

**Minutes of the Board of Commissioners
Multnomah Building, Board Room 100
501 SE Hawthorne Blvd., Portland, Oregon
Thursday, June 13, 2013**

REGULAR MEETING

Chair Jeff Cogen called the meeting to order at 9:39 a.m. with Vice-Chair Judy Shiprack and Commissioners Deborah Kafoury, Loretta Smith and Diane McKeel present.

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

[THE FOLLOWING TEXT IS THE BYPRODUCT OF THE CLOSED CAPTIONING OF THIS PROGRAM.]

Chair Cogen: GOOD MORNING, EVERYONE. GOOD MORNING. WELCOME TO THIS REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS. MAY I GET A MOTION ON THE CONSENT CALENDAR.

Commissioner Smith: SO MOVED.

Vice-Chair Shiprack: SECOND.

Chair Cogen: COMMISSIONER SMITH MOVES, COMMISSIONER SHIPRACK SECONDS. ALL IN FAVOR? [CHORUS OF AYES] IT IS APPROVED.

Board Clerk: PUBLIC COMMENT, OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT ON NONAGENDA MATTERS. LIMITED TO THREE MINUTES PER PERSON UNLESS OTHERWISE DESIGNATED BY THE CHAIR. WE HAVE DO -- WE DO HAVE PUBLIC COMMENT. WHEN I CALL YOUR NAME, IF YOU'LL PLEASE COME FORWARD AND SIT AT THE DESK AND PLEASE GIVE YOUR NAME FOR THE RECORD BEFORE YOU BEGIN SPEAKING.

Mr. Walsh: GOOD MORNING. MY NAME IS JOSEPH WALSH, AND I REPRESENT INDIVIDUALS FOR JUSTICE. I'M HERE TODAY JUST TO INTRODUCE MYSELF. THERE IS A COALITION BEING FORMED RIGHT NOW TO STOP THE COVERING OF THE RESERVOIRS. WE BELIEVE INDIVIDUALS FOR JUSTICE, THAT COVERING THE RESERVOIRS WOULD DAMAGE THE WATER COMING OUT OF BULL RUN. THE CITY OF PORTLAND ATTEMPTED TO MESS WITH THE WATER A FEW MONTHS AGO, AND WE BEAT THEM BY 21 PERCENTAGE POINTS IN THE VOTE. AND MY SUGGESTION TO YOU IS THAT IT'S NOT JUST A CITY PROBLEM, THE CITY OF PORTLAND LIES WITHIN THE COUNTY. AND THE PEOPLE OF YOUR COUNTY ARE GOING TO PAY THE BILLS. THE ESTIMATE COST OF COVERING THESE RESERVOIRS IS A BILLION DOLLARS. THE CITY WILL TELL YOU ABOUT \$400 MILLION. THEY'RE LYING. IT'S GOING TO COST US A BILLION DOLLARS, AND THE RATE INCREASE TO THE WATER USERS WILL BE 40%. WE

ARE NOW THIRD IN THE NATION PAYING FOR WATER. THIRD! IN PORTLAND. THAT RAINS, WHAT, 30, 40% OF THE TIME? AND WE ARE THIRD? WHY IS THAT? WE ASK YOU, DON'T LISTEN TO THE PROPAGANDA IN THIS CAMPAIGN. LOOK AT THE SCIENCE. THAT'S ALL WE'RE ASKING YOU. LOOK AT THE SCIENCE. WE WILL HAVE A SCIENTIST HERE THAT WILL PRESENT EVIDENCE TO YOU THAT IS COMPELLING. WE ALSO ARE VERY AWARE THAT OUR DELEGATION IN WASHINGTON HAS DONE ALMOST NONE ON THIS ISSUE. CHUCK SCHUMER FROM NEW YORK, WHERE I'M FROM, WENT DOWN THERE TO THE EPA AND SAID, NO, YOU'RE NOT GOING TO DO THIS. THIS IS GOING TO COST US BILLIONS OF DOLLARS, AND IT'S NONSENSE. AND EPA IS RESTUDYING THIS VERY LAW OR REGULATION THAT THEY'RE TALKING ABOUT. AND THEY'RE NOT GOING TO BE FINISHING UNTIL 2014. SO WHY THE HELL WOULD WE COVER OUR RESERVOIRS PENDING THAT? WE NEED SENATOR MERCURY, WE NEED SENATOR WYDEN TO MARCH INTO THE EPA AND SAY, STOP IT. STOP IT. THAT'S WHAT SCHUMER DID, AND NEW YORK DELEGATION. AND YOU CANNOT SAY TO ME IT IS NOT YOUR PROBLEM, BECAUSE IT IS. AND WE WILL BE HERE, AND YOU WILL SEE THIS CAMPAIGN VERY MUCH LIKE THE FLOURIDE CAMPAIGN, AND THE PEOPLE -- WHEN THEY LEARN THE FACTS, THEY WILL BE OUTRAGED. I JUST TAKE 10 SECONDS, ON YOUR CONSENT AGENDA, ON A CITY LEVEL, WE'RE ALLOWED TO PULL THAT OUT OF DISCUSSION. I HAVE A LOT OF CONCERN ABOUT MENTALLY ILL PEOPLE BEING ARRESTED, AND WHEN YOU SAY TAKE THE MENTAL ILL PERSON INTO CUSTODY, THAT'S WHAT YOU'RE SAYING. YOU'RE USING A NICER WORD. YOU'RE GOING TO ARREST THEM. THE WORST THING YOU CAN DO TO MANY MENTALLY ILL PEOPLE OFF THE STREET IS TO ARREST THEM. THEY ARE AFRAID OF THE POLICE.

Chair Cogen: YOU NEED TO WIND UP NOW.

Mr. Walsh: I BEG YOU, LOOK AT THIS VERY CAREFULLY.

