UNDERSTAND THAT.

THAT'S WHAT WE'RE DEALING WITH. YOU KNOW THE SCREENING OUT --

Commissioner Smith: I HEAR THE REDLINING, BUT I WANT YOU TO KNOW SO YOU CAN TELL YOUR CLIENTS THAT THEY CAN GO TO LEGAL AID OR HOUSING SERVICES TO COMMIT FROM -- TO COME AT IT FROM A DIFFERENT

ANGLE NOW BECAUSE YOU HAVE MORE POWER TO SAY, YOU CANNOT DENY US.

THAT WILL GIVE US MORE LEVERAGE.

THANK YOU FOR THAT INFORMATION.

Ms. McClendon: THESE PEOPLE ARE ENGAGED, AND THAT WAS THE OTHER POINT THAT I WANTED TO MAKE, IS JUST HOW WE SEE -- HOW WE MAKE REFERRALS, WHEN PEOPLE ARE ILL, WHEN PEOPLE HAVE MENTAL HEALTH ISSUES, IF I GO INTO MY DOCTOR'S APPOINTMENT, AND I NEED MENTAL HEALTH AND MEDICATION, AND THE WHOLE APPOINTMENT IS TALKING ABOUT WHAT MEDICATIONS I CAN AND CANNOT HAVE, THEN THE OTHER SYMPTOMS THAT I HAVE GET MISSED. COMPLETELY. WE'RE MAKING SURE THAT I DON'T GIVE YOU A NARCOTIC. WE'RE MAKING SURE THAT I AM NOT TAKING CARE OF THE WHOLE PERSON, SO WHAT REALLY CONCERNS ME ABOUT THE PEOPLE THAT TRISH WAS TALKING ABOUT, IS THESE PEOPLE WERE ENGAGED IN THE SERVICES, AND THEY HAD STAGE FOUR CANCER, AND THEY WERE BEING SEEN IN THE CLINIC EVERY THREE MONTHS OR SO. SO, IT'S JUST NOT MISSING STUFF, YOU KNOW, AND IT'S ALL ABOUT THE INTERACTIONS BETWEEN THE PRIMARY CARE PROVIDER AND THE CERTAIN AFRICAN-AMERICAN INDIVIDUALS.

Commissioner Smith: OK. THANK YOU, THANK YOU, TRISHA.

YOU ARE WELCOME.

Ms. Thompson: GOOD MORNING, CHAIR KAFOURY AND TO THE COMMISSIONERS. I AM LAQUASHA THOMPSON, AND I AM A DISEASE INTERVENTION SPECIALIST WITH MULTNOMAH COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT. I AM GOING TO JUST SHARE FOR A BRIEF TIME, JUST ABOUT MY, ACTUAL, JOB AND HOW THE HIV EPIDEMIC HAS AFFECTED THE WORK THAT I DO. ANY TIME THAT SOMEONE IS DIAGNOSED WITH HIV, A REPORT IS MADE TO OUR HEALTH DEPARTMENT, AND WE FOLLOW UP WITH THAT REPORT. WE ALSO FOLLOW OTHER REPORTABLE DISEASES SUCH CHLAMYDIA, GONORRHEA AND SYPHILIS. OUR JOB IS TO GATHER INFORMATION ABOUT EACH PERSON THAT HAS TESTED POSITIVE, AS WELL AS PARTNER INFORMATION. THE EPIDEMIOLOGY BEHIND THE WORK THAT I DO IS TO FIGURE OUT WHO HAS DISEASE AND IS HOW IT IS AFFECTING THEIR POPULATION AND THE PEOPLE WITHIN THEM. THE INFORMATION THAT WE HAVE COLLECTED IS THAT AFRICAN-AMERICANS HAVE HIGHER RATES OF HIV THAN ANY OTHER RACIAL GROUP, AND THE YOUNG, BLACK, GAY MEN HAVE THE HIGHEST RATES OF ALL. KNOWING THIS REALLY HELPS US TO FOCUS ON OUR WORK AND FIGURE OUT WHAT NEEDS TO BE PRIORITIZED TO THE HIGHEST LEVEL. ANOTHER PART OF MY JOB IS TO TALK WITH PEOPLE WHO HAVE JUST FOUND OUT THAT THEY HAVE HIV AND SOMETIMES GET THEM

FURTHER TESTING, AS WELL AS GETTING THEIR PARTNERS TESTED, AND ALSO, I MAY BE THE ONE THAT ACTUALLY TESTED THEM AND GAVE THEM THE POSITIVE DIAGNOSIS. A THEY ARE THING THAT I DO IS TO MAKE SURE THAT EVERYONE INVOLVED, PARTNERS, WHETHER IT'S SEXUAL PARTNERS, AS WELL AS MAYBE NEEDLE-SHARING PARTNERS, ARE TESTED, AS WELL. SAY TRY TO FIGURE OUT WHAT THEIR SKILL SETS ARE, AND THEN FROM THAT POINT, FIGURE OUT WHAT I CAN BEST DO TO SERVE THEM IN WHATEVER CAPACITY THAT IS. IF IT'S NOT SOMETHING THAT I CAN DO DIRECTLY, THEN IT'S FIGURING OUT HOW I CAN CONNECT THEM TO THEIR RESOURCES THAT THEY NEED. THREE THINGS THAT WILL BE VERY HELPFUL THAT WE ALL WORK TOGETHER TO SUPPORT OUR YOUNG PEOPLE WITH INFORMATION AND ACCEPTANCE REGARDLESS OF RACE OR SEXUAL ORIENTATION BECAUSE THAT'S A HUGE BARRIER IN THE WORK THAT WE DO, GETTING TESTED, MAKING PEOPLE FEEL LIKE IT'S SAFE TO GET TESTED, GETTING THE INFORMATION OUT SO THAT EVERYONE KNOWS WHERE THEY CAN ACCESS SERVICES AND TESTING, AND TO COME TOGETHER AND REALLY FIGHT RACISM AND GET TO THE ROOT OF IT. IT'S AN UNCOMFORTABLE CONVERSATION THAT PEOPLE DON'T WANT TO HAVE, BUT IT HAS TO BE HAD BECAUSE PEOPLE ARE DYING BECAUSE OF IT. WE CAN'T IGNORE IT ANY MORE. IT'S JUST NOT POSSIBLE TO KEEP IGNORING IT, AND THE POVERTY THAT'S ALWAYS IN THE BACKGROUND OF ALL OF THIS. WHEN YOU LIVE IN EXTREME POVERTY, YOUR FEELING OF WORTH TO MOVE FORWARD AND FIGURE OUT WHAT YOU CAN DO TO STAY HEALTHY IS NOT OF OPTIMUM IMPORTANCE. IF YOU'VE BEEN SICK FOR MONTHS BUT YOU ARE HOMELESS OR YOU HAVE NOT EATEN, YOU ARE GOING TO PRIORITIZE WHERE YOUR RESOURCES GO. ALSO, I WOULD LIKE TO ASK THAT UNTIL FEBRUARY THE 15th IS, WE CAN STILL REMIND PEOPLE TO BE SIGNING UP FOR HEALTH INSURANCE, AND IF THEY ARE ELIGIBLE FOR MEDICAID, THEY CAN ALWAYS TRY TO SIGN UP, SO IT'S REALLY LETTING PEOPLE KNOW THAT THE RESOURCES THAT ARE AVAILABLE TO THEM BECAUSE A LOT OF PEOPLE DON'T KNOW, SO THANK YOU FOR BEING WILLING TO WORK WITH US AND MAKE THIS PROCLAMATION BECAUSE IT'S SO IMPORTANT IN A CITY WHERE THE POPULATION IS SO SMALL FOR BLACK PEOPLE, IT'S IMPORTANT FOR THEM TO SEE BLACK IN FRONT OF ANYTHING BECAUSE THEY ARE GOING TO FEEL VALIDATED. THEY ARE GOING TO FEEL WORTHY, AND IT'S OUR JOB TO MAKE SURE THAT THEY DO. THANK YOU.

Chair Kafoury: VERY WELL SAID, THANK YOU. DO YOU HAVE ANY OTHER PRESENTERS FOR? ARE THERE QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS FROM THE BOARD?

Commissioner McKeel: CHAIR, THANK YOU. I WANT TO THANK ALL OF YOU FOR COMING FORWARD HERE AND TALKING WITH US. THANK YOU IT, COMMISSIONER SMITH, FOR BRINGING THIS FORWARD. IT'S VERY, VERY IMPORTANT WORK, AND MAURICE, I LIKE WHAT YOU CALLED ABOUT GOING OUT TO THE COMMUNITY, GOING TO PEOPLE WHERE THEY ARE AT. I THINK

THAT WE HAVE FOUND THAT THIS IS VALUABLE IN A NUMBER OF ISSUES THAT WE WORK ON, AND I JUST OFFER TO, WHEN YOU GET OUT INTO THE ROCKWOOD AREA IN THAT EAST COUNTY, IF THERE IS ANYTHING THAT YOU NEED, I WOULD BE HAPPY TO HELP FACILITATE THAT FOR YOU. TRISHA, I WAS HAPPY TO HEAR YOU WORK WITH THE ECUMENICAL MINISTRIES OF OREGON. THAT'S AN IMPORTANT GROUP. FAITH-BASED GROUP THAT DOES REALLY GOOD WORK, AS WELL. SO, I WANT TO THANK YOU FOR YOUR WORK. I HAVE A SON THAT WORKED AT THE SAN FRANCISCO AIDS FOUNDATION FOR A NUMBER OF YEARS, SO I KNOW THE HARD WORK -- I KNOW FIRST HAND THE HARD WORK THAT YOU ALL PUT INTO THIS. SO, THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

Commissioner Shiprack: THANK YOU, MADAM CHAIR, I GUESS THAT WAS PROJECTING. I WROTE SOME THINGS DOWN, AND VERY POWERFUL PRESENTATION. I WANT TO THANK YOU, COMMISSIONER SMITH, FOR BRINGING THIS FORWARD. IT'S A REMINDERS, WHEN WE DO THESE PROCLAMATIONS, YOU KNOW, SOMETIMES, IT FEELS MOMENTARY, BUT IT'S REALLY NOT, AND YOU GUYS ARE WORKING CONSTANTLY TOWARDS THESE VALUES YOU JUST EXPRESSED. MAURICE, I WON'T STOP WORKING UNTIL THERE IS A CURE, UNTIL WE ADDRESS THIS RACIAL DISPARITY. WITHIN THE COMMUNITY, WE ARE EVERYWHERE. WHEREVER MY PEOPLE ARE, HOMELESSNESS AND HIV HAVING SEX TO SURVIVE, AND THE SOUL CAFE. THANK YOU. [APPLAUSE]

Vice-Chair Bailey: I'M SURE I CAN ADD MUCH MORE ELOQUENT THAN WHAT'S BEEN ADDED TO. I HAVE A VISION AS YOU ALL DO, HAVING AN AIDS-FREE GENERATION BUT IT'S NOT UNLESS WE OVERCOME THE ENDEMIC DISCRIMINATION THAT IS INHERENT NOT JUST IN THE POPULATION OF HIV BUT IN OUR COMMUNITY OF COLOR, AND THE INTERSECTION OF THOSE TWO IS SOMETHING THAT WE ALSO MUST BE VIGILANT ABOUT. ONE OF THE IDEAS HERE IS THAT AS WE SEEK TO UNRAVEL THE THREADS THAT MAKE UP THIS COMPLEX KNOT, THAT WE HAVE, I LOVE THE FOCUS ON HOUSING AND ON HOMELESSNESS, ON ACCESS TO SERVICES, ON BUILDING COMMUNITY, ON HAVING PEOPLE WITH CONNECTIONS TO A SUPPORT NETWORK, ALL THESE THINGS ARE SO IMPORTANT, AND TO HEAR THAT YOU ARE DOING ALL THOSE THINGS AND BRINGING THOSE THINGS TO PEOPLE IN THE COMMUNITY, GIVES ME HOPE. SO, THANK YOU FOR WHAT YOU ARE DOING.

Ms. Thompson: CAN I ADD ONE OTHER THING? THERE IS THIS PUSH FOR COMMUNITY HEALTH WORKERS, AND I HOPE THAT YOU, AS COMMISSIONERS, ARE SUPPORTING THE WORK THAT WE'RE DOING TO MAKE THIS A PROFESSION BECAUSE IT GIVES PEOPLE LIKE MYSELF AND PEOPLE WHO HAVE LIVED THE EXPERIENCE AND OPPORTUNITY TO DO THE WORK, AND I THINK THAT WE ARE MORE EFFECTIVE IN THE WORK. IF I CAN SAY THAT. I ALSO WANT TO PUT THAT IN YOUR MINDS. SO AS YOU ARE DOING

YOUR WORK, PLEASE, PLEASE SUPPORT US IN THE COMMUNITY HEALTH WORKERS IN THE PORTLAND AREA.

Chair Kafoury: THANK YOU, AND I WILL JUST SAY REAL QUICK, AND YOU ARE GOING TO READ THE PROCLAMATION. I JUST WANT TO ADD MY THANKS, AS WELL AND TO COMMISSIONER SMITH, AND TRISHA, I THINK WHAT YOU SAID WAS -- REALLY RESONATED WITH ME, WAS THAT SOMETIMES YOU WANT TO STEP AWAY BECAUSE THE WORK IS SO HARD AND PAINFUL AND DIFFICULT, AND SOMETIMES MAYBE EVEN YOU LOSE HOPE, BUT YOU CANNOT. YOU HAVE TO RETURN TO IT BECAUSE YOU KNOW THAT THAT'S WHERE YOU ARE THE MOST NEEDED AND WHERE YOU CAN BE THE MOST EFFECTIVE, AND I THINK THAT'S REALLY HOW WE FEEL, AS WELL, AND WHY WE ARE HERE AND SO THANKFUL THAT YOU ARE COMING BEFORE US TODAY TO REMIND US OF WHY WE'RE CONTINUING TO DO THIS WORK BECAUSE PEOPLE'S LIVES ARE AT STAKE. THANK YOU.

