

Chair Cohen, Commissioners. I am very honored to
we have come today for the official Reading of the Robert Phillips Appreciation Day Proclamation

- 1 Emmett Wheatfall, Diversity and Inclusion Manager, Clackamas County
 - 2 Kathleen Saadat, Diversity Development/Affirmative Action Manager, City of Portland
 - 3 Kay Toran, President and CEO Volunteers of America
- KaRin Johnson, Deputy Director Multnomah Health Dept.

It has been my pleasure to work with Robert when I was an independent consultant speaking at the Diversity Conference and as a colleague over these past 16 months.

Coming into a new organization is always challenging and Robert was so helpful in giving me the history and background of the work that has been going on.

There are many people who can speak to Robert's work for the county over the past 26+ years, but when one retires, the work continues, with different players. What I will miss are those moments when Robert would share a story about his life. Like, designing a dress for Diana Ross and the Supremes, or getting back stage to have a private meeting with James Brown. I will miss that booming voice and gregarious laugh. A laugh that makes you laugh even if you didn't feel like laughing. It's contagious. I will miss the camaraderie.

I will miss the glow of his distinguished salt and pepper hair, and the dignity in his stride as he walked through the building.

Thanks Robert, for your work, your friendship, your laughter. For your commitment to social justice. You have done well. You have done well. May life reward you with all its riches in your next phase.

We are here to honor Robert Phillips and have the official reading of the Robert Phillips Appreciation Day in Multnomah County.
The order of the program will be comments from Emmet, Kathleen, Kay, Commissioners, and then the official reading of the proclamation
Comments by Robert

Ask family to stand