Chair Cogen: THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

Mr. Lightning: MY NAME IS LIGHTNING. I HAVE A REAL CONCERN RIGHT NOW ON 1500 PLUS OR MINUS PEOPLE CURRENTLY SLEEPING OUT ON THE SIDEWALKS HOMELESS, LAYING ON CARDBOARD, UNDERNEATH TARPS, AND YOU KNOW, YOU KNOW WHAT MY CONCERN IS? BASICALLY AS WE KNOW, A LOT OF THESE PEOPLE IN BUSINESSES CLAIM THEIR BUSINESSES ARE SUFFERING BECAUSE OF THIS. 10 TO 30% LOSSES. IF YOU WERE TO CALCULATE THAT OUT THROUGH THE CITY, IT'S MORE ADVANTAGEOUS TO PROVIDE HOUSING FOR THESE 1500 PLUS OR MINUS PEOPLE. NOW, IF YOU PROVIDE HOUSING, THIS CITY OVERALL WILL BEGIN TO SHOW INCREASED PROFITS FOR THE BUSINESSES. WE WILL BEGIN TO SEE OVERTIME REDUCTION FOR POLICE, FIRE, MEDICAL, WE WILL SEE HUNDREDS OF MILLIONS OF DOLLARS IN REVENUE THROUGHOUT THIS CITY IF WE PROVIDE THESE PEOPLE HOUSING. NOW, YOU KNOW WHAT I FIND INTEREST BALL GAME THIS? FIVE TO 10 TIMES THESE PEOPLE LAYING OUTSIDE ON THESE CARDBOARD UNDER TARPS ARE

LIKELY TO BECOME ILL. THEY'RE LIKELY TO HAVE MORE CONFRONTATION WITH THE POLICE. IT DOESN'T MAKE ANY SENSE TO ALLOW THIS TO HAPPEN. AND I ASK YOU, MR. COGEN, I ASK YOU, WHAT ARE WE GOING TO DO WITH WAPATO JAIL? WHAT A FACILITY TO CREATE FOR THE HOMELESS. WHAT A FACILITY TO DO THAT WITH. IT IS SITTING EMPTY. WE HAVE ALL THESE PEOPLE OUT ON THE SIDEWALKS, BUSINESSES ARE LOSING HUNDREDS OF MILLIONS OF DOLLARS A YEAR, AND IT SITS EMPTY. MENTAL HEALTH, DRUG ADDICTION SHUN, ALCOHOLISM, JOB PLACEMENT, GETTING THESE PEOPLE'S LIVES BACK IN ORDER. THE BUILDING IS SITTING THERE EMPTY. I'M ASKING FOR YOUR ASSISTANCE TO MAKE ONE OF THE BEST PROJECTS IN THIS CITY TO EVER HAPPEN, SUCH AS THE BUD CLARK COMMONS, AND JUST PUT IT TOGETHER. IT'S NEEDED. THE CITY NEEDS IT. THE PEOPLE NEED IT. AND THE HOMELESS NEED TO BE GIVEN A CHANCE IN THIS CITY TO DO BETTER THAN LIVING ON A PIECE OF CARDBOARD UNDER A TARP. THANK YOU.

Chair Cogen: THANK YOU.

>> R-1, PUBLIC HEARING AND CONSIDERATION OF A RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING FEE AND CHARGES FOR CAPTAIN 29, BUILDING REGULATION AND REPEALING RESOLUTION NUMBER 2012-070.

Commissioner Shiprack: SO MOVED.

Commissioner Smith: SECOND.

Chair Cogen: COMMISSIONER SHIPRACK MOVES, COMMISSIONER SMITH SECONDS APPROVAL OF R-1.

Ms. Kleim: GOOD MORNING. MY NAME IS DENISE KLEIM, I'M WITH THE CITY OF PORTLAND BUREAU OF DEVELOPMENT SERVICES. THE GREAT NEWS I HAVE TO SHARE WITH YOU TODAY IS THAT WE ARE ONLY PROPOSING INCREASES FOR ONE OF THE FEES IN THIS ORDINANCE. AND THAT'S OUR PLUMBING PERMIT FEES. BACK IN 1986, THE CITY AND THE COUNTY GOT TOGETHER AND DECIDED TO DELEGATE PERMIT INSPECTIONS AND PLAN REVIEW AND PERMIT ISSUANCE TO THE CITY. THAT'S WHY I'M HERE TODAY. THE COUNTY STILL TAKES ACTION ON THE FEES. THE CITY COUNCIL HAS ALREADY PASSED THESE FEES WITH UNANIMOUS VOTE. WE SPEND QUITE A LOT OF TIME WORKING WITH OUR CUSTOMERS, FIRST SPENDING TIME LOOKING AT OUR SERVICES TO ENSURE OUR SERVICES ARE MEETING CUSTOMER NEEDS IN BOTH THE CITY AND THE URBAN SERVICES COUNTY AREA, AND THEN ONLY AFTER THAT DETERMINING WHAT THE FEES SHOULD BE. SO OVER THE PAST COUPLE YEARS, THINGS HAVE REALLY TURNED AROUND FOR OUR BUREAU. WE HAVE BEEN ABLE TO BRING STAFF BACK ON BOARD SO THAT OUR SERVICE LEVELS ARE BETTER MEETING CUSTOMER NEEDS, AND WE'RE ALSO ASKING FOR THE CITY COUNCIL HAS ACTUALLY AUTHORIZED ADDITIONAL STAFF FOR THE NEXT FISCAL YEAR TO EVEN IMPROVE OUR SERVICES, EVEN

MORE. AND BECAUSE OUR REVENUE PICTURE IS SO STRONG, WE ACTUALLY DO NOT NEED TO INCREASE FEES FOR OUR BUILDING PERMIT PROGRAM, FOR OUR ELECTRICAL PROGRAM, OR OUR MECHANICAL PROGRAM. IT'S ONLY THE PLUMBING PROGRAM WHERE WE'RE REQUESTING A 5% FEE INCREASE TO BALANCE THEIR REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES. AND ALSO TO ADD INTO THEIR RESERVE. SO I'M HAPPY TO ANSWER ANY QUESTIONS, BUT WE'RE REALLY HAPPY THAT WE DON'T NEED TO INCREASE ALL OF OUR FEES THIS TIME.

Chair Cogen: INDEED. QUESTIONS FOR DENISE?

Commissioner Smith: I HAVE A QUESTION, CHAIR. GOOD MORNING. THANK YOU FOR YOUR TESTIMONY. DID YOU ACTUALLY DO SOME OUTREACH INTO THE COMMUNITY TO LET THEM KNOW THAT THESE CHANGES WERE GOING TO TAKE PLACE?

>> YES. WE MET WITH ABOUT 20 DIFFERENT GROUPS. WE REQUESTED -- LET THEM KNOW WE WERE HAPPY TO MEET WITH THEM. WE MEET WITH OUR DEVELOPMENT REVIEW ADVISORY BOARD, THAT'S A BOARD THAT ADVISES THE CITY ON DEVELOPMENT REVIEW ISSUES. WE MET WITH THE SMALL BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE THAT ADVISES THE CITY ON SMALL BUSINESS ISSUES. WE'VE MET WITH THE CITY LAND USE CHAIRS. MEETINGS ALSO WITH SEVERAL OTHER INDUSTRY GROUPS, INCLUDING THE HOME BUILDERS --

Commissioner Smith: WHAT WAS THEIR FEEDBACK?