Commissioner Smith: THANK YOU, MADAM CHAIR, AND I WOULD JUST LIKE TO SAY, DITTO, DITTO, DITTO TO EVERYTHING THAT MY COMMISSIONERS HAVE SAID BECAUSE THIS IS VERY IMPORTANT WORK THAT YOU ALL DO TO HELP VULNERABLE, OUR MOST VULNERABLE POPULATIONS, AND EDUCATING PEOPLE ON A DAY-TO-DAY BASIS, IT IS SO, YOU KNOW, EMOTIONALLY TAXING, BUT YOU ALL KEEP GOING FORWARD, SO I WANT TO THANK YOU FOR THE WORK THAT YOU DO, AND OF COURSE, PARTNERING WITH MULTNOMAH COUNTY TO MAKE SURE THAT THE RESOURCES THAT WE HAVE ARE GOING OUT INTO THE COMMUNITIES AND REALLY HELPING FOLKS. COMMISSIONER SHIPRACK SAID IT REALLY WELL. SOMETIMES, WE CAN DO PROCLAMATIONS AND, YOU KNOW, IT COULD BE A LITTLE EMPTY, BUT FOR THE LAST THREE YEARS, WE HAVE APPROVED A PROCLAMATION FOR NATIONAL BLACK HIV AND AIDS, AND EVERY YEAR SINCE I'VE BEEN HERE FOR THE LAST FOUR YEARS, I HAVE DONE A PROCLAMATION IN MARCH, AROUND KNOWING YOUR STATUS, AND REALLY ENCOURAGING YOUNG GIRLS AND WOMEN TO GO AND GET TESTED, AND I, TOO, I GOING TO TESTED IN MARCH EVERY YEAR, AND I KNOW OUR COMMISSIONERS HAVE GONE AND DID THE CASCADE AIDS -- YOU DID THAT, COMMISSIONER SHIPRACK, TO KNOW YOUR STATUS. SO, THIS IS NOT SOMETHING THAT WE'RE DOING JUST BECAUSE IT'S A DAY AND IT'S SOMETHING THAT WE CAN DO. THE VALUES THAT YOU HAVE AROUND THIS ISSUE, WE HAVE THE SAME VALUES SITTING UP HERE, SO IT'S REALLY GOOD TO KNOW THAT YOU GUYS HAVEN'T GIVEN UP, AND DON'T GIVE UP, MISS TRISHA. WE NEED YOU. SO NOW, I WOULD LIKE TO READ THE PROCLAMATION. FEBRUARY 7, 2015, IS THE 15th YEAR THAT NATIONAL BLACK HIV AND AIDS, AWARENESS DAY, HAS BEEN COMMEMORATED. OBSERVANCE OF THIS DAY IS A NATION-WIDE EFFORT TO MOBILIZE BLACK COMMUNITIES, TO GET EDUCATED, TO GET TESTED, TO GET INVOLVED, AND TO GET TREATED. AFRICAN-AMERICANS ARE THE RACIAL, ETHNIC GROUP MOST AFFECTED BY HIV IN THE UNITED STATES. IN 2010, AFRICAN-AMERICANS COMPRISE 14% OF IS THE U.S. POPULATION, BUT THEY

ACCOUNTED FOR 44% OF ALL NEW HIV INFECTIONS. AND 44% OF ALL PEOPLE LIVING WITH HIV APPROXIMATELY ONE IN 16 BLACK MEN WILL BE DIAGNOSED WITH HIV DURING THEIR LIFETIME. AS WILL ONE IN 32 BLACK WOMEN. BLACKS AND AFRICAN-AMERICANS IN OREGON ARE MORE THAN THREE TIMES MORE LIKELY THAN WHITES TO ACQUIRE HIV INFECTION. APPROXIMATELY 7% OF THE THEM LIVING WITH HIV IN OREGON ARE BLACK AND AFRICAN-AMERICAN. AS OF DECEMBER 31st, 2012, 322 BLACK OR AFRICAN-AMERICAN RESIDENTS OF MULTNOMAH COUNTY WERE LIVING WITH HIV 8% OF THE TOTAL NUMBER OF PEOPLE LIVING WITH HIV IN MULTNOMAH COUNTY. THE AFRICAN-AMERICAN AIDS AWARENESS ALLIANCE, THE A-6 ALLIANCE, AND THE MEMBER AGENCIES, INCLUDING CASCADE AIDS PROJECT, MULTNOMAH COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT, THE OREGON HEALTH AUTHORITY, HIV PREVENTION PROGRAM, PLANNED PARENTHOOD OF THE COLUMBIA, WILLAMETTE, THE PORTLAND CHAPTER OF THE LINKS, AND THE ALBINA MINISTER ALLIANCE ARE WORKING TOGETHER TO INCREASE HIV AIDS AWARENESS IN THE AFRICAN-AMERICAN COMMUNITY AND RECOGNIZE THAT THIS DAY, IN ITS IMPORTANCE TO ALL CONCERNED CITIZENS. IT IS FITTING THAT WE JOIN THESE LOCAL, NATIONAL, AND INTERNATIONAL GROUPS TO EXPRESS OUR STRONG SUPPORT FOR NATIONAL BLACK HIV, AIDS AND AWARENESS DAY, AND THE INITIATIVE TO PREVENT THE SPREAD OF HIV AND AIDS IN THE BLACK COMMUNITIES AND PROVIDE ACCESS AND UTILIZATION OF HIV AND AIDS PREVENTION TREATMENT IN SUPPORT SERVICES. IT IS IMPORTANT TO ENCOURAGE LOCAL RESIDENTS, TO STRONGLY SUPPORT THIS DAY, AND PARTICIPATE IN EVENTS PLANNED TO COMMEMORATE THE OCCASION.

Chair Kafoury: THANK YOU. ALL THOSE IN FAVOR, VOTE AYE. OPPOSED. THE PROCLAMATION IS ADOPTED. THANK YOU VERY MUCH. [APPLAUSE]

Non-Departmental – 9:50 am

R.2 NOTICE OF INTENT to Apply for a Grant Through the State of Oregon's State Homeland Security Grant Program. Presenters: Dave Houghton, Office of Emergency Management Interim Director & Rachel Novick, Office of Emergency Management Coordinator

Commissioner Shiprack: SO MOVED.

Commissioner Smith: SECOND.

YES, IT WAS, AND GOOD MORNING, CHAIR KAFOURY AND COMMISSIONERS, I AM DAVE HOUGHTON, THE INTERIM DIRECTOR OF MULTNOMAH COUNTY'S OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT, BUT BEFORE I BEGIN, I JUST NEED TO SAY THIS, MOST OF MY CAREER WAS SPENT IN PUBLIC HEALTH. THAT'S WHERE MY TRAINING LIES. I GREATLY APPRECIATE YOUR PROCLAMATION AND GREATLY APPRECIATE THE WORK THAT THESE INDIVIDUALS SPOKE TO TODAY, SO THANK YOU FOR THAT.

MY AGENDA TODAY, I AM REQUESTING THE BOARD'S APPROVAL TO APPLY FOR 160,060 FOR STATE HOMELAND SECURITY GRANT FUNDING THROUGH THE OREGON OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT. THIS IS A FEDERAL GRANT TO SUPPORT ACTIVITIES TO BUILD CAPACITY TO RESPOND TO A HUMAN CAUSE AND NATURAL DISASTERS. IT'S A COMPETITIVE APPLICATION PROCESS. IT WORKS BY SUB-JURISDICTIONS IN THE COUNTY ALL APPLYING TOGETHER IN A COMMON MIX THAT THE COUNTY SUBMITS. IF THE PROJECTS ARE APPROVED, THE AWARDS WILL GO DIRECTLY TO THOSE APPLICANTS, AND THE GRANT PERIOD WILL RUN FROM OCTOBER OF THIS YEAR THROUGH SEPTEMBER OF 2016. WE DO THIS THROUGH A CONSENSUS PROCESS, AND SO WE BROUGHT TOGETHER A REPRESENTATIVE FROM THE CITIES OF PORTLAND AND GRESHAM, MESD, MULTNOMAH COUNTY EDUCATION DISTRICT, METRO, MULTNOMAH COUNTY DRAINAGE DISTRICT, NUMBER ONE, INDIAN HEALTH SERVICES, THE SHERIFF'S OFFICE, AND REPRESENTATIVES FROM FACILITIES, AND THE DIFFERENT COMMUNITY SERVICES, AS WELL AS OUR OWN OFFICE. WE REVIEW THE PROJECT PROPOSALS, AND BY CONSENSUS, AGREED TO WHICH ONES WOULD GO FORWARD. THESE FOUR PROJECTION INCLUDE PORTLAND'S OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT FOR FIRST AID AND CPR COURSES FOR THEIR NEIGHBORHOOD EMERGENCY TEAMS, AS WELL AS TRAINING AND TESTING FOR THE COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAMS. THOSE ARE COMMUNITY-BASED ACTIVITIES THAT HELPS TO BUILD THE COMMUNITY RESILIENCE. THE SHERIFF'S OFFICE WILL BE APPLYING TO PURCHASE MOBILE COMMAND POST COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY AND INVESTIGATION INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY IMPROVEMENTS. OUR OFFICE WILL BE APPLYING FOR TWO THINGS. ONE IS EQUIPMENT FOR OUR AMATEUR RADIO OPERATORS THAT ARE PART OF THE AMATEUR RADIO EMERGENCY SERVICES GROUP. THOSE FOLKS ARE CRITICAL TO US IN TERMS OF PROVIDING COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY WHEN THE MAJOR SYSTEMS THAT WE NORMALLY DEPEND ON ARE FAILING. WE WILL ALSO BE APPLYING FOR -- TO DEVELOP A DISASTER DEBRIS MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR THE COUNTY. IT'S ONE THAT WE DON'T HAVE NOW. IT'S ONE THAT WE KNOW THAT WE NEED. IS THE PROJECTS ARE DESIGNED TO BE COMPLETED DURING THE GRANT PERIOD. THAT'S, BASICALLY, WHAT I NEED TODAY, IS YOUR APPROVAL TO MOVE FORWARD.

Chair Kafoury: THANK YOU, ANY QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS FROM THE BOARD?

Commissioner Smith: I HAVE A COMMENT, MADAM CHAIR. I WANT TO THANK DAVID AND RACHEL FOR BEING HERE AND PRESENTING ON THIS VERY SERIOUS ISSUE BECAUSE I BELIEVE THAT THE SAFETY AND THE WELLBEING OF THE RESIDENTS OF MULTNOMAH COUNTY AND IN OREGON, WHICH I HOPE WE DON'T HAVE TO USE THESE PLANS, BUT UNFORTUNATELY, THE DATA SUGGESTS THAT THERE WILL BE A DAY THAT WE WILL NEED THESE

PLANS, AND VERY SOON. BUT, I DON'T THINK THIS GETS TALKED ABOUT IN THE SAME VEIN AS OTHER THINGS OF SERIOUSNESS, AND THIS KIND OF WORK IS, YOU KNOW, IT IS, ALSO, VERY STRESSFUL. I WANT TO THANK YOU FOR TAKING THIS ON AND COMING BACK AND DOING THIS BECAUSE THIS IS A VERY REAL CHALLENGE THAT IS GOING TO BE IN OUR FUTURE, AND SO I AM GLAD THAT YOU ARE HERE THINKING AHEAD. THANK YOU.

THANK YOU VERY MUCH, COMMISSIONER SMITH.

Chair Kafoury: THANK YOU. ALL IN FAVOR, VOTE AYE. THE NOTICE OF INTENT IS APPROVED.

THANK YOU.

Human Services – 9:55 am

R.3 BUDGET MODIFICATION # DCHS-29-15: Reclassification of Three (3) Full-time FS 1 positions to Two (2) FS Senior and One (1) FS 2 Positions in DCHS. Presenter: Rob Kodiriy, Business Services & Finance Director

Commissioner Shiprack: SO MOVED.

Commissioner Smith: SECOND.

Chair Kafoury: COMMISSIONER SHIPRACK MOVES, COMMISSIONER SMITH SECONDS APPROVAL OF R3. GOOD MORNING.

Mr. Kodiriy: GOOD MORNING, CHAIR KAFOURY AND COMMISSIONERS. THIS WAS VERY ENCOURAGING THIS MORNING HERE BECAUSE IT REMINDED ME WHY I AM DOING MY JOB. WELL, THIS BUDGET MODIFICATION REQUESTS APPROVAL FOR THE RECLASSIFICATION OF THREE FULL-TIME FINANCE SPECIALIST 1 POSITIONS TO TWO FINANCIAL SPECIALISTS, SENIOR POSITIONS AND ONE FINANCIAL SPECIALIST 2 POSITION. THE REASON FOR THIS RECLASSIFICATION IS THIS IS ONE OF THE FIRST RESPONSES TO THE TECHNICAL COLLABORATIVE REPORT THAT WAS PRESENTED BACK IN JUNE LAST YEAR FOR MENTAL HEALTH, FINANCIAL INFRASTRUCTURE, IN PARTICULAR, THIS WAS THE RESPONSE TO THE FINANCIAL INFRASTRUCTURE NEEDS. SO, THE FINANCE SPECIALIST 2 POSITION, WILL PERFORM FINANCIAL ANALYSIS, PROFESSIONAL ACCOUNTING, INCLUDING VERY FINE INVOICES, CONTRACTUAL REQUIREMENTS, PERFORMING DATA ENTRY AND RECEIPTS. THE FINANCE SPECIALIST SENIOR POSITIONS WILL PERFORM MORE COMPLEX ANALYSIS BECAUSE THIS PARTICULAR UNIT, MENTAL HEALTH FINANCE IS DEDICATED TO MENTAL HEALTH DIVISION. THEY WILL ALSO WORK WITH -- THEY WILL CREATE -- THEY WILL RESPOND TO CHANGING REQUIREMENTS OF THE HEALTH SHARE OF OREGON, FINANCIAL REPORTING. THIS YEAR, WE'RE STARTING TO WORK WITH ACTUARIAL SERVICES, SO THESE TWO PEOPLE, FINANCE SPECIALIST SENIORS, WILL

WORK WITH ACTUARIAL SERVICES, SETTING THE RATES AND ANALYZING THE DATA, AND ALSO ONE OF THE MOST CRITICAL FACTORS HERE IS THAT THEY WILL REPORT BACK TO THE DIVISION TO PROVIDE THAT DATA ANALYSIS THAT THEY REALLY NEED. HISTORICALLY, THE FINANCE UNIT WAS IN MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES, BUT THEN IN FISCAL YEAR 2014, IT WAS MOVED DOWN AS A CENTRALIZED PIECE INTO THE DCHS ADMINISTRATION AS PART OF THE DCHS SERVICE ADMINISTRATION. SO, AS PART OF THE SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET, THE -- AS YOU REMEMBER, BECAUSE OF THE GROWING REVENUES, OF BOTH MEDICAID FUNDS, WE'VE BEEN ABLE TO NOW FUND IT CENTRALLY VIA THE DEPARTMENT INDIRECT. THEREFORE, WE ARE MOVING FUNDS FROM THE ADMINISTRATION, THE ADMINISTRATIVE FUNCTION TO THE PROGRAM FUNCTIONS, SO 132,000 WILL GO BACK TO THE MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES FOR ADULTS, PROGRAM FOR 25062. I GUESS THAT'S IT. ANY QUESTIONS?

Chair Kafoury: QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS? SOUNDS LIKE A GOOD PLAN. ALL THOSE IN FAVOR, VOTE AYE. THE BUDGET MODIFICATION IS APPROVED.

Health Dept. – 10:00 am

**R.4 Board Briefing on STRYVE Youth Violence Prevention Initiatives.
Presenters: Rebecca Stavenjord, STRYVE Coordinator; Abdullah Hafeedh, Community Health Worker; and, Dwight Myrick, Community Health Worker**

Chair Kafoury: GOOD MORNING, I WILL GIVE A QUICK INTRO AS YOU GET SETTLED. IN 2011, MULTNOMAH COUNTY'S HEALTH DEPARTMENT, THE COMMUNITY CAPITATION CENTER RECEIVED FUNDING FROM THE CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION FOR STRYVE. IT'S A FIVE-YEAR DEMONSTRATION PROJECT THAT PRIORITIZES PREVENTION AS A PUBLIC HEALTH APPROACH TO REDUCING VIOLENCE AFFECTING YOUTH. MULTNOMAH COUNTY WAS CHOSEN AS ONE OF THE FOUR DEMONSTRATION SITES NATION-WIDE, AND WE ARE IN THE FOURTH YEAR OF THIS PROJECT, AND I AM REALLY EXCITED TO HEAR ABOUT THIS UPDATE. I THINK THAT THIS IS A WONDERFUL PROGRAM. YOU ALL HAVE DONE REALLY GREAT WORK. THANK YOU.

Ms. Stavenjord: THANK YOU. MAKE SURE THAT I CAN -- YEAH. OK. GOOD MORNING. THANK YOU TO THE COMMISSIONERS AND CHAIR KAFOURY FOR PROVIDING US THE OPPORTUNITY TO CHAIR ON THE STRYVE PROJECT TODAY. WE ARE HERE REPRESENTING A MULTI-SECTOR EFFORT TO REDUCE THE YOUTH VIOLENCE, WHICH IS HOUSED IN THE COMMUNITY CAPITATION CENTER OF THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT. MY NAME IS REBECCA STAVENJORD, AND I HAVE HAD THE HONOR OF SERVING FOR THE LAST THREE YEARS AS THE STRYVE COORDINATOR. I AM JOINED TODAY BY -

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GOOD MORNING, RESPECTED CHAIRS AND RESPECTED COMMISSIONERS, I AM DWIGHT MYRICK, A COMMUNITY HEALTH WORKER.

