

BEFORE THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FOR MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON

RESOLUTION NO. 03-148

Declaring Support for Ethnic Home Buying Fairs

The Multnomah County Board of Commissioners Finds:

- a. Homeownership rates among African Americans, Asian Americans and Hispanic Americans in the Portland Metro area lag significantly behind those of White Americans. According to the 2000 Census, the homeownership rate for White households is 65%, while the rate for African Americans is 37.8%, the rate for Asian Americans is 53%, and the rate for Hispanic Americans is 28%.
- b. Since homeownership is a key element in family stability, educational achievement and wealth accumulation, it is important that homeownership for minority households be maximized.
- c. The African American Alliance for Homeownership (AAAH) was formed in 2000 with the assistance of The Skanner News Group to increase homeownership opportunities and economic stability for African Americans in Oregon by improving access, ensuring advocacy, and providing awareness and education. The AAAH sponsors an annual Home Buying Fair, attracting over 2200 prospective buyers and over 250 home buying professionals during a three year period.
- d. The Asian Home Buying Association has sponsored an annual Fair for four years. Over 1000 households speaking ten different Asian and Russian languages have attended the Fairs. The event offered workshops regarding credit, down payment assistance, insurance, the benefits of homeownership, predatory lending and other topics.
- e. The annual Latino Home Buying Fair is sponsored by El Hispanic News and many other community partners. Over a four-year period, the Fair has served approximately 2000 Latino households with workshops and meetings with home buying professionals conducted in Spanish. Latinos are a fast growing segment of our community, increasing the demand for affordable homeownership opportunities.
- f. The African American, Latino and Asian Home Buying Fairs provide important information, education and awareness, and help connect potential home buyers to a network of professionals.

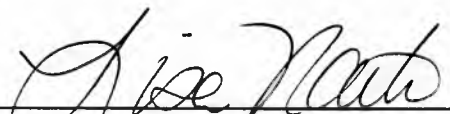
The Multnomah County Board of Commissioners Resolves:

1. The Board joins our community partners in applauding the organizing committees of the Ethnic Home Buying Fairs for their continued efforts to promote homeownership. The Board is particularly pleased to help sponsor the African American, Latino and Asian Home Buying Fairs, and wishes the groups great success.

ADOPTED this 23rd day of October, 2003.



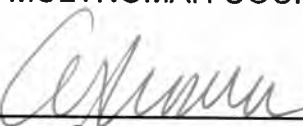
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FOR MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON



Lisa Naito, Presiding Commissioner

REVIEWED:

AGNES SOWLE, COUNTY ATTORNEY
FOR MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON

By 

Agnes Sowle, County Attorney