>> HAPPY. VERY HAPPY. VERY, VERY HAPPY. AND THE PLUMBING INDUSTRY -- WE'RE VERY OPEN WITH OUR BOOKS, AND THEY UNDERSTAND THE ISSUE THAT WE HAVE WITH THE PLUMBING FEES. OVERALL, YEAH, ECSTATIC.

Commissioner Smith: THANK YOU.

Chair Cogen: ECSTATIC, WOW. COMMISSIONER MCKEEL?

Commissioner McKeel: THANK YOU. CAN YOU TALK A LITTLE MORE ABOUT THE PLUMBING FEES, WHY ARE THEY THE ONES GOING UP?

>> SURE. I CAN SHARE SOME NUMBERS WITH YOU, DOES THAT HELP? SO THE PLUMBING PROGRAM OVER THE PAST SEVERAL YEARS, THAT IS STARTING IN FISCAL YEAR '07-08 AND FISCAL YEAR '10-11. EVEN THOUGH WE DID FEE INCREASES AND WORKED REALLY HARD ON ENSURING THAT WE HAD A GOOD BALANCE BETWEEN OUR SERVICES AND OUR STAFFING LEVEL, THAT PROGRAM WAS ACTUALLY LOSING MONEY YEAR AFTER YEAR. SO RIGHT NOW, OR AT LEAST OUR PROJECTION FOR THE EARNED OF THIS PHYSICAL YEAR WILL BE THAT THEY HAVE A RESERVE DEFICIT OF OVER A MILLION

DOLLARS. SO IN ORDER TO BRING THEM TO -- RETAIN THEIR COST RECOVERY FOR NEXT YEAR AND START TO PAY BACK THAT DEFICIT, THAT'S WHY THOSE 5% INCREASES ARE NEEDED. AND WE'RE PROPOSING THAT AT LEAST RIGHT NOW IN OUR FINANCIAL PLAN, THAT THOSE INCREASES OF 5% CONTINUE UNTIL THEY'RE ABLE TO HAVE THEIR RESERVE AT THE RESERVE LEVEL. THEIR RESERVE GOAL IS 20% OF EXPENDITURE, WHICH IS THE SAME AS OUR BUILDING MECHANICAL AND ELECTRICAL PROGRAMS. SO IT'S CONSISTENT.

Commissioner McKeel: OK. AND THIS ONLY AFFECTS THE PROPERTIES THAT WE -- WITHIN THE CITY OF PORTLAND THAT WE CONTRACT WITH YOU ON.

>> RIGHT. IT'S THE URBAN SERVICES AREA.

Commissioner McKeel: IT'S NOT THE UNINCORPORATED. DOES THIS AFFECT THE UNINCORPORATED AREA?

>> IT DOES. I HAVE A MAP THAT'S GOING TO BE HARD TO SEE, BUT MAYBE LYNDA COULD PASS IT AROUND. VERY SMALL AREA, THE PINK IS THE URBAN SERVICES AREA. SO I'D SAY WE'RE TALKING ABOUT 1% OF THE AREA THAT THE CITY SERVES FOR THE COUNTY.

Commissioner McKeel: OK. AND WHAT ARE THE UNINCORPORATED AREAS THAT ARE ON THAT MAP?

>> THERE'S A REAL SMALL AREA JUST TO THE EAST AND SOUTH OF POWELL BUTTE. THERE'S A VERY SMALL AREA AROUND JOHNSON CREEK, AREA AROUND DUNTHORPE, AND A COUPLE OF AREAS TO THE FAR WEST. AND ALSO PART OF HAYDEN ISLAND.

Commissioner McKeel: THANK YOU.

Chair Cogen: OTHER QUESTIONS? COMMENTS. ALL IN FAVOR? [CHORUS OF AYES] OPPOSED? THE RESOLUTION IS ADOPTED.

>> R-2, PUBLIC HEARING AND CONSIDERATION OF A RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING FEES AND CHARGES FOR MCC CHAPTERS 11.05 LAND USE GENERAL PROVISIONS, 11.15 ZONING, 11.45 LAND DIVISIONS, 37 ADMINISTRATION AND PROCEDURES, AND FOR 38 COLUMBIA RIVER GORGE NATIONAL SCENIC AREA, AND REPEALING RESOLUTION NUMBER 2012-071.

Vice-Chair Shiprack: SO MOVED

Commissioner Kafoury: SECOND

Chair Cogen: COMMISSIONER SHIPRACK MOVED AND COMMISSIONER KAFOURY SECONDED, APPROVAL OF R-2.

Ms. Kleim: DENISE KLEIM AGAIN. THERE'S THREE MAJOR FEE AREAS IN THIS RESOLUTION. LAND USE SERVICES FEES, THE SIGN FEES, AND ALSO THE SITE DEVELOPMENT FEES. THE CITY COUNCIL HAS TAKEN ACTION TO APPROVE THE SAME FEE PROPOSAL FOR THE SIGN FEES AND THE SITE DEVELOPMENT FEES. WE CHARGE DIFFERENT FEES FOR LAND USE SERVICES IN THE COUNTY THAN THE CITY. AND THAT IS BECAUSE IN THE CITY, THERE IS GENERAL FUND SUPPORT FOR LAND USE SERVICES FEES. SO YOU'LL SEE IF YOU COMPARE THE CITY AND COUNTY FEES, YOU'LL SEE A DIFFERENCE IN THE FEES. HOWEVER, FOR THE CITY, WE ALSO HAD PROPOSED A 5% FEE INCREASE, AND THAT'S THE SAME PERCENTAGE INCREASE BEING PROPOSED FOR THE COUNTY FEES. SO AT LEAST THAT IS THE SAME. THE SIGN FEES, WE'RE PROPOSING A 5% FEE INCREASE. THE SITE DEVELOPMENT FEES, THIS IS A FIRST FOR US. WE ARE DECREASING THE RESIDENTIAL SITE DEVELOPMENT FEES BY 10%. AND WE ARE HOLDING THE COMMERCIAL SITE DEVELOPMENT FEES AT ZERO. AND THIS IS BECAUSE THE REVENUES COMING IN FOR THAT PROGRAM ARE EXCEEDING THE COSTS, AND EVEN LOOKING INTO THE NEXT FIVE YEARS WITH THE FEE DECREASE, WE FEEL WE WILL BE STABLE IN TERMS OF THE PROGRAM FUNDING. I'M HAPPY TO ANSWER ANY QUESTIONS.

Chair Cogen: QUESTIONS? COMMENTS? ALL IN FAVOR? [CHORUS OF AYES] OPPOSED? THE RESOLUTION IS ADOPTED.