GOOD MORNING, I AM ABDULLAH HAFEDDH, COMMONLY KNOWN AS ABDULLAH AND WORK WITH STRYVE.

Ms. Stavenjord: WE HAVE TEAM MEMBERS AND SUPPORTERS IN THE AUDIENCE SO I WANTED TO SPEND A QUICK MOMENT AND RECOGNIZE PAM HILLER. SHE HAS BEEN INVOLVED FOR YEARS IN THE FIELD OF YOUTH VIOLENCE PREVENTION WITHIN THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT AND AS A COMMUNITY ORGANIZER AND A MEMBER OF OUR KEEP, AND ALSO, NOELLE WIGGINS. DON'T HIDE. SHE IS THE -- THE DIRECTOR OF THE COMMUNITY CAPACITATION CENTER IN THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT. SHE'S ALSO THE PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR ON THE STRYVE GRANT. SO, AND WE ALSO HAVE SOME PARTNERS FROM OUR STRYVE SITES AND OUR MULTI-SECTOR COALITION WHICH WE'LL RECOGNIZE IN A MOMENT. AND THEY HAVE JOINED US HERE IN THE AUDIENCE TODAY. WE HAVE SOME SPECIAL GUESTS VIEWING VIA THE INTERNET ALL THE WAY FROM ATLANTA, FROM THE CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION. SO, WE WANT TO RECOGNIZE THAT THEY ARE THERE SOMEWHERE WATCHING US.

THANKS FOR WATCHING.

Commissioner Smith: I DON'T KNOW HOW I FEEL ABOUT THAT.

WE SHARE THIS DAILY.

WE ARE WITH YOU.

Mr. Myrick: STRYVE, AS WE MENTIONED, IS A PROJECT WITHIN THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT TO INCREASE AWARENESS AND COMMUNITY ACTION AROUND YOUTH VIOLENCE. IT'S SUPPORTED, IN PART, BY THE CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION TO BRING A LOCAL HEALTH DEPARTMENT PERSPECTIVE INTO CONVERSATIONS ABOUT VIOLENCE, PREVENTION, AND INCREASE AWARENESS OF VIOLENCE AS A PUBLIC HEALTH ISSUE. SO, WE RECOGNIZE THAT VIOLENCE IS A LEADING CAUSE OF INJURY, DISABILITY, AND PREMATURE DEATH, AND THIS DISPROPORTIONALLY IMPACTS YOUNG PEOPLE AND PEOPLE OF COLOR. VIOLENCE INCREASES THE RISK OF OTHER POOR HEALTH OUTCOMES, AS WELL. SO, THIS IMPACTS THE PLACES BEFORE WE WORK, LIVE, PLAY, PRAY, AND MAKES IT HARDER TO ATTEND SCHOOL, TO GET EXERCISE, AND TO BUILD A HEALTHY LIFE. SO, OUR PRESENTATION TODAY IS TO REPORT ON OUR FIRST YEAR OF IMPLEMENTATION AND TO SHARE THE OUTCOMES OF OUR EVIDENT-BASED BEST PRACTICES TO REDUCE YOUTH VIOLENCE. WE PARTNERED WITH MANY COMMUNITY AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS, AND OUR

STRYVE COALITION CONDUCTED AN EXTENSIVE PLANNING AND ASSESSMENT PROCESS TO LOOK AT INDICATORS THAT HELP US DETERMINE TWO EVIDENCE-BASED BEST PRACTICES FOR LOCAL IMPLEMENTATION AND FOUR COMMUNITIES ACROSS MULTNOMAH COUNTY, AND WE JUST COMPLETED OUR FIRST YEAR OF IMPLEMENTATION AT THE END OF THIS SUMMER. OUR BEST PRACTICES FOCUS ON YOUTH EMPOWERMENT AND PLAY-BASED PREVENTION. WE COLLABORATED WITH OTHER CITIES AND COUNTIES WHO ALSO PRIORITIZED YOUTH VIOLENCE PREVENTION AND HEALTH APPROACH TO VIOLENCE, AND DEVELOPED A COORDINATED COMPREHENSIVE APPROACH.

Ms. Stavenjord: WE OPERATE OUR BEST PRACTICE PROGRAM, YOUTH EMPOWERMENT SOLUTIONS, OR YES, IN FOUR COMMUNITIES ACROSS MULTNOMAH COUNTY. THESE COMMUNITIES WERE SELECTED BASED ON THEIR LEVEL OF NEED AND BECAUSE OF OUR GREAT IMPLEMENTATION PARTNERS WHO ARE ALREADY DOING GOOD THINGS IN THE NEIGHBORHOODS. IN EACH OF THESE AREAS OF GEOGRAPHIC FOCUS, WE WORK WITH THE YES GROUP THAT IS MADE UP OF YOUTH FROM THE NEIGHBORHOODS. WE MEET WITH THEM WEEKLY DURING THE SCHOOL YEAR AND TALK ABOUT HOW VIOLENCE IMPACTS THEIR COMMUNITIES. THEY WORK TOGETHER TO LEARN ABOUT MAKING CHANGE. THEY DEVELOP PROJECTS THAT WILL IMPROVE THEIR COMMUNITIES. IN MANY CASES, THE YOUTH WE WORK WITH HAVE EXPERIENCED VIOLENCE IN THEIR HOMES, SCHOOLS, OR NEIGHBORHOODS. THEY ARE THE EXPERTS OF THEIR OWN EXPERIENCE, AND WE WANT TO EMPOWER THEM TO BE A PART OF MAKING THEIR COMMUNITY A BETTER PLACE. IN OUR FIRST YEAR OF IMPLEMENTATION WE WORK WITH FOUR YES GROUPS AND 50 PARTICIPANTS. WE COMPLETED 170 SESSIONS FROM THE CURRICULUM WITH YOUTH, AND WORKED WITH THEM AS THEY DEVELOP THEIR PLAY-BASED CHANGE PROJECTS. THROUGH PARTNERSHIPS WITH COMMISSIONER SMITH'S OFFICE, IN THE SUMMER WORKS PROGRAM, WE WERE ABLE TO IMPLORE THEM TO IMPLEMENT THEIR PROJECTS THIS SUMMER. SOME OF THE YOUTH WENT TO A DIGITAL MEDIA CLASS WITH PORTLAND COMMUNITY COLLEGE. AND THEY HELPED TO DOCUMENT THE WHOLE SUMMER, WHILE EARNING HIGH SCHOOL AND COLLEGE CREDITS. AT THE END OF THE SUMMER, WE TOOK THE YOUTH TO A PEACE CAMP AT CAMP WEST LINN, AND THEY HAD A CHANCE TO DEBRIEF THIS SUMMER AND HELP US TO PLAN FOR THE NEXT YEAR. SO OUR SECOND EVIDENCE-BASED PRACTICE IS CRIME PREVENTION THROUGH THE DIME. THE CONCEPT IS TO ADDRESS THE BUILDING ENVIRONMENT AND THE IMPACTS ON SAFETY, CRIME, AND CRIMINAL BEHAVIOR. OUR APPROACH IS TO INCREASE SOCIAL COHESION BY ENGAGING YOUTH AND COMMUNITY MEMBERS IN PROJECTS THAT THEY CAN POSSESS OWNERSHIP OVER. LAST SUMMER WE COMPLETED TWO STREET PAINTING PROJECTS, BUILT 150 LITTLE FREE LIBRARIES, AND CREATED 15 PEACE BOWLS AND PARTNERED ON FOUR NATIONAL NIGHT OUT EVENTS. THESE PROJECTS CREATED A SENSE OF PLACE AND INCREASED

RESILIENCY AGAINST VIOLENCE. THE LIBRARIES INCREASE THE NUMBER OF BOOKS IN THE COMMUNITIES, KIDS GET TO READ MORE BOOKS AND SPEND TIME WITH THEIR FAMILIES AND ENJOYING THE BOOKS. OUR LIBRARY HOSTESSES ARE STEWARDS BECAUSE LIFELONG LEARNING IS, ESSENTIALLY, A PROTECTIVE FACTOR. WE CAN NOT ASSUME THAT PUTTING PAINT ON THE STREET WILL IMMEDIATELY CHANGE CRIME RATES IN A NEIGHBORHOOD, BUT IT DOES CHANGE THE WAY PEOPLE FEEL ABOUT THAT SPACE. THEY INTERACT DIFFERENTLY WITH THEIR NEIGHBORS AND ENGAGE OTHERS IN A POSITIVE WAY BECAUSE THEY FEEL PRIDE IN THE EFFORT THAT THEY INVESTED WHILE PAINTING THE ACTUAL PROJECT, AND THE OUTCOME THAT THEY SEE HAPPENING IN THEIR COMMUNITY. BEFORE WE STARTED THE PAINTING SAT NORTHEAST KILLINGSWORTH AND MEMBERS OF THE CHURCH HAD RARELY ENGAGED WITH STAFF AT THE SCHOOL ACROSS THE STREET, ROSEMARY ANDERSON HIGH SCHOOL. BECAUSE OF THE DESIGN PLANNING, ALL PARTNERS, INCLUDING THE NEIGHBORS, WERE INSPIRED BY THE LEADERSHIP OF THE YOUTH. THE YOUTH WERE AN ATTRACTIVE THING FOR EVERYONE. ON THE PROJECT, THEY CAME TOGETHER AND TO IMPROVE THE GATHERING SPACE IN WHICH ALL OF THEM SHARED TOGETHER. AGAIN, THIS WAS MOTIVATED BY THEIR OBSERVING YOUTH AND ENGAGING AND TAKING A LEAD.

Ms. Stavenjord: THE WORK OF OUR STRYVE COALITION HAS SUPPORTED PARALLEL EFFORTS ACROSS THE COUNTY TO IMPROVE THE OUTCOMES FOR YOUTH AND COMMUNITIES. WE HAVE HAD THE HONOR OF PARTNERING WITH OTHER INITIATIVES AND EFFORTS BY SHARING DATA AND STRATEGIES, AND THIS ALIGNMENT AROUND COMMON GOALS HAS STRENGTHENED OUR REGIONAL APPROACH TO MENTORING, YOUTH ENGAGEMENT, AND ADDRESSING VIOLENCE. AS A HEALTH ISSUE, AS WELL AS EXPOSURE TO VIOLENCE.

WE HAVE A FEW MAPS FROM OUR ASSESSMENT AND PLANNING PROCESS TO SHARE WITH YOU TODAY. NOT TOO MANY, DON'T WORRY. THIS, THIS MAP SHOWS OUR FOCUSED COMMUNITIES THAT ARE CIRCLED ON A MAP OF REGIONAL MEDIAN INCOME PATTERNS. THIS IS ONE OF SEVERAL INDICATORS WE USED TO PRIORITIZE EFFORTS IN THE COMMUNITIES WE SERVE. THE SHADED AREAS, CONCENTRATION ON THE MAP, REPRESENT AREAS WITH LOWER MEDIAN INCOMES. ONE OF THE GOALS OF OUR PROJECT IS TO IMPACT COMMITMENT TO SCHOOL, AND ON THIS MAP, YOU SEE AREAS WITH LOW EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT ACROSS THE COUNTY. THE SHADED AREAS OF CONCENTRATION INDICATES THOSE LIVING IN THE AREA THAT HAVE THE EQUIVALENT OF A HIGH SCHOOL DEGREE OR LOWER. WE KNOW THAT EDUCATION IS A KEY FACTOR IN PROTECTING AGAINST VIOLENCE, AND WE LOOKED AT A VARIETY OF OTHER INDICATORS FROM FIELDS OF HEALTH, EMPLOYMENT, CIVIC ENGAGEMENT, AND ACCESS TO HEALTH AND SERVICES. ONE OF THE UNIQUE ASPECTS OF OUR WORK IS THAT WE ENGAGE FORMALLY AND INFORMALLY WITH THOSE THAT HAVE

SHARED LIVED EXPERIENCE WITH THE POPULATIONS AND THE COMMUNITIES WE'RE WORKING IN. A VERY IMPORTANT DECISION WE MADE VERY EARLY ON IN THE PROJECT WAS TO ENGAGE COMMUNITY HEALTH WORKERS IN THIS PROJECT.

Ms. Stavenjord: COMMUNITY HEALTH WORKERS ARE MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNITY WHO CAN CONNECT IN AN AUTHENTIC WAY AND BUILD TRUST BECAUSE THEY HAVE LIVED THROUGH THE SAME THINGS AS THE PEOPLE WE ARE ENGAGING. THIS IS A PROFESSION THAT HAS BEEN AROUND FOR A LONG TIME. BUT, IN THE COMMUNITY CAPACITATION CENTER, WE ARE WORKING HARD TO PROFESSIONALIZE THE FIELD OF COMMUNITY HEALTH WORKERS AND HAVE A TRAINING PROCESS THAT RESULTS IN THE CERTIFICATION THAT IS RECOGNIZED BY THE STATE OF OREGON. ABDULLAH AND I HAVE COMPLETED THIS TRAINING, AND NOW ARE HELPING TO TRAIN MORE COMMUNITY HEALTH WORKERS.

THROUGH THIS PROCESS, WE HAVE ALSO BEEN ABLE TO GATHER CRIME RELATED DATA FROM OUR LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES. SO, ON THIS MAP YOU SEE OVER TIME, A PATTERN OF ONE INDICATOR, AGGRAVATED ASSAULT, HAS SHIFTED FROM CLOSE IN NORTH AND NORTHEAST PORTLAND, EAST INTO COMMUNITIES OF GRESHAM AND EAST COUNTY. THE FOCUSED COMMUNITIES, YOU WILL SEE, ARE CIRCLED ON THE LOWER MAP. ANOTHER INDICATOR IS SHOTS FIRED. IT USES A PROXY FOR VIOLENCE. THIS SHOWS THE SAME SHIFT IN CONCENTRATION AND GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION. AND WE HAVE SEEN THIS SHIFT OVER THE LAST DECADE, AND HAVE ADJUSTED OUR PROGRAMMING TO INCREASE THE SUPPORTS FOR COMMUNITIES IN MID AND EAST COUNTY. THIS SUMMER WE'RE HAPPY TO ANNOUNCE FURTHER EXPANSION INTO GRESHAM, WOOD VILLAGE, ROCKWOOD AND ROSE WOOD. AS A LARGER COMMUNITY WE ARE CONDITIONED TO THINK ABOUT VIOLENCE IN TERMS OF THE THINGS WE RESPOND TO. WE CAN INCREASE THE EFFECTIVENESS OF ADDRESSING VIOLENCE BY ADDRESSING THE ROOT CAUSES OF VIOLENCE. THINGS LIKE POVERTY, EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT, ACCESS TO HEALTH CARE AND SERVICES, AND FAMILY BONDING. YOU HEARD RECENTLY FROM THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT ABOUT THE REPORT CARD ON RACIAL AND ETHNIC DISPARITIES, AND THE DOCUMENT SHOWS THAT HOMICIDE IS A PRIMARY DISPARITY EXPERIENCE BY AFRICAN-AMERICAN AND LATINO COMMUNITIES. WE SEE PARALLELS IN OTHER AREAS OF HEALTH AND WELLBEING, THAT ARE ALSO DISPARITIES FOR THE SAME COMMUNITIES, AND THIS, WELSH, IS A COMPLEX ISSUE AND REQUIRES A COMPLEX SET OF SOLUTIONS. SO, THE LAST MAP TODAY, IT SHOWS USE OF GANG FLAG, WHICH WENT SHOWS CONCENTRATION OF GANG RELATED ACTIVITY ACROSS MULTNOMAH COUNTY. THIS IS A NEW COLLABORATIVE EFFORT ACROSS LAW ENFORCEMENT JURISDICTIONS TO USE THE SAME MEASURES AND REPORT CONSISTENTLY ACROSS THE REGION. THIS, ALONG WITH OTHER MAPS THAT YOU HAVE SEEN TODAY, WERE DEVELOPED AS PART OF THE RECENT

OFFICE OF JUVENILE JUSTICE DELINQUENCY PREVENTION, GANG ASSESSMENT, THAT WAS DONE HERE IN MULTNOMAH COUNTY AND LED BY THE LOCAL PUBLIC SAFETY COORDINATING COUNCIL OUT OF COMMISSIONER SHIPRACK'S OFFICE. WHILE OUR LAW ENFORCEMENT PARTNERS ARE WORKING TO FIND BETTER WAYS OF TRACKING AND UNDERSTANDING THESE DATA, WE RECOGNIZE THAT THE WORK WE DO HAS TO ALSO BE RELEVANT TO COMMUNITIES MOST AFFECTED BY USING GANG VIOLENCE.