>> R-3, PUBLIC HEARING AND CONSIDERATION OF A RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING FEES AND CHARGES FOR MCC CHAPTER 27, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND REPEALING RESOLUTION 2012-072.

Commissioner Smith: SO MOVED.

Commissioner Kafoury: SECOND.

Chair Cogen: COMMISSIONER SHIPRACK MOVES, COMMISSIONER KAFOURY SECONDS APPROVAL OF R-3. YOU'RE BACK.

Ms. Kleim: DENISE KLEIM AGAIN, BUREAU OF DEVELOPMENT SERVICES. SO THIS PROGRAM IS ONE PERSON THAT THERE'S A SPECIAL CONTRACT BETWEEN IGA BETWEEN THE CITY AND THE COUNTY. THE CITY ACTUALLY SERVES THE ENTIRE COUNTY FOR THIS PROGRAM. WE CALL IT OUR ENVIRONMENTAL SOILS PROGRAM. IT'S THE SUBSURFACE SEWAGE PROGRAM THAT DEALS WITH SEPTIC TANKS AND CESSPOOLS. SO THIS FEE IS ONE THAT DOES NOT GO THROUGH CITY COUNCIL BECAUSE IT IS A COUNTY PROGRAM. LAST YEAR WE WORKED EXTENSIVELY WITH YOUR STAFF WITH BOARD STAFF, AND PLANNING DEPARTMENT STAFF TO LOOK AT THE PROGRAM AND WORK -- THEY WORKED WITH THE STATE AND WORKED A LOT WITH US IN TERMS OF LOOKING AT THE SERVICES, THE LEVEL OF SERVICE,

WHO SHOULD PROVIDE THESE SERVICES. AND THE DECISION LAST YEAR WAS THAT TO RETAIN THE IGA WITH THE CITY, TO RETAIN THE LEVEL OF SERVICE, AND TO LOOK REALLY CLOSELY AT THE FINANCING. AND SO WE ARE BACK AGAIN THIS YEAR CONSISTENTLY TO PROPOSE THE 10% FEE INCREASE FOR THAT PROGRAM, AND THAT'S IN LINE WITH THE VERBAL AGREEMENTS THAT WE HAD LAST YEAR AND WHAT WE DID LAST YEAR. SO WE'RE LOOKING AT THAT PROGRAM ON -- IN THE LONG TERM, AND IN SEVERAL YEARS, I THINK IN THREE YEARS I BELIEVE, LET ME TAKE A REAL QUICK LOOK AT MY NUMBERS. YEAH, WE'RE PROPOSING BY -- THROUGH '16-17 THAT THESE INCREASE WAS CONTINUE. AND IN YEAR '17-18, THOUGH WE WON'T BE AT OUR PROPOSED RESERVE LEVELS, BUT WE BELIEVE WE WON'T NEED TO CONTINUE THOSE FEE INCREASES. SO TRYING TO GIVE YOU A BIT OF A BIG PICTURE ON THIS ONE TOO.

Chair Cogen: QUESTIONS? COMMISSIONER MCKEEL?

Commissioner McKeel: THANK YOU. JUST REFRESH MY MEMORY, IT'S A 10% FEE INCREASE EVERY YEAR. UP TO --

>> YES. THAT'S RIGHT. AND THAT'S BECAUSE --

Commissioner McKeel: THE ENTIRE COUNSEL.

>> I THAT'S CORRECT. AND THAT'S BECAUSE THIS PROGRAM ALSO HAS A DEAF SILT OF OVER A MILLION DOLLARS. AND IT'S TO BRING THAT TO ZERO. AND THEN START TO BUILD THE SMALL RESERVE FOR THAT PROGRAM.

Commissioner McKeel: THANK YOU.

Chair Cogen: FURTHER QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS? ALL IN FAVOR VOTE AYE? [CHORUS OF AYES] OPPOSED? THE RESOLUTION IS ADOPTED.

>> R-4, RESOLUTION APPROVING MOUNT HOOD CABLE REGULATORY COMMISSION, FISCAL YEAR 2013-2014 BUDGET.

Commissioner McKeel: SO MOVED.

Vice-Chair Shiprack: SECOND.

Chair Cogen: COMMISSIONER MCKEEL MOVED AND COMMISSIONER SHIPRACK SECONDED APPROVAL OF R-4.

Ms. Studenmund: GOOD MORNING. CHAIR COGEN, MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNITY, I'M CAROL STUDENMUND, YOUR APPOINTED REPRESENTATIVE OF THE MOUNT HOOD CABLE REGULATORY COMMISSION. WITH ME IS MARY BETH HENRY, THE OF STAFF DIRECTOR OF THE COMMISSION. AND I'D ALSO

LIKE TO RECOGNIZE ROB BRADING , THE CEO OF METRO EAST COMMUNITY TV, WHO IS HERE TODAY. AND I'M HERE TO HIGHLIGHT A COUPLE OF ASPECTS OF THE FISCAL YEAR 2013-14 COMMISSION BUDGET REQUEST TO SEEK YOUR APPROVAL. THE COMMISSION IS AN INTERGOVERNMENTAL PARTNERSHIP AMONG GRESHAM, FAIRVIEW, PORTLAND, TROUTDALE, WOOD VILLAGE, AND MULTNOMAH COUNTY. EACH JURISDICTION APPOINTS CITIZEN REPRESENTATIVES TO THE COMMISSION. THE COMMISSION HAS OVERSIGHT ENFORCEMENT AND PUBLIC BENEFIT RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE CABLE SERVICES FRANCHISES IN THE CITIES AND THE COUNTY. MULTNOMAH COUNTY HAS TWO CABLE SERVICE FRANCHISES, COMCAST AND RELIANCE CONNECTS. OVER THE PAST YEAR, THANKS TO THE CABLE FEE THE COMMISSION HAS PROVIDED MANY SERVICES TO THE COMMUNITIES AND ITS CITIZENS. SOME OF THOSE INCLUDE, THIS IS THE PART I ENJOY DOING, COMMUNITY GRANTS FUNDED OVER \$1.3 MILLION IN 2012 FOR A LOCAL SCHOOLS, LIBRARIES, NONPROFITS, AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS TO USE TECHNOLOGY TO SUPPORT LOCAL PUBLIC SERVICES. DESCRIPTIONS OF THESE GRANTS CAN BE FOUND IN THE BUDGET NARRATIVE. COMMUNITY ACCESS CHANNELS WILL BE PROVIDED IN HIGH-DEFINITION TV STARTING IN JUNE, PCM'S AND METRO EAST GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS CHANNEL, WHERE YOUR BOARD MEETINGS ARE CARRIED, WILL BE THE FIRST IN THE COUNTRY TO BE BROADCAST IN HD.

Chair Cogen: DO WE REALLY WANT THAT? [LAUGHTER]

>> YOU'LL NEED TO SCHEDULE HAIR AND MAKEUP PEOPLE. BUT THAT IS EXCITING, WE'RE A LEADER IN THIS FIELD, AND COMMUNITYING ACROSS THE COUNTRY ARE WATCHING WHAT WE DO HERE AS WE TRANSITION TO HD. IT'S VERY EXCITING. THE COMMISSION HAS COORDINATED THE FIRST MAJOR UPGRADE OF THE INSTITUTIONAL NETWORK BACKBONE, THE I-NET, WHICH SHOULD BE COMPLETED THIS SUMMER. WITHOUT INCREASING COSTS TO OUR SCHOOLS, LIBRARIES, AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT SITES THE UPGRADE WILL IMPROVE MUCH NEEDED ADDITIONAL NETWORK CAPACITY. THAT'S REALLY EXCITING TOO. AS DISCUSSED IN LAST YEAR AS BUDGET, THE COMMISSION CONDUCTED ITS FIRST STANDALONE AUDIT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2011-12, AND WE'RE SUCH WONKY PEOPLE WE'RE HAPPY TO REPORT THAT THE AUDITOR FOUND THE MHCRC'S FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FAIRLY PRESENTED THE FINANCIAL POSITION OF THE MHCRC FUND. THE FULL AUDIT DOCUMENT IS AVAILABLE ON THE MHCRC'S WEBSITE. THE COMMISSION FOCUSES ITS RESOURCES ON THE FOLLOWING TWO PRIORITIES. MAINTAINING THE COMMISSION'S CORE RESPONSIBILITY OF FRANCHISE MANAGEMENT, AND CONSUMER PROTECTION, AND MANAGING THE FRANCHISE PUBLIC BENEFIT RESOURCES TO POSITIVELY IMPACT AND SUPPORT OUR COMMUNITIES. A MAJOR PLAN WORKLOAD FOR THE UPCOMING FISCAL YEAR IS A COMPREHENSIVE REDESIGN OF THE COMMUNITY GRANTS PROGRAM. THE AMOUNT OF MONEY FOR COMMUNITY GRANTS HAS INCREASED DUE TO THE MHCRC'S SUCCESSFUL NEGOTIATION

OF THE COMCAST RENEWED FRANCHISE. AS A RESULT, THE COMMISSION HAS EXPANDED ITS COMPLIANCE AND OVERSIGHT WORK TO ENSURE THAT THE FUNDS ARE SPENT BY GRANTEEES IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE FRANCHISE AGREEMENT AND FEDERAL LAW. HOWEVER, THE MORE EXCITING ASPECT IS THE OPPORTUNITY FOR THE MHCRC TO EXPAND AND RETHINK ITS COMMUNITY GRANTS PROGRAM. THE COMMISSION HAS UNDERTAKEN A COMPREHENSIVE PROCESS TO REALIGN THE GRANT PROGRAM TO HAVE GREATER IMPACT ON THE COMMUNITY. THE COMMISSION WILL SEEK INPUT FROM THE COUNSEL 70 ALL OF ITS COMMUNITY STAKEHOLDERS DURING THE REDESIGN PROCESS. AND NOW TO THE BUDGET. HAVE YOU A COPY OF THE MHCRC'S FY-2013-14 BUDGET REQUEST IN YOUR MEETING PACKET. AND THE BUDGET PROPOSAL IS ON PAGES 9-13. AND A COUPLE OF BUDGET NOTES FOR YOU, FRANCHISE FEE RESOURCES ARE BASED ON CABLE COMPANIES GROSS REVENUES. OVERALL THE COMMISSION PROJECTS CABLE FRANCHISE FEE COLLECTION WILL BE FLAT COMPARED TO THE CURRENT FISCAL YEAR. THE COUNTY WILL RECEIVE ABOUT \$48,000 FROM CABLE FRANCHISE FEES AFTER DISBURSEMENT OF FUNDS TO METRO EAST AND PORTLAND COMMUNITY MEDIA AND TO THE MHCRC OPERATING BUDGET. THE FRANCHISE FEE REVENUE AND DISBURSEMENT DETAIL IS INCLUDED ON PAGES 18-20. THE COMMISSION'S OPERATING EXPENDITURES WILL INCREASE ABOUT 3% OVER THE CURRENT YEAR BUDGET. THIS IS MOSTLY DUE TO INCREASED COSTS RELATED TO PERSONNEL AND OVERHEAD. THE TOTAL MHCRC PROPOSED OPERATIONS BUDGET IS 822,822. EACH MEMBER CONTRIBUTES TO THE MHCRC BUDGET. THE COUNTY'S CONTRIBUTION FOR FISCAL YEAR 2013-14 WILL BE A LITTLE OVER \$13,500. IN CONCLUSION, THE MHCRC RESPECTFULLY REQUESTS THAT THE BOARD APPROVE THE 2013-14 COMMISSION PROPOSED BUDGET AND WE'RE HAPPY TO ANSWER ANY QUESTIONS.

Chair Cogen: THANKS. QUESTIONS? MARY BETH, DID YOU HAVE ANYTHING YOU WANTED TO ADD?

>> I WAS HERE TO ANSWER THE TOUGH QUESTIONS. BUT I DID WANT TO LET YOU KNOW WHEN WE ANNOUNCED IN GRESHAM ABOUT THE HIGH-DEFINITION, THE FIRST QUESTION WAS WHETHER THEY WERE ABLE TO INCLUDE HD MAKEUP IN THE BUDGET. [LAUGHTER]

Commissioner Smith: I HAVE A QUESTION. THANK YOU FOR COMING TODAY. I NOTICE ON PAGE 12 OF YOUR BUDGET REPORT THAT MHCRC IS STILL WORKING ON TRANSFORMING THE GRANT PROGRAM. WHAT PROGRESS HAVE YOU MADE IN GETTING IT WHERE YOU WANT IT TO BE?