Ms. Stavenjord: MANY PEOPLE WE WORK WITH FACE RISK FACTORS OF GANG AND OTHER FORMS OF VIOLENCE. OUR APPROACH TO OUTREACH AND THROUGH POPULAR EDUCATION, THE WORD POPULAR, HAVING ITS ROOT IN THE LATIN TERM POPULARIS, MEANS THE PEOPLE WORK TOGETHER, WITH EDUCATION FOR THE PEOPLE BY THE PEOPLE. AND WE ENGAGE YOUTH AND COMMUNITY PARTNERS IN THIS STYLE OF FACILITATION THAT SEEKS TO EQUALIZE POWER AND BALANCES AND RECOGNIZES EVERYONE'S LIVED EXPERIENCE. MANY ON OUR TEAM AND IN OUR COALITION HAVE EXPERIENCES THAT BRING THEM TO THIS WORK PERSONALLY. PROFESSIONALLY AND ACADEMICALLY THROUGH POPULAR EDUCATION, WE LEARN FROM EACH OTHER AND VALUE THE EXPERIENCES IN THE PROCESS OF MAKING COMMUNITY LEVEL CHANGE.

THIS WAS OUR FIRST YEAR OF IMPLEMENTATION OF THESE BEST PRACTICES, AND WE HAVE SEEN GREAT SUCCESS AND PARTNERSHIPS. WE APPRECIATE THE SUPPORT OF THE BOARD AND ALL OF OUR COMMUNITY PARTNERS IN THIS WORK, AND IF WE COULD FOR A MOMENT ASK THAT ALL OF THE STRYVE PARTNERS WHO ARE IN THE AUDIENCE TODAY, COULD YOU PLEASE STAND. [APPLAUSE]

Ms. Stavenjord: THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR EVERYTHING THAT YOU HAVE DONE TO MAKE THIS PROJECTS A SUCCESS. THE GOAL OF OUR WORK IS TO BUILD CAPACITY, TO GET AT THE ROOT CAUSES OF VIOLENCE AND BEGIN TO ADDRESS VIOLENCE BEFORE IT STARTS. WE DO THAT THROUGH EMPOWERING AND ENGAGING COMMUNITIES, MOST AFFECTED BY VIOLENCE, SO WE THANK YOU FOR THE OPPORTUNITY TO SHARE HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE SUMMER'S WORK, AND WE LOOK FORWARD TO ANOTHER EXCITING YEAR AS THIS WORK CONTINUES TO GROW. WE WOULD LIKE TO KEEP YOU ALL UP TO DATE AS FAR AS FUTURE ACTIVITIES AND WAYS TO BE ENGAGED, AND WE WILL BE IN TOUCH WITH YOUR OFFICES WITH INVITATIONS. BUT BEFORE WE MOVE INTO THE QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS, WE WOULD LIKE TO TAKE A MOMENT TO SHARE A VERY SPECIAL VIDEO THAT WAS PRODUCED BY THE CREW AT PRO PHOTO SUPPLY. CAN YOU WAVE. THEY PARTNERED WITH US AND DOCUMENTED ONE OF THE REALLY AMAZING PROJECTS THAT WE WORKED ON, SO WE WANTED TO SHARE WITH YOU THE SPECIAL MEMORY ON VIDEO.

VIDEO: "I AM VERY FAMILIAR WITH THIS AREA BECAUSE I WENT TO JEFFERSON HIGH SCHOOL, AND I AM VERY AWARE THAT WITH THE PCC AND JEFFERSON BEING HERE, THERE IS A LOT OF TRAFFIC THAT GOES THROUGH HERE.

THIS IS MY NEIGHBORHOOD SCHOOL, POIC, GRADUATED FROM HERE THIS YEAR, AND I AM GOING TO BE COMING BACK HERE AND PARTICIPATING IN DRAMA AND TEACHING MY DAD'S CLASS HERE, SO THIS AREA REALLY MEANS A LOT TO ME.

THIS IS MY OLD HIGH SCHOOL, I GRADUATED IN 2011. I AM VOLUNTEERING. I WAS SUPER EXCITED BECAUSE OUR SMALL SCHOOL NEEDS SOME ATTENTION AND LOVE. IT'S LIKE BAD KIDS COME TO THIS SCHOOL, THE REPUTATION, BUT THAT'S NOT THE CASE.

THE STRYVE PROGRAM IS A MULTNOMAH COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT, AND MY JOB IS IN THE PORTLAND BUREAU OF TRANSPORTATION TO DO AN INTERSECTION REPAIR PROJECT AT NORTH KILLINGSWORTH AND NORTH BORKWOOD STREETS. THEY HAD A HISTORY OF CONFLICT BETWEEN STUDENTS AT TWO HIGH SCHOOLS, AND THE COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT REALLY WANTED TO USE THE EFFORT TO TAKE WHAT WAS A CONFLICT SPACE AND TURN IT INTO A SHARED SPACE.

BASICALLY, THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT IS GETTING INVOLVED IN VIOLENCE AS A HEALTH ISSUE, AND SO THE WORK COMES FROM THE CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION. WE'RE ONE OF FOUR DEMONSTRATION SITES IN THE COUNTRY, AND THE INITIATIVE THAT THE CDC HAS SUPPORTED IS STRYVE. SO, STRIVING TO REDUCE YOUTH VIOLENCE EVERYWHERE. AND THESE ARE DONE IN TWO AREAS. ONE IS THE YES PROGRAM. YOUTH EMPOWERMENT SOLUTIONS, AND THE OTHER, MORE ADULT-LED STRATEGY, CRIME PREVENTION THROUGH ENVIRONMENTAL DESIGN, AND THAT ALLOWS US TO BE ABLE TO LOOK AT THE PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT THAT WE LIVE IN AND HOW WE CAN MAKE CHANGES TO THAT ENVIRONMENT THAT PROTECTS AGAINST VIOLENCE IN THE FIRST PLACE.

WE CAME TO GO, STARTED OFF AT CHURCH. GOT COMMUNITY MEMBERS INVOLVED. WENT DOOR-TO-DOOR, ADVERTISING WHAT WE WERE TRYING TO GET TOGETHER AND DO, GOT IN THERE AND CAME UP WITH IDEAS, AND THEN WE CAME UP WITH THIS, AS A COMMUNITY.

THIS AREA HAS HISTORICALLY SEEN A LARGE AMOUNT OF GANG ACTIVITY, A LARGE AMOUNT OF GANG VIOLENCE. BUT I WOULD LIKE FOR PEOPLE TO BE ABLE TO COME THROUGH THIS INTERSECTION, THIS SCHOOL, WITHOUT HAVING TO WORRY ABOUT THAT BECAUSE THAT WORRY EVERY DAY, THAT'S COUNTER PRODUCTIVE, AND THAT DOES NOT DO ANYTHING FOR PEOPLE,

AND IT PERPETUATES ITSELF BECAUSE PEOPLE GROW UP IN THAT KIND OF VIOLENT ATMOSPHERE, AND THEY DON'T KNOW ANY DIFFERENT.

OH, YEAH, I WITNESSED A LOT. I WITNESSED PEOPLE GETTING HIT BY CARS, AND I HAVE, ACTUALLY, BEEN IN THE AREA, COMING BACK FROM THE STORE WHEN LIKE 20 SOME ODD PEOPLE, LIKE BOYS AND GIRLS, COMING IN THIS AREA, AND FIGHTING AND STUFF. I HAVE WITNESSED SHOOTINGS IN THIS AREA, TOO.

THIS IS THE PART THAT I LIKE ABOUT DOING PROJECTS LIKE THIS BECAUSE WHAT YOU WILL SEE ON HERE, YOU KNOW, WHAT I'M SAYING, IT MAY JUST LOOK LIKE BEES IN A BEE HIVE, BUT THOSE ARE LIKE -- ABDULLAH -- THOSE ARE THE BEES, DOING THE FOOTWORK THAT IT TAKES IN ORDER TO SAY HEY, WE NEED SOME CHANGE IN OUR COMMUNITY.

IF YOU HAVE AN IDEA, SHARE IT REGARDLESS OF WHAT IT IS, YOU KNOW. BECAUSE IT MAY SOUND STUPID TO YOU, BUT, YOU KNOW, A REALLY GOOD IDEA TO OTHERS, LIKE WHEN WE WERE COMING OVER TO DESIGN FOR THE PROJECT, YOU KNOW, I DON'T KNOW IF DIAMONDS KEPT POPPING INTO MY HEAD, AND NO, THAT'S STUPID, AND I SAID IT, AND EVERYONE LOOKED AT ME, WAS LIKE OK, THAT'S EXACTLY WHAT WE NEED. I JUST FEEL LIKE ALL THAT PRESSURE IN THIS AREA, YOU KNOW, IS BUILDING UP, SO WHEN IT BUILDS UP AND THE LIGHT HITS THE DIAMOND AT THE RIGHT ANGLE, IT JUST SHINES AND RELEASES ALL THAT PRESSURE.

THE YOUTH ARE THE FUTURE. THEY ARE ALSO ARE WHAT'S HAPPENING RIGHT NOW. I THINK THE ANSWERS LIE WITHIN THEM. I THINK THEY NEED TO BE HEARD, AND WE NEED TO TAKE THE TIME TO LISTEN TO THE YOUNG PEOPLE AND THEN SUPPORT THEM IN A LOT OF THE IDEAS THAT THEY HAVE.

EMPOWERING THEM TO UNDERSTAND THAT THEY HAVE A VOICE, AND THAT THEY ARE JUST AS CAPABLE AS ANY OTHER YOUTH THAT ARE SURROUNDING THEM OR THAT THEY SEE IN OTHER PLACES, AS WELL AS GIVING THEM THE VOICE AMONGST ADULTS, YOU KNOW.

WE DID THIS PROJECT, AND THE MEMBERS OF THE CHURCH, YOU KNOW, I KNEW THE ART WOULD BE SOMETHING THAT WAS BEAUTIFUL, BUT THE RELATIONSHIP-BUILDING, THE TYPE OF RELATIONSHIP BUILDING AND THE COMMUNITY ITSELF WITH THE CHURCH, THE SCHOOL, THE RANDOM ELDERS COMING OUT AND BRING THEIR CHILDREN OUT AND THEIR FAMILY MEMBERS OUT, AND THE ACTUAL CONVERSATIONS THAT I HAVE WATCHED HAPPEN ABOUT WHY ARE YOU DOING THIS? WHYS THIS IMPORTANT?

I AM A SINGLE PARENT, I HAVE A SON THAT'S 24 YEARS OLD, I LIVE RIGHT AROUND THE CORNER, AND I KNOW HOW IMPORTANT IT IS TO MAKE SURE THAT THE YOUTH ARE ENGAGED, THAT THEY ARE INSPIRED, AND THAT THEY

HAVE OPPORTUNITIES, BUT I ALSO KNOW THAT WE'RE IN A CRISIS, TOO, WITH OUR YOUTH. THERE ARE A LOT OF THINGS OUT THERE THAT ARE PREVENTING THEM FROM BEING THE BEST THAT THEY CAN BE, AND IN VIOLENCE, IS ONE OF THEM.

OF COURSE, THIS VIOLENCE EVERYWHERE CAN'T STOP EVERY TYPE OF VIOLENCE. BUT, IT CAN STOP, YOU KNOW, FIGHTING GRAFFITI IN THIS AREA, WHICH WE GET ALL THE TIME. AS YOU CAN SEE ON THAT DOOR, THERE IS GRAFFITI, DOWN THERE ON THE SCHOOL.

THIS IS LIKE A PERFECT THING BECAUSE EVERYONE IN THIS NEIGHBORHOOD WILL HAVE A CHANCE TO SEE IT, AND, YOU KNOW, IT WILL DEVELOP QUESTIONS IN THEIR HEAD, WHAT IS THIS, AND IT WILL CREATE CONVERSATION, AND ONCE THEY FIND OUT WHAT IT'S FOR, IT GETS THE MESSAGE TO EVERYONE.

THEY ARE GOING TO GO AND TELL SOMEBODY ELSE, AND THEY ARE GOING TO GO AND TELL SOMEBODY ELSE, AND YOU ARE GETTING NEW THOUGHTS THAT MAYBE THEY NEVER HAD BEFORE.

EVERY TIME WE COME THROUGH THIS SPACE NOW, FOR THE STUDENTS TO GO TO SCHOOL HERE, THE CHURCH ACROSS THE STREET, ANYBODY WHO DRIVES THROUGH THIS AREA IS GOING TO FEEL DIFFERENTLY ABOUT THE INTERSECTION.

IT'S BEEN A REALLY LIFE CHANGING EXPERIENCE. HOPEFULLY THIS IT IS -- GETS OTHER PEOPLE TO STEP OUTSIDE THEIR COMFORT ZONE, AND GET MORE INVOLVED IN THEIR COMMUNITY." (END OF VIDEO) [APPLAUSE]

Ms. Stavenjord: SO, A VERY IMPORTANT PIECE OF OUR PROJECT WAS THAT THE YOUTH THAT WERE ENGAGED IN THE YES PROGRAM, WE MET WITH THEM WEEKLY.

LET'S SEE IT AGAIN. [LAUGHTER]

SOMEBODY SAID ENCORE, RIGHT?

Ms. Stavenjord: SO WE MET WITH THEM FROM JANUARY UNTIL THE END OF THE SCHOOL YEAR, AND DURING THE SUMMER, THEY WERE EMPLOYED THROUGH SUMMER WORKS TO IMPLEMENT THEIR OWN PROJECTS IN THE COMMUNITY. SO THIS IS AN OPPORTUNITY FOR THEM TO FEEL JUST LIKE WE DO, INSPIRED ABOUT THE JOBS THAT WE DO AND TO GIVE THEM THAT EXPERIENCE. SO, WE JUST WANT TO SAY THAT WE WOULD NOT HAVE HAD THAT OPPORTUNITY WITHOUT THE SUMMER WORKS PROGRAM AND COMMISSIONER SMITH'S OFFICE. SO, WHAT WE WANTED TO DO TODAY ON BEHALF OF THE STRYVE INITIATIVE AND OVER 50 YOUTH INVOLVED IN THE

PROJECT THIS SUMMER, WE WOULD LIKE TO PRESENT YOU WITH A MEMORY FROM THE SUMMER IMPLEMENTATION, AND WE HAVE FOR YOU ONE OF THE DOORS FROM THE 150 LIBRARIES THAT WE BUILT IN THE PROGRAM, AND SO PAM AND TRISHA ARE GOING TO PRESENT THAT TO YOU. [APPLAUSE]

Commissioner Smith: I WAS STANDING HERE THINKING, I TOLD RAFAEL, I WANT MY LIBRARY.