>> WELL, WHAT WE'RE REALLY DOING IS, YOU MAY RECALL OVER THE LAST YEAR MY STAFF PERSON, JULIA CAME AND GAVE A PRESENTATION ON THE 10-YEAR PUBLIC BENEFIT LOOKBACK IN TERMS OF WHAT HAD BEEN ACCOMPLISHED. AND AT THE COMMISSION'S RETREAT IN FEBRUARY, WHEN

THEY KIND OF STEPPED BACK AND LOOKED AT THE PROGRAM, AND THEN LOOKED AT THE AMOUNT OF RESOURCES THAT WOULD BE AVAILABLE UNDER THE RENEWED COMCAST FRANCHISE, THEY REALIZED THAT IT'S ALMOST \$50 MILLION. AND SO WHEN YOU LOOK AT IT OVER THAT 10-YEAR PERIOD, THE COMMISSIONERS DECIDED THAT THEY WANTED TO BE ABLE TO IN 10 YEARS LOOK BACK AND SAY, WE SET OUT TO ACCOMPLISH THESE GOALS, AND HERE'S WHAT WEV ACCOMPLISHED. UP UNTIL THIS POINT, THE WAY THE GRANT PROGRAM WORKED WAS, WE HAVE CRITERIA, AND MATCHING FUNDS ARE REQUIRED. BUT IT'S ANY ORGANIZATION CAN APPLY, WHO'S ELIGIBLE. NOW THE COMMISSION MAY WANT TO PICK A PARTICULAR FOCUS AREA AND THE AREA THAT THEY'RE INITIALLY TALKING ABOUT IS EDUCATION. AND SO OVER THE COURSE OF THE NEXT SIX MONTHS, THE COMMISSION WILL BE LOOKING POTENTIALLY IF THEY PICK EDUCATION, THEY'LL BE LOOKING AT HOW CAN OUR RESOURCES AND INVESTMENT IN TECHNOLOGY MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN EDUCATION? FOR EXAMPLE, COULD WE APPLY THE MONEYS TO HELP INCREASE GRADUATION RATES? IT'S GOING TO BE A LOT OF WORK TO FIGURE THAT OUT. BUT THEY'RE VERY EXCITED ABOUT IT, AND I THINK THE KEY WORD IS THAT THEY WANT TO BE STRATEGIC IN HOW THE MONIES ARE EXPENDED. AND WE WILL BE USING A VERY EXTENSIVE OUTREACH PROCESS, ENSURING THAT WE INCLUDE ALL THE GROUPS IN MULTNOMAH COUNTY.

Commissioner Smith: BUT THAT WOULD JUST BE FOR A PIECE OF THE GRANTED DOLLARS, YOU WOULDN'T TAKE ALL THE MONEY AND SAY IT'S ONLY FOR EDUCATION OR ANY OTHER TRAFFIC AREA?

>> RIGHT. THE INITIAL DISCUSSION WAS THEY WOULD STILL LIKE TO RESERVE A POT OF MONEY FOR ANY SMALL NONPROFIT OR ANY GROUP TO COME. BUT WHEN YOU LOOK AT THE SIZE, BECAUSE OF THE FUNDING HAS INCREASED TO 4.7 MILLION ANNUALLY, IT IS AN OPPORTUNITY TO STEP BACK AND SAY, WHAT IS IT THAT WE WANT TO DO AND HOW CAN WE BE MORE STRATEGIC WITH THESE EXPENDITURES?

Commissioner Smith: THANK YOU.

Chair Cogen: THAT'S GOOD NEWS.

>> JUST TO PUT THAT NUMBER IN PERSPECTIVE, I HEARD THE HEAD OF THE MEIER MEMORIAL TRUST SAY THEY GIVE OUT ABOUT \$45 MILLION A YEAR. AND IT TOOK MY BREATH AWAY WHEN I REALIZED WE WOULD BE DOING ABOUT A 10th OF WHAT THEY DO. THAT'S VERY EXCITING.

>> Chair Cogen: ABSOLUTELY. OTHER QUESTIONS? COMMISSIONER MCKEEL.

>> Commissioner McKeel: JUST A COMMENT. I WANTED TO SAY THANK YOU FOR YOUR PRESENTATION TODAY, AND I PARTICULARLY WANT TO THANK CAROL,

WHO IS OUR COUNTY REPRESENTATIVE ON THE COMMISSION. SO THANK YOU FOR YOUR WORK FOR US AT MULTNOMAH COUNTY.

>> IT'S A PLEASURE.

Chair Cogen: ALL IN FAVOR VOTE AYE? [CHORUS OF AYES] OPPOSE? THE RESOLUTION IS ADOPTED.

>> THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

>> R-5, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT FISCAL YEAR 2014 ACTION PLAN AND ALLOCATIONS APPROVAL.

Commissioner McKeel: SO MOVED.

Vice-Chair Shiprack: SECOND.

Chair Cogen: COMMISSIONER MCKEEL MOVED AND COMMISSIONER SHIPRACK SECONDED, APPROVAL OF R-5.

Ms. Li: GOOD MORNING. MARY LI, COUNTY HUMAN SERVICES.

Ms. Warren: AND REGENA WARREN, COUNTY COMMUNITY SERVICES.

Ms. Li: THIS IS OUR ANNUAL REQUEST FOR APPROVAL FOR OUR FY-14 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PLAN. WE -- THIS IS A FAIRLY SMALL PROGRAM IN THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT WORLD. WE ADMINISTER THIS PROGRAM ON BEHALF OF FIVE JURISDICTIONS IN THE COUNTY THAT DON'T RECEIVE THEIR OWN ENTITLEMENTS. THE WORK IS FOCUSED IN EAST COUNTY. WE COME WITH A PROPOSAL, A RECOMMENDATION THAT HAS BEEN MADE BY OUR TECHNICAL REVIEW COMMITTEE, WHICH IS COMPRISED OF FOLKS WHO REPRESENT THOSE JURISDICTIONS AS WELL AS COMMISSIONER MCKEEL'S OFFICE. THE ALLOCATION OF THESE PROGRAMS IS DONE IN A COMPETITIVE PROCESS, AND YOU HAVE THE SLATE OF PROGRAMS IN FRONT OF YOU I THINK AT THIS POINT. ONE PIECE OF GOOD NEWS IS, WE HAD BUDGETED THE PROJECT AT \$289,000. WE RECEIVED WORD IN A SHOCKING INSTANCE THAT WE'RE ACTUALLY GETTING \$313 FROM -- \$313,000 FROM THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT. SEQUESTRATION CUTS DID HIT COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT FUNDS, BUT THERE WAS AT THE SAME TIME A REALLOCATION FORMULA THAT WAS LOOKED AT, AND SOME BLOCK GRANT PROGRAMS RECEIVED HUGE REDUCTIONS, SOME RECEIVED LITTLE REDUCTIONS, SOME RECEIVED LITTLE INCREASES, AND SOME RECEIVED BIG INCREASES. SO WE ENDED UP WITH AN INCREASE THIS YEAR. WE DON'T ANTICIPATE THAT WILL BE THE CASE THE FOLLOWING YEAR. BUT WE'RE HAPPY TO HAVE IT, AND TO

HAVE SOMETHING THAT'S A LITTLE BIT OF A GOOD NEWS IN TERMS OF FEDERAL FUNDING.

Chair Cogen: NO KIDDING.

Ms. Li: YEAH. WITH THAT, IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS I'D BE HAPPY TO ANSWER THEM.

Commissioner Smith: I HAVE A QUESTION. HOW DO YOU DETERMINE WHICH COMMUNITY GETS A CDBG GRANT? IS IT -- DOES EVERY ONE OF THOSE -- THE FAIRVIEW, WOOD VILLAGE, MAYWOOD PARK, DO THEY EQUALLY GET THEIR SHARE, OR DO YOU JUST PICK A PROJECT AMONG THOSE FIVE?

>> THE COMMUNITY -- THE TECHNICAL ADVISORY GROUP VETS THOSE PROJECTS AND THEY PICK ONE. THERE'S GENERALLY ENOUGH MONEY FOR ONE PUBLIC WORKS PROJECT, AS YOU SEE IT'S IN THE CITY OF FAYEVIEW THIS YEAR. SO I WON'T SAY THEY TAKE TURNS IN TERMS OF BAD PROCUREMENT PROCESS, BUT THEY'RE COLLABORATIVE, AND THEY UNDERSTAND THAT IF SOMEONE IS PROJECTING A NEED IN THE NEXT TWO TO THREE YEARS, THEY KNOW THAT PROPOSAL IS GOING TO COME IN FRONT OF THE TECHNICAL ADVISORY GROUP AND THEY GENERALLY TRY TO HAVE A COOPERATIVE PROCESS IN HOW THEY SEQUENCE AND USE THE FUNDS.

Commissioner Smith: I HAD A CALL FROM SOME FOLKS WHO LIVE IN MAYWOOD PARK. POTENTIALLY THERE MAY BE A HUGE PROJECT IN THE COMING YEARS TO CHANGE OUT THEIR SEWER SYSTEM. IS THAT SOMETHING THAT CDBG MONEY COULD BE USED FOR?

>> ABSOLUTELY. WE HAVE TO ENSURE THAT THE BENEFIT IS TO THE COMMUNITY AND TO LOW-INCOME PURPOSES, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, BUT CERTAINLY THOSE TYPES OF PROJECTS ARE SIMILAR TO ONES WE FUNDED IN THE PAST.

>> Commissioner Smith: THANK YOU.

>> Chair Cogen: OTHER QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS?

>> Commissioner McKeel: I HAVE A QUESTION. THE INCREASE IS IN THE TOTAL AMOUNT, THAT'S --

>> THAT'S RIGHT.

>> Commissioner McKeel: HERE IT SAYS 289, THAT'S GOING TO 313.

>> YES, IT IS.

Commissioner McKeel: GREAT. GREAT. AND I ALSO WANT TO RECOGNIZE SEAN FILES, BECAUSE HE'S FROM MY STAFF. HE SITS ON THE GROUP WITH YOU. SO THANK YOU.

>> ABSOLUTELY. IT'S A SMALL GROUP, BUT THEY KNOW THEIR WORK AND THEY KNOW THE NEEDS OUT IN THE COMMUNITY AND THE AREAS, AND THEY WORK COLLABORATIVELY TO MAKE SURE THEY USE THE BEST -- THE MONEY IN THE BEST WAY.

Chair Cogen: I UNDERSTAND WE HAVE PUBLIC TESTIMONY ON THIS MATTER. WHY DON'T WE CALL THOSE FOLKS UP.

>> GOOD MORNING, I'M BRENDA JOSE FROM UNLIMITED CHOICES. I'M THE DIRECTOR OF THE PROGRAM, AND WHAT I'D LIKE TO SAY IS THANK YOU, ALL OF YOU. YOU WERE THE FIRST FUNDERS OF OUR PROGRAM 20 YEARS AGO. AND SO TO HONOR THAT, WE'VE PUT TOGETHER A LITTLE PLAQUE THANKING YOU FOR OUR 20-YEAR PARTNERSHIP HAS PRODUCED MIRACLES. THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

Chair Cogen: THAT'S GREAT.

>> WHEN WE STARTED THE PROJECT IN THE PLANNING PROCESS, GLADYS McCOY WAS THE CHAIR OF THE COMMISSION. AND BUD CLARK WAS THE MAYOR OF PORTLAND. IT WAS A LONG TIME AGO. WE MAKE HOMES AND APARTMENTS ACCESSIBLE FOR LOW-INCOME PEOPLE IN ALL OF THOSE JURISDICTIONS, AND WE DO CRITICAL HOME REPAIR FOR ALL OF THOSE FOLKS. AND THIS YEAR OUR NEXT PROJECT UP ON THE DECK RIGHT NOW IS WITH GREG KURT, WHO IS AT WOOD VILLAGE. THEY HAVE A BRUSH-UP WOOD VILLAGE PAINT PROGRAM. THEY RAN INTO LEAD PAINT ON A HOUSE SO WE'RE GOING TO HELP THEM AMELIORATE THAT, SO THE COMMUNITY VOLUNTEERS CAN GO FORWARD WITH THAT, GETTING THEMSELVES POISONED. AND THERE'S ONE MORE THING I'D LIKE TO THANK YOU FOR, BECAUSE WE'RE GETTING READY TO WORK -- WE BOUGHT THE MONTAVILLA LIBRARY BUILDING THROUGH A HELP FROM THE COUNTY, AND WE'RE NOW -- IT'S GOING TO BE UNDERGOING A COMPLETE RENOVATION. SO WE HOPE TO BE INVITING YOU TO AN OPEN HOUSE SOMETIME REAL SOON IN THE COMING YEAR. BUT THANK YOU SO VERY MUCH.

Chair Cogen: THAT'S GREAT.

>> FOR 20 YEARS OF SERVICE.

Chair Cogen: THANKS FOR THE GREAT WORK YOU DO. OTHER QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS? ALL IN FAVOR? [CHORUS OF AYES] OPPOSED? THE PLAN AND ALLOCATIONS ARE APPROVED.

>> THANK YOU.

>> R-6, INFORMATIONAL BOARD BRIEFING REGARDING THE SAUVIE ISLAND/MULTNOMAH COUNTY CHANNEL SCOPING REPORT AND UPDATE OF THE SAUVIE ISLAND/MULTNOMAH COUNTY RURAL AREA PLAN AND TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM PLAN.