IT'S GOING TO COME.

WE THOUGHT ABOUT ALMOST A YEAR AGO, WE WERE LIKE YEAH, IT'S THE 150th ANNIVERSARY OF THE LIBRARY SYSTEM. 150 SOUNDS LIKE A GREAT IDEA. AND THEN FAST FORWARD LIKE SIX MONTHS, AND WE WERE LIKE WHAT? 150? WHAT WERE WE EVER THINKING. BUT WE HAVE FOUND 150 LIBRARY HOSTS, AND THESE ARE INDIVIDUALS, BUSINESSES, AND PUBLIC ORGANIZATIONS THAT ARE HOSTING THESE LIBRARIES. THEY HAVE LIMITED EDITION, PLAQUES, THAT ARE POSTED ON EACH ONE OF THEM, AND WE RECEIVED OVER 6,000 BOOKS DONATED TO FILL THE LIBRARIES, SO WE'RE REALLY VERY PROUD THAT WE FOUND SO MANY HOSTS FROM DISTRICT 1 TO DISTRICT 4 ALL ACROSS THE COUNTY, THAT WANT TO PRIORITIZE THIS PREVENTION APPROACH TO YOUTH VIOLENCE. THAT'S THE END OF OUR PRESENTATION, AND WE WOULD LOVE TO HAVE SOME QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS FROM YOU.

Chair Kafoury: THANK YOU VERY MUCH. QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS?

Commissioner Smith: MADAM CHAIR.

Chair Kafoury: YOU DON'T GET TO GO FIRST, YOU HAVE TO WAIT, SORRY. [LAUGHTER]

Chair Kafoury: YOU CAN GO FIRST.

Commissioner Smith: NO, GO AHEAD.

Commissioner McKeel: EXCUSE ME, YOU HAVE TO WAIT. I WANT TO THANK YOU FOR THIS PRESENTATION AND FOR THE GREAT WORK THAT YOU ARE DOING, AND I AM HAPPY THAT YOU'VE BEEN ABLE TO SPREAD IT ACROSS COUNTY-WIDE. I LOVE THE MAPS, REBECCA, BECAUSE I, YOU KNOW, SO OFTEN, I WILL HEAR FROM MY CONSTITUENTS, YOU KNOW, THE DEM -- DEMOGRAPHICS ARE SHIFTING AND I THINK THE MAPS GIVE US A VERY CLEAR PICTURE OF THE DEMOGRAPHICS. BUT IT ALSO POINTS OUT THE IMPORTANCE THAT THE COUNTY MOVES AROUND, MOVING THE SERVICES AROUND TO WHERE THEY ARE NEEDED, AND THE ART PROJECTS ARE SO GREAT, AND THE ROCKWOOD PLAZA WAS A GREAT ONE, AND OF COURSE, ROSEWOOD, WITH THEIR MURAL, IS AN AMAZING ART PROJECT THERE. AND ACTUALLY, YOU KNOW,

THIS MODEL REALLY WAS WHAT WAS USED FOR THE ROCKWOOD INITIATIVE. ROSEWOOD, I'M SORRY, INITIATIVE TO BRING THE COMMUNITY TOGETHER IN THE ROSEWOOD AREA AND SEE HOW THEY ADDRESSED THE ISSUES IN THEIR AREA. SO, THANK YOU. THIS IS A GREAT PRESENTATION. A GREAT WORK. REALLY APPRECIATE IT.

THANK YOU.

Commissioner Shiprack: THANK YOU ALL. WHAT EXCITING WORK. THIS IS WHY I LOVE MY JOB. STRYVE HAS DONE AN EXTRAORDINARY JOB. WE ARE NATIONAL LEADERS IN THIS WORK. YOU ARE LEADING THE NATION WITH YOUR WORK. I LOVE -- I LOVE A QUOTE THAT COMES OUT OF THE VIDEO. I THINK IT'S COMMISSIONER SMITH, IT'S YOUTH ARE THE FUTURE, BUT ALSO, WHAT'S HAPPENING RIGHT NOW. AND THAT'S A REALLY GROUNDING THOUGHT. YOUTH ARE THE FUTURE. THEY ARE ALSO WHAT'S HAPPENING RIGHT NOW. LASTLY I WANT TO THANK REBECCA'S PHOTO BOMBER WHO WANDERS THROUGH THE VIDEO SO SWEETLY LOOKING LITERALLY LIKE A LITTLE GREEN PEA, AND THANKS TO PRO PHOTO, WHAT A GREAT COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP. [APPLAUSE]

Vice-Chair Bailey: WONDERFUL FOR ME TO SEE THE WORK THAT YOU ARE DOING. I REMEMBER.

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IT'S HARD TO BELIEVE, BUT BACK WHEN I WAS A KID, THE AREA WHERE I GREW UP IN PORTLAND IN THE SUNNYSIDE NEIGHBOR WAS AN AREA STRUGGLING WITH A LOT OF ISSUES AROUND YOUTH VIOLENCE AND CRIME AND DRUG ABUSE, AND THAT INTERSECTION AT 33rd AND YAMHILL WAS ONE OF THE FIRST INTERSECTIONS TO BE PAINTED IN THE CITY. AND I THINK THAT KIND OF COMMUNITY PROJECT COMING TOGETHER, IT DOESN'T CREATE PRIDE IN YOUR COMMUNITY BUT BRINGS OUT THE PRIDE THAT PEOPLE HAVE IN THEIR COMMUNITY AND ALLOWS PEOPLE TO SHARE IN THAT TOGETHER, AND IT IS SUCH AN IMPORTANT ANCHOR POINT AS COMMUNITIES TRANSFORM THEMSELVES AND TAKE PRIDE AND OWNERSHIP IN WHERE THEY ARE. YOUR ABILITY TO INVOLVE YOUTH IN THAT, TO GIVE PEOPLE THAT SENSE OF OWNERSHIP AND PRIDE, IS SO CRITICAL AND SO IMPORTANT AND SO TRANSFORMATIVE. I LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING THIS, NOT JUST THIS PROJECT, BUT ALL KINDS OF PROJECTS LIKE THIS ACROSS MUCK AS WE LOOK AT THOSE INCREDIBLY POWERFUL SHOTS FIRED GRAPHS OR GANG ACTIVITY GRAPHS. WE HAVE A LOT OF WORK TO DO, AND I LOOK FORWARD TO SUPPORTING THIS GOING FORWARD.

THANK YOU.

Commissioner Smith: THANK YOU, MADAM CHAIR, I JUST WANT TO HAVE A COUPLE OF COMMENTS. I WANT TO THANK YOU, REBECCA, ABDULLAH FOR ALL WORK THAT YOU DO AND WORKING AS A PART OF THE SUMMER WORKS

PROGRAM. ONE OF THE THINGS THAT'S REALLY EXCITING IS THAT IN THE GOVERNOR'S BUDGET THERE IS ADDITIONAL DOLLARS POSSIBLY FOR ADDITIONAL SUMMER INTERNSHIPS, WHICH IS MUSIC TO MY EARS BECAUSE, YOU KNOW, LIKE I ALWAYS SAY, YOU KNOW, I HAVE NEVER SEEN A KID DOING A DRIVE-BY SHOOTING ON THEIR WAY TO WORK. IF THEY HAVE SOMETHING TO DO, THEY ARE GOING TO GO AND DO IT, AND WE PROVIDE THAT TOOL FOR THEM, SO THANK YOU FOR ALL THE WORK THAT YOU DO, AND I AM GOING TO PUT MY MOTHER'S HAT ON RIGHT NOW.

UH-HUH.

Commissioner Smith: WHEN YOU CAME BEFORE THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS, THIS IS WONDERFUL, AND WITHOUT THESE FOLKS RIGHT HERE, FOR THE LAST FOUR YEARS, I WANT TO, YOU KNOW, APPLAUD THEM. WHEN THEY HAVE REALLY ANSWERED THE CALL TO YOUTH EMPLOYMENT, WHEN I HAVE ASKED THEM FROM THE FIRST DAY THAT I GOT HERE, 25 JOBS, I DOUBLED, AND I HAD THE REQUESTS, 50 JOBS. MY THIRD YEAR, I DOUBLED IT TO 100. LAST YEAR, WE DID 125. BUT, THE ONLY WAY THAT WORKS IS FOR THESE FOLKS RIGHT HERE BECAUSE THEY HAVE TO VOTE ON IT, THEY HAVE SUPPORTED IT FOR THE LAST FOUR YEARS, AND I WANT TO THANK YOU PUBLICLY TO DOING THAT BECAUSE YOU ALL HAVE A LOT OF THINGS THAT YOU CAN SUPPORT, BUT THIS HAS BEEN ONE THAT YOU HAVE CONSISTENTLY SUPPORTED FOR THE LAST FOUR YEARS SO I WANT TO THANK MY BOARD, AND THE MOTHER-HEAD IS WHEN YOU BRING SOMETHING FOR ONE, AND I HAVE IS A SINGLE CHILD, YOU HAVE GOT TO BRING IT FOR EVERYONE. RIGHT.

I HEAR THAT.

SO THAT MEANS YOU EACH WANT A LIBRARY, LIKE?

Commissioner Smith: YES.

PAM IS WRITING IT DOWN RIGHT NOW. SHE'S SO EXCITED.

I WANTED TO, BUT SHE WOULDN'T LET ME.

Commissioner Smith: I CAN'T GET IT OPEN, REBECCA BUT I WANTED TO SHOW EVERYBODY WHAT THIS LOOKED LIKE. I JUST WANT TO SAY, KEEP DOING THE GOOD WORK. THANK YOU.

THANK YOU.

THANK YOU, AND THANKS TO EACH ONE OF YOU GUYS FOR WHAT YOU DO, AND BEYOND THIS CAPACITY, BUT IN EVERY CAPACITY WITHIN THE COUNTY, YOU ARE GREAT LEADERS AND WE REALLY APPRECIATE IT.

Chair Kafoury: THANK YOU. AND WHILE I WAS WATCHING THE VIDEO, I WAS ALSO WATCHING YOUR FACES, AND WAS REALLY HAPPY AND CHUCKLING TO MYSELF AS I SAW DWIGHT'S FACE WHEN HE CAME ON THE SCREEN BECAUSE IT IS REALLY HARD TO WATCH YOURSELF ON A BIG SCREEN, ISN'T IT, BUT YOU DID A WONDERFUL JOB. THE VIDEO WAS FABULOUS.

Mr. Myrick: I HAD THE PLEASURE OF SPENDING TIME -- I AM LOUD. I HAD THE PLEASURE OF SPENDING SOME TIME AT McCOY PARK LAST SUMMER ON A VERY HOT DAY WITH YOU ALL AT THE SILENCE OF VIOLENCE RALLY, AND WE DID A REALLY POWERFUL, I THINK IT WAS CALLED A HEALING CIRCLE. I CAN'T REMEMBER THE NAME OF IT, THAT I HAD NOT PARTICIPATED IN BEFORE, WHERE EVERYBODY IS SILENT, AND WE PUT TAPE OVER OUR MOUTHS WITH A WORD ON IT. LOVE, PEACE, AND ANYTHING, ANY WORD THAT YOU COULD THINK OF THAT YOU WANTED TO MENTION, AND THEN WE JUST WENT AROUND THE CIRCLE AND LOOKED AT EACH OTHER IN THE EYE, AND THERE WERE YOUNG, OLD, YOU KNOW, POLICE, ELECTED OFFICIALS, KIDS, ACTIVISTS, AND EVERYBODY, NEIGHBORS FROM THE COMMUNITY CAME OUT, AND IT WAS JUST SUCH A POWERFUL MOMENT OF, I MEAN, A LONG EVENT OF SILENCE, AND JUST REALLY BONDING WITH EACH OTHER AND SHARING OUR FEELINGS, AND I THOUGHT THIS IS THE KIND OF -- I HAD NOT SEEN THAT BEFORE, BUT IT WAS VERY EFFECTIVE AND VERY POWERFUL AS WE WERE THERE THINKING ABOUT THE VIOLENCE THAT HAD HAPPENED RECENTLY WITH SHOOTINGS AND HOW KNOWING THAT KIND OF COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS AND BRINGING YOUTH OUT TO CONNECT TO THEIR COMMUNITY IS WHAT'S REALLY GOING TO END THE VIOLENCE. SO, I WANT TO THANK YOU FOR INVITING ME TO BE A PART OF THAT, AND LOOK FORWARD TO SUPPORTING YOU IN MANY MORE EVENTS.

AND I WANT TO ADD ABOUT THE YOUTH OF TOMORROW, BUT THE CONCERN OF TODAY. ALSO THE REALITY IS THAT THERE IS A GENIUS THAT EXISTS WITHIN OUR YOUTH TODAY, AND HIGHLIGHT THAT, THAT WAS A PURELY YOUTH-LED RALLY. WE MAY HAVE FACILITATED WITH IDEALS IN TERMS OF THE HOW TO GATHER THE GROUP BUT THE YOUTH AND THE YES PROGRAM, BROUGHT THAT TO THEIR FACILITATOR, SALAZAR, AND THEY SAT DOWN AND SAID WE WANT TO DO SOMETHING, AND WE DON'T WANT TO MAKE A STATEMENT, AND EVERYBODY IS SAYING SOMETHING, AND WE WANT TO BE QUIET, AND SAY, LET'S BE PEACEFUL, LET'S BE SAFE AGAIN, SO IT'S THE GENIUS OF THE YOUTH. IT'S A RESOURCE WE NEED TO TAP MORE INTO, SO THANK YOU.

Chair Kafoury: THANK YOU. THANKS FOR COMING TODAY.

VERY NICE. THANKS FOR COMING, AND WE LOOK FORWARD TO HEARING MORE ABOUT YOUR EFFORTS NEXT YEAR. NOW WE WILL RECESS AS THE MULTNOMAH COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS AND CONVENE AS THE

MULTNOMAH COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH. WE HAVE 13 PEOPLE SIGNED UP TODAY, SO WE ARE GOING TO LIMIT OUR COMMENTS TO TWO MINUTES EACH.

(Recess as the Multnomah County Board of Commissioners and convene as the MULTNOMAH COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH)

Board of Health – 10:40 am

R.5 Board of Health Public Hearing on E-Cigarettes. Sponsor: Chair Kafoury's Office. Presenters: Commissioner Deborah Kafoury, the Board of Commissioners, Staff & Invited Guests. Public Testimony will be taken.

Chair Kafoury: THANK YOU, AND I WANT TO THANK EVERYONE FOR COMING TODAY TO THIS HEARING FROM THE BOARD OF HEALTH. THIS IS OUR SECOND PUBLIC HEARING ON THE PROPOSED ACTION TO LIMIT YOUTH ACCESS AND EXPOSURE FROM E-CIGARETTES FOR YOUTH AND FOR FOLKS IN THE WORKPLACE. SINCE NOVEMBER, THE BOARD OF HEALTH HAS HEARD THREE BRIEFINGS ABOUT YOUTH ACCESS TO AND THE HEALTH IMPACTS OF THE EMERGING E-CIGARETTE MARKET, AND THE BEST PRACTICES AND THE PRACTICES THAT OTHER COMMUNITIES HAVE ENGAGED IN NATION-WIDE TO ADDRESS YOUTH ACCESS TO TOBACCO AND NICOTINE PRODUCTS. THE MINUTES OF THOSE VIDEOS AND HEARINGS ARE AVAILABLE ON THE COUNTY WEBSITE. TODAY, WE ARE EXCITED AND INTERESTED TO HEAR COMMENTS FROM YOU ON THE SPECIFIC PROPOSALS THAT THE BOARD WILL CONSIDER NEXT WEEK ON FEBRUARY 12. SO TODAY WE'RE GOING TO BE LISTENING TO COMMENTS FOCUSED ON AN ORDINANCE WHICH WILL PROHIBIT THE USE OF E-CIGARETTES AND VAPING IN ANY MULTNOMAH COUNTY PLACE OF EMPLOYMENT WHERE SMOKING IS PROHIBITED BY AMENDING THE COUNTY'S SMOKE-FREE WORKPLACE LAW. TO PROHIBIT THE SALE OF INHALANT DELIVERY SYSTEMS TO PEOPLE UNDER AGE 18, TO PROHIBIT THE PURCHASE OF INHALANT DELIVERY SYSTEMS BY PEOPLE UNDER AGE 18, AND TO PROHIBIT PEOPLE UNDER AGE 18 FROM POSSESSING INHALANT DELIVERY SYSTEMS. IN ADDITION, THE BOARD OF HEALTH WILL CONTEMPLATE INDICATING OUR SUPPORT FOR THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS, CONSIDER LICENSING TOBACCO AND INHALANT DELIVERY SYSTEM RETAILERS. IF THE LEGISLATURE IS NOT SUCCESSFUL IN ITS DESIRE TO CREATE A STATEWIDE LICENSING SYSTEM IN THIS SESSION. LAST BUT NOT LEAST IF YOU ARE NOT ABLE TO JOIN US TODAY OR IF YOU HAVE FRIENDS OR FAMILY WHO ARE INTERESTED IN COMMENTING, YOU CAN SUBMIT YOUR COMMENTS ONLINE AT WWW.MULTCO.US, AND WE RECEIVED A LARGE NUMBER OF COMMENTS TO DATE. SO THANK YOU. WE ARE GOING TO LIMIT THE COMMENTS TO TWO MINUTES EACH.

Chair Kafoury: GOOD MORNING.
GOOD MORNING. SHOULD I GO AHEAD AND GET STARTED?

Chair Kafoury: YEAH.

GOOD MORNING. CHAIR KAFOURY, AND COMMISSIONERS. I AM CHRISTINE LAU WITH ASIAN HEALTH, AND THANK YOU FOR THE OPPORTUNITY TO SPEAK BEFORE YOU TODAY ABOUT THE E-CIGARETTES AND HOW IT AFFECTS THE MULTNOMAH COUNTY RESIDENTS. THE CENTER WAS ONE OF THE FOUR COMMUNITY-BASED ORGANIZATIONS THAT CONDUCTED THE TOBACCO ASSESSMENT IN MULTNOMAH COUNTY WITH THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT STAFF. WE TOOK GREAT INTEREST INTO THIS WORK BECAUSE TOBACCO USE IS THE ISSUE AND IT REALLY BROUGHT AN IMPACT TO OUR ASIAN MEMBERS IN DIFFERENT WAYS OF THEIR LIVES. I WILL TALK ABOUT SOME OF THE STORIES THAT I HEAR COMING UP. WHEN WE ARE DOING THE ASSESSMENT, WITH THE STAFF OF THE COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT, THERE ARE SOME EYE-OPENING FACTS THAT WE WANT TO PRESENT TO YOU TODAY. OF ALL THE STORES THAT WE WENT TO, NONE DISPLAY A WARNING SIGN ABOUT HEALTH ON TOBACCO USAGE, ONLY ONE. THE SECOND THING, I FIND SO EYE OPENING, WE DON'T KNOW -- THERE IS NO LICENSING TO SELL TOBACCO. WE DON'T KNOW THAT BEFORE WE DO THIS, AND ANOTHER THING IS WE FIND OUT A LOT OF TOBACCO PRODUCTS ARE SO ATTRACTIVE, IN BRIGHT COLOR, BESIDE THE HEALTHY FOODS, AND THEN BESIDE THE TOYS, AND CANDIES. SO, WHICH MEANS OUR CHILDREN ARE MINORS, WILL GO TO THAT CORNER. AND ANOTHER THING IS, IS WE REALLY THINK THAT, YOU KNOW, THAT BEFORE WE ARE ABLE TO DEAL WITH THIS, AND THEN WE FIND OUT ABOUT E-CIGARETTES, WHICH IS ANOTHER THING THAT REALLY AFFECTS OUR MIND AND OUR CHILDREN, AND BRING UP A LOT OF CONCERN TO OUR COMMUNITY. SO TODAY, I AM HERE TO PRESENT SOME OF THE STORIES I HEAR FROM A LOT OF NON ENGLISH SPEAKERS, COMMUNITY MEMBERS, THAT THEY CANNOT BE HERE TODAY, AND WHAT THEY TOLD ME IS FAMILY MEMBERS IS, A MOTHER, BEING DIAGNOSED WITH LUNG CANCER, BUT BECAUSE, YOU KNOW, THE NON SMOKER ALL HER LIFE, OR TEENAGER CHILDREN, SMOKING TOBACCO, THE BEHAVIORAL PROBLEM, PARENT WAS SO SHOCKED TO FIND OUT HOW CAN THEY ASSESS TOBACCO PRODUCTS, AND WE HAVE MEMBERS THAT TALK ABOUT, YOU KNOW, IF THERE IS A LICENSE FOR THEM TO FOLLOW, THEY WILL FOLLOW THE LAW BUT THEY ARE NOT SURE.

Chair Kafoury: WE HAVE TO LIMIT OUR TESTIMONY TO TWO MINUTES BECAUSE WE HAVE SO MANY SPEAKERS, CAN YOU TURN IN, IF YOU HAVE LONGER THAN THAT, YOU CAN SUBMIT IT.

Ms. Lau: THE PROBLEM IS THERE ARE SO MANY TYPE OF TOBACCO PRODUCTS, HIGHLY PROMOTED AND GLAMORIZED AND EASY TO ACCESS. LOW INCOME AND COMMUNITIES OF COLOR ARE BEING TARGETED. RESEARCH SHOWS THAT IF YOU ARE POOR, YOU'RE MORE LIKELY TO SMOKE. YOU'RE LESS LIKELY TO QUIT. AND MORE LIKELY TO LOSE YOUR

LIFE TO LUNG CANCER. AND THE REALITY IS THAT IT IS VERY PREVENTABLE. IT HAS AN ENORMOUS HEALTH CARE COST. WE HAVE NO TOBACCO -- MORE THAN 3,000 KIDS UNDER 18 BECOME DAILY SMOKERS EACH YEAR. 68,000 KIDS UNDER 18 AND ALIVE IN OREGON TODAY WILL ULTIMATELY DIE PREMATURELY FROM SMOKING. THE JURY IS STILL OUT ON WHETHER E-CIGARETTES ACTUALLY HELP PEOPLE QUIT. WE KNOW FROM STUDIES THAT INCREASING THE COST OF TOBACCO PRODUCT IS THE BEST STRATEGY TO DECREASE SMOKING. AND PRODUCTS ARE AVAILABLE IN A VARIETY OF PLACES, COFFEE SHOPS, EVERYWHERE. AND WE DON'T REALLY KNOW IN OREGON WHO IS CURRENTLY SELLING. FIVE RECOMMENDATIONS THAT WE RECOMMEND TO REDUCE THE HEALTH IMPACTS. LICENSING, TOBACCO RETAIL, SETTING AGE RESTRICTIONS FOR E-CIGARETTES, UPDATING THE CLEAN AIR ACT, RESTRICTING RETAILERS NEAR SCHOOLS. AND TAXING E-CIGARETTES. SIMPLY SAID, WHEN TOBACCO IS SWEET, CHEAP, AND AVAILABLE, KIDS ARE GOING TO USE IT. THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR YOUR TIME AND COMMITMENT TO OUR COMMUNITIES.

Chair Kafoury: THANK YOU.

I'M DR. MEER JAIN, MEDICAL DIRECTOR, TOBACCO CESSATION AND PREVENTION, PROVIDENCE MEDICAL HEALTH SERVICES, PRACTICES BOARD CERTIFIED, MEMBER OF THE PROVIDENCE INTERNAL MEDICINE RESIDENCY TEACHING FACULTY. I'M A CONCERNED CITIZEN AND MOTHER TO A 10-YEAR-OLD WHO ATTENDS A PORTLAND PUBLIC SCHOOL. EVERY DAY IN THE HOSPITAL AND CLINIC I SEE THE DEVASTATION OF TOBACCO. VAPING INDUSTRY WANTS TO SELL US THE BELIEF THAT VAPING IS THE ANSWER TO SAVE EVERYONE FROM TOBACCO. WHO DOESN'T WANT THAT? I ASK THAT WE BE CAUTIOUS AND WISE. THE VAPING INDUSTRY IS GROWING. BIG TOBACCO HAS JOINED IN AND ALL OF THE BIG TOBACCO COMPANIES NOW MAKE ELECTRONIC CIGARETTES. VAPING AND BIG TOBACCO ARE WORKING TOGETHER ON A COMMON PLATFORM, TO INCREASE THE MARKET SHARE, SELL THEIR PRODUCTS, AND MAKE MONEY BY ADDICTING PEOPLE TO THEIR PRODUCTS. VAPING AND BIG TOBACCO SAY THEIR PRODUCTS ARE SAFE AND HELP SMOKERS QUIT. THESE ARE JUST CLAIMS AND BRILLIANT MARKETING. THERE IS NO PROOF ABOUT SAFETY. WE WON'T HAVE HARM INFORMATION FOR YEARS TO COME AND CURRENTLY THERE IS NO SUBSTANTIAL SCIENTIFIC EVIDENCE IN PEER REVIEW JOURNALS THAT ELECTRONIC CIGARETTES REALLY EVEN HELP SMOKERS QUIT, BUT WE HAVE SCIENTIFIC EVIDENCE THAT FDA APPROVED MEDICATIONS AND BEHAVIORAL INTERVENTIONS DO HELP PEOPLE QUIT. I RUN A TOBACCO CLINIC, AND NOT A SINGLE PERSON IN THE CLINIC HAS SUCCESSFULLY QUIT SMOKING WITH ELECTRONIC CIGARETTES. STUDY PUBLISHED IN 2014, CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL, SHOW THAT MORE THAN A QUARTER MILLION MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS WHO HAD NEVER SMOKED CIGARETTES TRIED THEIR FIRST ELECTRONIC CIGARETTE IN 2013, UP THREE TIMES FROM THE PREVIOUS FEW YEARS. ANOTHER STUDY SHOWED

THAT OVER HALF OF -- ALSO SMOKE REGULAR CIGARETTES. MY LAST POINT IS PERHAPS THE MOST IMPORTANT. E-CIGARETTES AND VAPING ARE NICOTINE DELIVERY DEVICES. NICOTINE IS ONE OF THE MOST ADDICTING SUBSTANCES KNOWN. ON PAR WITH METH AND HEROIN. AND OFTEN MORE DIFFICULT TO QUIT THAN EITHER OF THOSE. NICOTINE ACTS ON THE BRAIN TO CAUSE ADDICTION IN THE MAJORITY OF ITS USERS. YOUNG PEOPLE ARE PARTICULARLY VULNERABLE AS THEIR BRAINS ARE DEVELOPING. AN ADDICTION ESTABLISHED IN TEENAGE YEARS IS MORE LIKELY TO LAST A LIFETIME. MOST SMOKERS WILL TELL YOU THAT THEY WANT TO QUIT. MOST SMOKERS ARE UNABLE TO QUIT. MANY SMOKERS DON'T HAVE THE MONEY, BUT THEIR NICOTINE ADDICTION KEEPS THEM SPENDING.

Chair Kafoury: WE HAVE A LOT OF FOLKS THAT NEED TO TESTIFY.

THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

Chair Kafoury: THANK YOU. GOOD MORNING.

GOOD MORNING. HELLO, MY NAME IS NATALIE BARARIOS. IN 11th GRADE, 16 YEARS OLD. MY SISTERS WERE BORN SEVEN MONTHS INTO THE PREGNANCY BECAUSE OF THIS, THEIR LUNGS ARE UNDERDEVELOPED. THEY WERE DIAGNOSED WITH ASTHMA 18 MONTHS OLD. THEY ARE THREE NOW AND THEY USE AN INHALER. IT'S BEEN A ROUGH TIME FOR US. WE ALWAYS KEEP -- TRY TO KEEP THEM AWAY FROM GETTING ASTHMA ATTACKS, BUT WE DON'T ALWAYS OBTAIN THAT GOAL. WHEN OUT WITH OUR FAMILY, WE COME ACROSS PEOPLE WHO SMOKE CIGARETTES, AND E-CIGARETTES. I DON'T WANT THEM TO GET SECONDHAND SMOKE INTO THEIR LUNGS SO WE OFTEN WALK AWAY. NO ONE IN MY FAMILY SMOKES. SO WHEN WE'RE OUT, IT'S SAD TO SEE THEM GET EXPOSURE TO A HABIT THAT COULD POTENTIALLY CAUSE THEM HARM OR AN ASTHMA ATTACK. THE REASON I JOINED THE REBELS CLUB AT MADISON TO HELP BUILD A FOUNDATION FOR PEOPLE AND STUDENTS OF MY SCHOOL TO UNDERSTAND THE EFFECTS OF SMOKING. HOPEFULLY PEOPLE WILL UNDERSTAND THAT THEY'RE NOT ONLY HARMING THEMSELVES BUT HARMING OTHERS IN THE SURROUNDING. SO MANY PEOPLE OUT THERE WHO HAVE BREATHING PROBLEMS AND PEOPLE WHO SMOKE ARE ENDANGERING THEIR LIVES. I NOW LIVE IN A PERIOD OF TIME WHERE MOST OF THE PEOPLE AROUND ME IN MY COMMUNITY SMOKE ON A REGULAR BASIS, WHICH MEANS IT IS BECOMING MORE OF A NORMAL HABIT BUT IT SHOULDN'T BE. THE YOUTH, OUR FUTURE, SHOULD NOT GROW UP IN A TIME WHEN SMOKING CIGARETTES, E-CIGARETTES IS NORMAL. TEENAGERS AND ADULTS SEEM TO -- THINK E-CIGARETTES HEALTHIER AND CAUSES THEM NO HARM, BUT IT CONTAINS NICOTINE. I HAVE FRIENDS WHO BELIEVE THAT THE PENS ARE HEALTHY OR SAFE, BUT THEY DON'T REALIZE THAT THEY NOT ONLY CONTAIN WATER. WHENEVER I TRY TO GIVE THEM INFORMATION ABOUT E-CIGARETTES, AND VAPE PENCILS, THEY TRULY CONTAIN, THEY

TURN ME DOWN. PUSH ME AWAY, EVEN THOUGH I KNOW I'M RIGHT. I HAVE THE INFORMATION TO BACK ME UP. IT'S UPSETTING BECAUSE I DON'T WANT TO SEE THEM GET ADDICTED. THE REBELS, WE ARE DOING AN EVENT CALLED KICK BUTTS DAY IN OUR SCHOOLS AND WE WOULD LOVE IT IF YOU GUYS WOULD LIKE TO COME. THANK YOU FOR HAVING ME HERE.

Chair Kafoury: THANK YOU. IF YOU WOULD LET US KNOW WHEN THAT EVENT IS OCCURRING, I'M SURE WOULD LOVE TO JOIN YOU.

THANK YOU.

Chair Kafoury: YOU CAN GET STARTED.

GOOD MORNING. MY NAME IS LINDA ROMAN. DEAR CHAIR KAFOURY AND MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL, HEALTH POLICY COORDINATOR OF THE OREGON LATINO HEALTH COALITION, AN ADVOCACY ORGANIZATION THAT HELPS FORM AND SHAPE POLICY. THANK YOU FOR THE OPPORTUNITY TO TESTIFY TODAY. AS AN ORGANIZATION, WE TOOK GREAT INTEREST IN THE WORK BECAUSE TOBACCO USE IS A LEADING CAUSE OF PREVENTABLE DEATH IN THE UNITED STATES. WE HOLD DEEP CONCERNS THAT OUR YOUTH WILL CONTINUE TO HAVE ACCESS TO HARMFUL PRODUCTS LIKE E-CIGARETTES. THE OREGON LATINO HEALTH COALITION SUPPORTS YOUR CONSIDERATION TO ESTABLISH AN AGE RESTRICTION FOR PURCHASING AND SALES OF ELECTRONIC CIGARETTES TO MINORS AND -- WE BELIEVE THESE ARE COMMON SENSE CONSIDERATIONS. AS WE CONTINUE TO MAKE STRIDES TO PROTECT OUR YOUTH FROM HARMFUL PRODUCTS, WE WOULD LIKE TO DRAW YOUR ATTENTION ON THE IMPORTANCE OF IMPLEMENTING AND CONSIDERATION OF A TOBACCO INHALANT RETAIL LICENSING SYSTEM. WE SUPPORT A STATEWIDE SOLUTION, BECAUSE WE ARE CONCERNED ABOUT UNDERAGE TOBACCO USAGE AND ILLEGAL SALES TO OUR YOUTH. CLEAR WITHOUT A LICENSING SYSTEM, SALES TO CHILDREN AND ADOLESCENTS WILL CONTINUE TO BE PREVALENT IN OUR COMMUNITIES. WE -- HIGHLY MARKETING FOR CERTAIN PRODUCTS LIKE MARLBORO, NEWPORT AND CAMEL, THREE HEAVILY ADVERTISED BRANDS. EMERGING COMMUNITIES, LIKE THE LATINO COMMUNITY IN OREGON ARE RELATIVELY YOUNG AND WILL CONTINUE TO BE TARGETED FOR THESE PRODUCTS. UNTIL WE IMPLEMENT A HOLISTIC REMEDY TO THESE ISSUES, LIKE A RETAIL SYSTEM, OUR COMMUNITIES WILL CONTINUE TO BE DISPROPORTIONATELY TARGETED. CHAIR, MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL, WE - - THAT IN THE EVENT THAT A STATEWIDE SOLUTION IS NOT MET, MULTNOMAH COUNTY WILL DO THE RIGHT THING AND IMPLEMENT A LICENSING SYSTEM. THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR YOUR TIME AND YOUR COMMITMENT TO THESE COMMUNITIES. THANK YOU.

Chair Kafoury: THANK YOU. GOOD MORNING.

MY NAME IS PAUL BATES. I OWN DIVISION VAPOR, A LOCAL DEDICATED VAPE SHOP TO THE OPEN VAPING SYSTEM. I WOULD LIKE TO STRESS TO EVERYBODY HERE THAT THERE REALLY ARE TWO DIFFERENT VAPING PRODUCTS OUT THERE. THERE ARE YOUR -- SOLD BY BIG TOBACCO. WE ARE TRYING TO LIMIT THINGS AND SAVE THEIR MARKETPLACE. AND THEN THERE IS THE OPEN VAPING SYSTEM. THESE ARE DIFFERENT. I WANT EVERYBODY HERE TO THINK BECOME TO THINGS THEY ONCE HATED BUT NOW LOVE. IT COULD BE A JACKSON POLLACK PAINTING, COULD BE SUSHI. COULD BE THAT PERSON YOU MARRIED. REQUIRED A PARADIGM SHIFT IN THINKING TO REALIZE THAT THIS IS THE THING THAT IS BEAUTIFUL. I -- FIRST SAW THE PAINTING, I THOUGHT, HEY, MY FIVE-YEAR-OLD COULD DO THAT. BUT IN TRUTH, IT WAS A GORGEOUS THING. AND THAT IS WHAT THE OPEN VAPING SYSTEM IS. OPEN VAPING WILL ERADICATE TOBACCO AS A PRODUCT IN 20 YEARS. WE WILL ERADICATE SMOKING. PEOPLE WILL NO MORE SMOKE THAN THEY SMOKE CIGARS TODAY. YOU WILL HAVE IT GO TO A SPECIALTY SHOP TO DO IT. WE WILL ERADICATE SMOKING COMPLETELY. LET ME REMIND YOU TOBACCO NICOTINE IS DIFFERENT THAN NICOTINE IN OPEN VAPING PRODUCTS. IT IS NOT SUPERCHARGED. IF EVERYBODY REMEMBERS BACK TO WHY TOBACCO PAID THEIR HUGE SETTLEMENT, BECAUSE THEY MESSED WITH A NATURAL PRODUCT TO SUPERCHARGE IT AND MAKE NICOTINE SOMEWHAT LIKE CRACK COCAINE. THEY MADE IT HIT HARDER AND FASTER. AND THAT WAS PROVEN BY CATCHING THEIR SECRET MEMOS AND ALL OF THE FIDDLING THEY DID TO SUPER-CHARGE THE NICOTINE AND MAKE IT HIT FASTER. NICOTINE, AS CONTAINED IN OPEN VAPING PRODUCTS, IS A MUCH MORE BENIGN SUBSTANCE. MAYBE JUST ABOVE CAFFEINE IN ITS EFFECTS. THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR YOUR TIME. I WOULD LIKE PEOPLE TO REALLY THINK ABOUT WHAT WE ARE DOING AND HOW MUCH GOOD WE CAN DO, BECAUSE THERE IS ALMOST NO SUBSTANCE IN THE VAPING PROCESS THAT IS NEARLY AS HARMFUL AS TOBACCO SMOKE. WE ARE VAPOR, NOT TOBACCO. THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME.

Chair Kafoury: THANK YOU. GOOD MORNING.

Ms. Dumas: GOOD MORNING, CHAIR KAFOURY AND COMMISSIONERS. I'M THE COMMUNITY HEALTH WORKER PROGRAM COORDINATOR AT THE URBAN LEAGUE OF PORTLAND. E-CIGARETTES, CIGARS -- OTHER TYPES OF TOBACCO PRODUCTS ARE NOT CURRENTLY SUBJECT TO REGULATION, CDC SAID FINDINGS INDICATE THAT MORE EFFORTS ARE NEEDED TO MONITOR AND PREVENT ALL YOUNG PEOPLE FROM TAKING UP THE USE OF CONVENTIONAL AND NONCONVENTIONAL FORMS OF TOBACCO. THERE ARE QUESTIONS ABOUT HOW SAFE IT IS TO -- SINCE E-CIGARETTES ARE NOT LABELED WITH THEIR INGREDIENTS, THE USER DOESN'T KNOW WHAT'S IN THEM. THE AMOUNT OF NICOTINE AND OTHER SUBSTANCES THAT A PERSON GETS FROM EACH CARTRIDGE IS ALSO UNCLEAR. STUDY BY THE FDA FOUND CANCER CAUSING SUBSTANCES IN HALF OF THE E-CIGARETTE

SAMPLES TESTED. OTHER IMPURITIES WERE ALSO FOUND, ONE SAMPLE WITH A TOXIC COMPOUND FOUND IN ANTIFREEZE, RAPIDLY ABSORBED AND DISTRIBUTED WITHIN THE BODY. STUDIES HAVE SHOWN THAT E-CIGARETTES CAN CAUSE SHORT TERM LUNG CHANGES, BUT LONG-TERM HEALTH EFFECTS STILL UNCLEAR. THIS IS AN ACTIVE AREA OF RESEARCH. WE KNOW THAT ELECTRONIC CIGARETTES ARE DESIGNED TO DELIVER NICOTINE AND NICOTINE IS ADDICTIVE. E-CIGARETTES LEAD TO DEPENDENCE UNLESS THE USER WEANS HIM OR HERSELF FROM THEM. THE BOTTOM LINE, THERE IS NO SUCH THING AS A SAFE SMOKE. BECAUSE WE DON'T KNOW YET WHETHER E-CIGARETTES ARE SAFE AND EFFECTIVE, WE CANNOT RECOMMEND THEM TO HELP PEOPLE QUIT SMOKING. THERE ARE PROVEN METHODS AVAILABLE TO HELP PEOPLE QUIT, INHALABLE NICOTINE, NASAL SPRAYS, GUMS, PATCHES -- ALTHOUGH WE ARE TOTALLY SUPPORTIVE OF THE POLICY CHANGES TO KEEP -- WE KNOW MUCH MORE HAS TO BE DONE TO HELP AFRICAN-AMERICAN COMMUNITY MEMBERS WITH TOBACCO ADDICTION STOP SMOKING. LAKISHA WILL SPEAK MORE ABOUT THE -- I WANTED TO SAY THAT WE SUPPORT THE RECOMMENDATIONS AND URGE YOU TO MOVE SWIFTLY TO A TOBACCO LICENSING SYSTEM THAT WILL MONITOR TRADITIONAL E-CIGARETTE SALES AND REGULATE THE SALES OF THESE NEW TOBACCO PRODUCTS.

Ms. Junkeer: GOOD MORNING, CHAIR KAFOURY, COUNTY COMMISSIONERS. I'M A COMMUNITY HEALTH WORKER AND PEER SUPPORT SPECIALIST, AND AFRICAN-AMERICAN TEEN SMOKERS HAVE A GREATER RISK OF DEVELOPING LONG-TERM CONSEQUENCES FROM SMOKING THAN OTHER ETHNIC GROUPS AND ARE IN DANGER OF EXPERIENCING THE NEGATIVE EFFECTS OF TOBACCO EARLIER IN THEIR LIFETIMES. IT IS GOING TO BE A LOT OF PEOPLE TALKING ABOUT A WHOLE LOT OF FACTS. I WILL TALK FROM MY EXPERIENCE. I THINK E-CIGARETTES ARE A NORMALIZING DEVICE USED IN OTHER ADDICTIONS. LIKE TO THIS DAY, THERE HAS BEEN MANY HOUSES THAT HAVE EXPLODED FROM THE EXTRACTION OF THE THC FROM THE MARIJUANA THAT GOES INTO THE VAPES AND E-CIGARETTES. AND I THINK E-CIGARETTES ARE A GATEWAY TO POTENTIALLY LEAD TO DRUG USE, HEAVY ABUSE OF THINGS THAT YOU SMOKE IN PIPE FORM, LIKE MARIJUANA, CRACK, METH, THINGS LIKE THAT. AND YOUTH TEND TO ASSIMILATE TO WHAT'S GOING ON AROUND THEM. SO THE KEY POINTS ARE THAT E-CIGARETTES NEED TO BE INCLUDED IN THE INDOOR AIR ACT, BECAUSE THEY RELEASE NICOTINE IN THEIR -- IN THE AIR, WHICH AFFECTS KIDS AND ADULTS, AND IT WILL BE CRITICAL TO MOVE FORWARD, TOBACCO RETAIL LICENSING SYSTEM IN ORDER TO SOLVE THE PROBLEM. OREGON HAS THE HIGHEST RATE IN THE COUNTRY OF CIGARETTE SALES TO MINORS. IF WE CREATE AN AGE RESTRICTION ON E-CIGARETTES, BETTER LICENSING AND ENFORCEMENT SYSTEM, THEN WE WILL HAVE THE SAME PROBLEM OF SERVE TO MINORS AND SUPPORT AGE RESTRICTIONS IS A COMMON SENSE APPROACH TO KEEP KIDS AWAY FROM TOBACCO PRODUCTS. THANKS.

Chair Kafoury: THANK YOU.

Chair Kafoury: YOU CAN START, MR. GAGE.

FIRST OF ALL, I WOULD LIKE TO THANK THE COMMISSIONERS FOR ALLOWING ME TO TESTIFY THIS MORNING.

Chair Kafoury: SAY YOUR NAME FIRST.

MY NAME IS JOHNNY GAGE. I ACTUALLY WORK HERE IN PORTLAND. I HAVE A SMALL CONSULTING PRACTICE IN PORTLAND. MOST OF MY CAREER HAS BEEN SPENT WORKING IN YOUTH DEVELOPMENT. AND I THINK I WANT TO JUST TAKE A TURN TO, A SLIGHT TURN IN TERMS OF WHAT I WILL BE TALKING ABOUT. I WANT TO TALK MORE ABOUT THE SOCIAL RISK FOR HIGH-RISK YOUTH IN TERMS OF SMOKING. AN EXAMPLE WOULD BE IF YOU TOOK A CHILD THAT WAS 12 YEARS OLD, GETTING UP IN THE MORNING, EATING BREAKFAST, KISSING MOM GOODBYE AND WALKING OUT THE DOOR ON THE WAY TO SCHOOL AND WALK INTO AN ENVIRONMENT WHERE THERE ARE GANGS ON THE CORNER, DRUGS ON THE CORNER, IT IS EASY TO UNDERSTAND THAT THAT CHILD WOULD BE EXPOSED TO HIGH-RISK FACTORS. HE WOULD BE EXPOSED TO THE RISKS THAT EXIST OUT IN THE COMMUNITY. IF THAT SAME CHILD WOKE UP IN THE MORNING, AND IN HIS HOUSEHOLD EXISTED A BROTHER THAT WAS SELLING DRUGS OR A MOM OR DAD THAT WAS DRINKING, NOW THAT CHILD IS AT HIGH RISK. SO, WE HAVE TO PAY VERY CLOSE ATTENTION TO THOSE RISK FACTORS, AND THOSE RISK FACTORS HAVE FAR MORE TO DO WITH THE ENVIRONMENT THAN THEY DO THE CHILD HIM OR HERSELF. SO, WHAT WE HAVE TO PAY VERY CLOSE ATTENTION TO IS THE IMPACT THAT WE HAVE ON THOSE RISK FACTORS. AND WE KNOW THAT THE RISK FACTORS THAT REALLY START TO SEE KIDS GO OFF THE CHART IS THAT RISKY BEHAVIOR. THAT'S HOW WE DETERMINE WHETHER OR NOT KIDS ARE AT RISK OR AT HIGH RISK IS THEY START EXHIBITING RISKY BEHAVIORS. AND ONE OF THOSE RISKY BEHAVIORS IS SMOKING. SO, I THINK THAT US AS RESPONSIBLE ADULTS, WHEN WE LOOK AT THE FACT THAT TO INCREASE THOSE RISK FACTORS IS TO ALLOW SITUATIONS TO COME ABOUT WHERE SMOKING NOW IS WRAPPED IN YOU KNOW SWEET BUBBLE GUM TASTE, THAT THAT ONLY, I THINK, ENTICES KIDS TO DO MORE AND BE WILLING TO SMOKE MORE. I JUST WANT TO COME FROM THAT PERSPECTIVE.

Chair Kafoury: THANK YOU. GOOD MORNING.

Ms. Fai: GOOD MORNING CHAIR KAFOURY AND MEMBERS OF THE MULTNOMAH COUNTY COMMISSIONERS. I AM A CHRONIC DISEASE PREVENTION PROGRAM MANAGER AT UPSTREAM PUBLIC HEALTH OF WHICH TOBACCO PREVENTION IS A PRIORITY AREA. UPSTREAM PUBLIC HEALTH, A

NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION WORKING TO CREATE THE SOCIAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS IN WHICH ALL OREGONIANS CAN BE HEALTHY AND THRIVE. I'M HERE WITH YOU THIS MORNING TO TESTIFY IN FAVOR OF YOUR CONSIDERATIONS AS A PORTAL TO PROTECT YOUNG KIDS IN MULTNOMAH COUNTY FROM TOBACCO AND NICOTINE PRODUCTS. TODAY WE HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO PREVENT HARM TO FUTURE GENERATIONS OF CHILDREN. ESPECIALLY THOSE EXPERIENCING ECONOMIC HARDSHIP, AND OUR YOUTH OF COLOR. WE HAVE A COLLECTIVE RESPONSIBILITY TO TAKE CARE OF OUR COMMUNITIES AND UNFORTUNATELY WE HAVE MISSED THE BOAT IN THE PAST IN PREVENTING NICOTINE AND TOBACCO USE. WE MUST ACT RIGHT NOW. ONE IN THREE NATIVE AMERICAN AND BLACK ADULTS USE TOBACCO. IT TROUBLES ME THAT EVERY THIRD HIGH SCHOOL JUNIOR YOU MEET TODAY OR WRITE NOW HAS ALREADY REPORTED USING SMOKELESS TOBACCO. YES, WE DO NOT KNOW ALL OF THE DANGERS OF ELECTRONIC CIGARETTES YET. WHILE I'M ENCOURAGED THAT ADULTS CAN USE THEM TO HELP TRANSITION AWAY FROM THE POISONS IN CONVENTIONAL CIGARETTES AND LESS HARMFUL NICOTINE VAPOR, WE ALSO KNOW THAT NICOTINE IS HIGHLY ADDICTIVE. CONSIDERING NEARLY 80% OF PEOPLE WHO TRY TO QUIT SMOKING RELAPSE. IT ME, E-CIGARETTES MIGHT BE SWITCHING FROM ONE ADDICTION TO ANOTHER. NICOTINE IS POISONOUS AND MORE ADDICTIVE THAN COCAINE AND HEROIN. NICOTINE RESEARCH -- WHY WOULD WE NOT WANT TO KEEP THESE TOXIC AND HARMFUL PRODUCTS FROM THE HANDS OF CHILDREN? ENOUGH IS ENOUGH. WE DO NOT NEED TO WAIT AND SHOULD NOT WAIT FOR 50 YEARS TO IDENTIFY THIS AS A PUBLIC HEALTH HAZARD. OUR COMMUNITIES OF COLOR -- I WILL WRAP IT UP -- OUR COMMUNITIES OF COLOR HAVE ALREADY CARRIED TOO MUCH BURDEN OF HISTORY OF TOBACCO PUSHING IN THEIR COMMUNITIES. WE NEED TO IMPOSE A SIMILAR AGE RESTRICTION AND WE NEED TO IDENTIFY A MECHANISM TO ENSURE COMPLIANCE AT THE POINT OF SALE LEVEL, RETAIL LICENSING SYSTEM WITH ENFORCEMENT. OTHERWISE SLAPPING AN AGE RESTRICTION ON E-CIGS, DOES LITTLE TO ADEQUATELY ADDRESS THE TOBACCO AND NICOTINE PROBLEM. ACCORDING TO THE -- OREGON THE HIGHEST ILLEGAL SALES RATE IN THE COUNTRY. WE NEED TO ADDRESS THAT PROBLEM AND LICENSING THIS SYSTEM WOULD ENSURE THAT --

Chair Kafoury: THANK YOU.

I WILL JUST SAY ONE MORE THING. I'M ALSO IN FAVOR OF YOUR RECOMMENDATION TO INCLUDE E-CIGS IN THE INDOOR CLEAN AIR ACT TO ENSURE THAT EVERYONE BREATHES AIR THAT IS FREE OF NICOTINE WHICH AFFECTS KIDS AND ADULTS. I -- I WILL JUST SHARE THIS QUICK STORY.

Chair Kafoury: WE CAN SPEND TIME IN THE BACK. THANK YOU.

Ms. McKeever: HI. PRESIDENT AND CEO OF AFRICAN-AMERICAN HEALTH COALITION, AND DITTO WHAT SHE SAID. DONE. I JUST WANT TO TAKE A LITTLE BROADER PERSPECTIVE AND DEFINITELY WE'RE IN SUPPORT OF THIS. HOWEVER, I JUST WANTED TO GO ON RECORD TO TALK ABOUT WHERE OUR RESOURCES GO. AND I'M GLAD WE'RE MOVING AWAY FROM UPSTREAM, DOWNSTREAM, IF YOU'RE NOT WORKING UPSTREAM, YOU'RE SEEN AS NOT BEING -- THINKING BROAD ENOUGH. WHEN WE HAVE A TOBACCO PREVENTION PROGRAM FOR THE STATE, WE ACTUALLY DIDN'T APPLY THE SECOND YEAR, EVEN THOUGH WE MET ALL OF THE DELIVERABLES, BECAUSE WHAT PEOPLE WANTED AND NEEDED WAS CESSATION. AND THAT'S ONE THING THAT NEVER WAS COVERED. AND, SO, AS YOU LOOK IN COMMUNITIES OF COLOR, WE HAVE TO CHANGE THE ENVIRONMENT. THAT'S WHY I SUPPORT THIS. BUT AS OPPORTUNITIES COME AND RESOURCES COME, WE REALLY NEED TO GO AND PROVIDE SERVICES IN THE COMMUNITY THAT PEOPLE REALLY WANT TO STOP SMOKING. THEY REALLY DO AND THEY NEED HELP AND IT IS NOT JUST CALL 1-800-QUIT. WE NEED TO PUT MORE THINGS OUT THERE FOR THEM TO BE ABLE TO DO. SO I SUPPORT IT AND I ASK YOU TO SUPPORT THE COMMUNITY AND PROVIDE OPPORTUNITY TO GET RESOURCES THAT THEY WANT AND NEED. THANK YOU.

Chair Kafoury: THANK YOU.

I DIDN'T WANT TO GET BEEPED. [LAUGHTER]

MY NAME IS DAVID PLENN. I FULLY BELIEVE THAT MINORS SHOULD NOT BE SMOKING. THEY SHOULDN'T BE PLAYING WITH ELECTRONIC CIGARETTES OR ANYTHING. PUTTING AGE RESTRICTIONS ON THAT, ABSOLUTELY NEEDED. WE HAVE STORES ACROSS THE COUNTRY AND WE IMPLY THE RULES REGARDLESS OF EVEN THOUGH THE LAW IS IN PLACE IN THIS COUNTY OR IN THIS STATE, WE STILL MANAGE TO PUT THAT RULE IN PLACE IN OUR STORES. WE HAVE SIGNAGE ON THE WINDOWS. THEY CARD EVERYBODY. LITTLE GRANNIES ON DOWN, EVERYBODY GETS CARDED. MY BIGGEST CONCERN IS THE CLEAN AIR ACT. NOT OPPOSED TO IT. AS A MATTER OF FACT, I CAN UNDERSTAND THE IMPORTANCE OF IT. THE UNTIL CONCERN I HAVE FOR VAPE SPECIFIC SHOPS. NOT TALKING ABOUT TOBACCO SHOPS OR OTHER THINGS, TALKING ABOUT THE VAPE SHOPS SPECIFICALLY TRYING TO HELP PEOPLE GET OFF OF CIGARETTES. IT IS HELPING THESE PEOPLE DO THAT. THEY NEED TO BE ABLE TO SAMPLE THESE. PEOPLE WILL NOT GIVE UP THE HABIT OF SMOKING VERY EASILY. WHEN THEY TRY IT AND REALIZE THAT THEY FEEL LIKE THEY'RE GETTING THE SAME IMPACT THAT THEY GET FROM SMOKING, WHEN THEY VAPE, BUT WITHOUT ALL OF THE CHEMICALS AND TOXINS IN THERE, WE DON'T RECOMMEND PEOPLE STARTING UP VAPING IF THEY DIDN'T ALREADY SMOKE. WE DO TRULY SEE IT AS GET OFF OF CIGARETTE USE TO HELP YOURSELF GET OFF OF IT IF YOU

CAN. AND IT IS WORKING FOR A LOT OF PEOPLE. I SMOKED FOR 20 YEARS. I TRIED EVERYTHING TO QUIT. IT TOOK ABOUT A THREE-WEEK TRANSITION FOR ME TO GO TO VAPING. THAT'S WHY I GOT INTO THE INDUSTRY BECAUSE I SAW IT CAN REALLY HELP. IT HAS IMPROVED MY HEALTH. THAT IS ME PERSONALLY SPEAKING, BUT WE HAVE A LOT OF PEOPLE THAT ARE CUSTOMERS THAT HAVE FELT THE TRANSITIONS IN THEIR LIFE IMPACTED. IF IT GOES INTO THE CLEAN AIR ACT, VAPE SHOPS NEED TO BE EXEMPT. THEY CAN ALLOW THAT IN THOSE PREMISES ONLY. OTHER BUILDINGS I UNDERSTAND IT, NOT HAVING VAPING AND SMOKING -- BUT VAPE SHOPS, HAVE THAT CONSIDERATION, IN THE RULES WHEN YOU PUT THEM OUT, THAT THEY BE ABLE TO DO THAT. LICENSING I REALLY DON'T SEE A PROBLEM WITH THAT EITHER. I DON'T SEE ANY PROBLEMS WITH A LOT OF STUFF THAT IS BEING PUT OUT. THAT IS MY MAIN CONCERN. VAPING IS NOT SMOKING. PLEASE ALLOW IT TO BE ALLOWED IN THE VAPE SHOPS ONLY. THE WHOLE PROCESS IS BUILT INTO THAT. THEY HAVE TO BE ABLE TO SAMPLE IT TO TRY IT OUT. AND THEY'RE CARDED. WE DON'T USE NICOTINE IN THE SAMPLING. IT IS ZERO NICOTINE. BUT THAT IS AN IMPORTANT PROCESS OF THE BUSINESS MODEL. OVER 200 EMPLOYEES IN JUST THIS COUNTY, THOSE BUSINESSES DEPEND ON THAT MODEL. SO, IF THEY RESTRICT IT TOO HEAVILY, IT IS GOING TO CLOSE-UP SHOPS. AND THAT'S GOING TO IMPACT A LOT OF ADULTS WHO ARE GETTING HELP THIS WAY. KEEP THE MINORS OFF OF THE NICOTINE. I AGREE. LET THE VAPE SHOPS STILL TRY TO HELP ADULTS.

Chair Kafoury: THANK YOU.

ZACH PLEASE COME FORWARD.

Chair Kafoury: IF THERE IS ANYBODY ELSE WHO WOULD LIKE TO TESTIFY, YOU CAN COME UP AT THIS POINT AND FILL OUT A FORM FROM LYNDA. YOU CAN GO AHEAD. GOOD MORNING.

GOOD MORNING, CHAIR KAFOURY AND COUNTY COMMISSIONERS. MY NAME IS ZACH MOHAMMED, CENTER FOR -- CIO, AND I COMMEND THE BOARD OF HEALTH TAKING FEEDBACK ON POSSIBLE ACTIONS, BUT I AM HERE TO SPEAK ABOUT ADOPTING A RETAIL LICENSE SYSTEM TO TRACK WHO SELLS TOBACCO AND E-CIGARETTE PRODUCTS. OVER THE PREVIOUS SUMMER, CIO, INCLUDING THREE OTHER ORGANIZATIONS IN COLLABORATION WITH MULTNOMAH COUNTY, ASSESSED 670 POTENTIAL RETAILERS IN MULTNOMAH COUNTY, AND RANDOMLY SELECTED 528 RETAILERS TO LEARN MORE ABOUT HOW TOBACCO PRODUCTS ARE PLACED, PROMOTED, AND SOLD IN THE COMMUNITY. I AM SOMEONE WHO DOESN'T SMOKE. BUT GOING THROUGH THE ASSESSMENT, I FOUND MYSELF LEARNING MORE ABOUT TOBACCO PRODUCTS. ONE THING I LEARNED DURING THE ASSESSMENT THAT WAS BIZARRE TO ME WAS THE LACK OF REGULATIONS TO TOBACCO SALES AND THE FACT THAT THERE IS NO KNOWLEDGE OF ACCURATE

NUMBERS OF TOTAL RETAILERS IN OREGON THAT SELL TOBACCO PRODUCTS. BY NOW, IT IS NO SURPRISE THAT OREGON HAS LED THE NATION WITH THE HIGHEST ILLEGAL SALE RATE OF TOBACCO TO MINORS. RATHER THAN BEING APPALLED, I WANT TO TAKE ACTION AND COMBAT THE STATISTIC BY PROTECTING OUR YOUTH. TOBACCO RETAIL LICENSING LAWS HAVE BEEN PROVEN EFFECTIVE TO REDUCE ILLEGAL SALES TO MINORS. SALES TO MINORS -- IT CAN ALSO PROMOTE INNOVATIVE POLICY SOLUTIONS AND LIKE I STATED EARLIER, NO KNOWLEDGE OF ACCURATE NUMBER OF RETAILERS IN OREGON THAT SELL TOBACCO PRODUCTS. TOBACCO RETAIL LICENSING LAW WOULD REQUIRE THAT ALL TOBACCO RETAILERS OBTAIN A LICENSE TO GET A BETTER SENSE OF THE LOCATION AND DENSITY OF TOBACCO RETAILERS. MULTNOMAH COUNTY TO TAKE THE STEPS IN PROTECTING OUR YOUTH AND ALSO HAVE STATISTICS AND DATA THAT WE CAN BE PROUD OF. I URGE YOU TO TAKE INTO CONSIDERATION ALL THREE POLICIES THAT THE BOARD OF HEALTH HAS TAKEN FEEDBACK ON TO PROTECT PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY BY ENSURING MULTNOMAH COUNTY IS TAKING THE RIGHT STEPS AND HOPEFULLY THIS TRANSCENDS ALL ACROSS OREGON. THANK YOU FOR LETTING ME SPEAK.

Chair Kafoury: THANK YOU FOR SPEAKING TODAY. SOUNDS LIKE THAT'S ALL OF THE FOLKS WE HAVE SIGNED UP TO TESTIFY TODAY. DO THE COMMISSIONERS HAVE COMMENTS? ALL RIGHT. THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR COMING. AND AS ALWAYS, YOU CAN CONTACT OUR OFFICES INDIVIDUALLY OR PARTICIPATE ONLINE. AND TUNE IN NEXT WEEK ON FEBRUARY 12th, WHERE WE WILL BE TAKING ACTION ON THE ITEMS THAT WE HAVE DISCUSSED TODAY. AND NOW IS THE TIME FOR NON-AGENDA ITEMS FROM OUR BOARD MEMBERS.

EXCUSE ME, CHAIR, YOU NEED TO -- RECONVENE AS THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS.

Chair Kafoury: MAYBE THE BOARD OF HEALTH HAS INTERESTING COMMENTS FOR US TODAY.

WE WOULD LIKE TO HEAR FROM THEM TOO.

(Adjourn as the Multnomah County Board of Health and reconvene as the MULTNOMAH COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS)

Chair Kafoury: NOW WE WILL TRANSFORM OURSELVES FROM THE BOARD OF HEALTH TO THE BOARD OF MULTNOMAH COUNTY COMMISSIONERS.

BOARD COMMENT

BC.1 Opportunity as time allows, for the Commissioners to provide comment on non-agenda items.

NOW IF ANY OF THE MULTNOMAH COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS HAVE NON-AGENDA ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION, COMMENT.

Commissioner McKeel: THANK YOU. I AM PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE THAT OUR MULTNOMAH COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE RECEIVING AN AWARD FROM THE OREGON AIR NATIONAL GUARD RECOGNIZING THEM AS THE EMPLOYER OF THE YEAR. CONGRATULATIONS TO THE SHERIFF'S OFFICE.

Chair Kafoury: ANYONE ELSE HAVE COMMENTS?

Commissioner Shiprack: I DO HAVE ONE, MADAM CHAIR. TONIGHT AT 5:00 IN THE CENTRAL COURTHOUSE DOWNTOWN PORTLAND, WILL BE OUR SECOND OPEN HOUSE TO REVIEW THE TWO PREFERRED SITES -- PREFERRED SITE AND ALTERNATE SITE TO LOCATE A NEW CENTRAL COURTHOUSE.

Chair Kafoury: THANK YOU. ANYBODY ELSE? NONE?

ADJOURNMENT – 11:31 am

ALL RIGHT. HAVING NO FURTHER BUSINESS, WE ARE ADJOURNED.

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Submitted by:
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Board of County Commissioners
Multnomah County