>> GOOD MORNING CHAIR COGEN AND COMMISSIONERS. I'M CHUCK BEASLEY, WITH MULTNOMAH COUNTY LAND USE AND TRANSPORTATION DIVISION. WITH ME HERE IS JOANNA VALENCIA, WHO IS OUR SENIOR TRANSPORTATION PLANNER. AND WITH US ALSO TODAY HANDING OUT SOME COPIES OF THE PRESENTATION IS PLANNER KEVIN COOK. JOANNA AND KEVIN WERE THE PRIMARY STAFF ON THIS SCOPING PROJECT THAT WE'RE GOING TO TALK ABOUT TODAY. BEFORE I GET STARTED, I JUST WANT TO POINT OUT WE'VE GOT A LITTLE GLITCH IN OUR PRESENTATION. APPARENTLY WE DON'T HAVE ACCESS TO THE SCREEN TODAY, SO WE HAVE A FEW COPIES OF THIS POWER POINT PRESENTATION THAT WE'RE PASSING OUT TO THE AUDIENCE SO PEOPLE CAN FOLLOW ALONG WITH US. WE UNDERSTAND THAT YOU HAVE ACCESS TO THIS. SO THE LAND USE AND TRANSPORTATION PLANNING DIVISION IS PROVIDING THIS BRIEFING TO REVIEW THE RESULTS OF OUR OUTREACH TO THE SAUVIE ISLAND AND MULTNOMAH CHANNEL COMMUNITY, AND TO TOUCH ON HOW WE'LL FOLLOW UP WITH A RURAL AREA PLAN UPDATE. WE CONDUCTED A COMPREHENSIVE PUBLIC OUTREACH EFFORT IN FEBRUARY THROUGH APRIL OF THIS YEAR, AND THE RESULTS OF THAT WORK ARE INCLUDED IN THE SCOPING REPORT THAT IS ATTACHMENT A TO THIS, APR. WE INITIATED THE SCOPING PROCESS TO DETERMINE IF THERE IS A NEED TO UPDATE THE LAND USE AND TRANSPORTATION PLANS FOR THE AREA. WE TOOK THE SCOPING REPORT TO THE PLANNING COMMISSION AT THEIR MAY MEETING, AND THE COMMISSION, CITIZENS, AND STAFF ALL AGREED THERE IS A NEED TO UPDATE THIS RURAL AREA PLAN. I WANT TO NOTE HERE WE'RE AWARE THAT THE BOARD RECEIVED SEVERAL LETTERS ABOUT THIS THIS WEEK, AND WE UNDERSTAND THERE ARE PEOPLE HERE THAT ARE INTERESTED IN TESTIFYING TODAY. SO OUR PRESENTATION TODAY WILL TOUCH ON THE UNIQUE CHARACTERISTICS OF THE RURAL PLANNING AREA ON PRIOR PLANNING WORK IN THE AREA AND CHANGES THAT WE RECOGNIZE. REVIEW OF THE SCOPING PROCESS WE CONDUCTED. THE KEY MESSAGES THAT WE HEARD DURING OUR OUTREACH AND THEN AGAIN HOW WE PLAN TO CONDUCT A PLAN UPDATE IN FISCAL YEAR 2014. THE NEXT SLIDE IS, THE SETTING OF THE PROJECT AREA IS DEFINED GEOGRAPHICALLY BY THE WEST HILLS THAT RUN ALONG THE WEST HILLS OF THE PLAN AREA, AND BY THE COLUMBIA AND WILLAMETTE RIVERS IS VERY DISTINCT GEOGRAPHY. THE PLANNING AREA BOUNDARY ON THE WEST RUNS ALONG STATE HIGHWAY 30 FROM THE CITY OF PORTLAND BOUNDARY UP TO THE COLUMBIA COUNTY LINE ON THE NORTH AND THEN ALONG THE ISLAND EDGES. OTHER FEATURES THAT SHAPE THE PLANNING ENVIRONMENT HERE ARE THE ADJACENCY TO THE CITY OF PORTLAND AND THAT LARGE AND

GROWING POPULATION CENTER, ACCESS TO THE ISLAND IS LIMITED TO ONE POINT, A BRIDGE THAT'S A MILE AND A HALF OR SO FROM THE CITY BOUNDARY. THERE IS A SIGNIFICANT FARM INDUSTRY ON THIS ISLAND, IT'S THE MOST IMPORTANT ONE IN MULTNOMAH COUNTY. AND THERE'S ALSO SIGNIFICANT WATER-RELATED WILDLIFE HABITAT, PARTICULARLY ALONG THE WILLAMETTE RIVER GREENWAY, WHICH FOLLOWS THE MULTNOMAH COUNTY CHANNEL. SO TURNING TO THE NEXT SLIDE, THE FIRST RURAL LAND USE PLAN FOR THIS AREA WAS ADOPTED BACK IN 1997, AND IT WAS THE SECOND OF FOUR RURAL AREA PLANS THAT THE COUNTY DEVELOPED TO RECOGNIZE THE DIFFERENT GEOGRAPHIES AND COMMUNITY NEEDS IN OUR RURAL AREAS OF THE COUNTY. THE TRANSPORTATION PLAN FOR THIS AREA IS PART OF THE WEST SIDE TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM PLAN, THAT WAS ADOPTED A YEAR LATER IN 1998. THERE HAVE BEEN SOME CHANGES IN THE INTERVENING 16 YEARS, AND SOME OF THOSE INCLUDE THE OBVIOUS, WHICH IS INCREASED POPULATION GROWTH, IN NEARBY URBAN AREAS. WE'RE HEARING CONCERNS ABOUT CHANNEL CROSSINGS, RAILROAD CROSSINGS ALONG HIGHWAY 30 BETWEEN THAT HIGHWAY AND DEVELOPMENT ALONG THE CHANNEL. TRAFFIC CONGESTION AND DIFFICULTIES OCCASIONALLY FOR EMERGENCY VEHICLES. AND WHETHER WILDLIFE HABITAT PROTECTIONS IN OUR WILLAMETTE RIVER GREENWAY PLAN ARE REALLY ADEQUATE, AND THEN THERE ARE OTHER ISSUES, AND YOU'LL HEAR ABOUT SOME OF THOSE LATER THIS MORNING. THESE ARE SOME OF THE CONCERNS WHORE -- WHY WE THINK IT'S THE RIGHT TIME TO START THIS PROCESS NOW. AND I THINK JOANNA --

Ms. Valencia: THANKS, CHUCK. SO FOR THE RECORD, JOANNA VALENCIA, SENIOR TRANSPORTATION PLANNER. CONTINUING ON IN DISCUSSION AND GOING OVER THE SCOPING PROCESS, SO WHAT WE ASKED, ONE OF THE KEY THINGS WE ASKED IS WHAT DOES THE COMMUNITY ENVISION FOR THE ISLAND IN THE NEXT 20 YEARS? REALLY TALK ABOUT WHAT THE VALUES AND WHAT THEY SEE FOR THEIR COMMUNITY. AND WE IS ALSO ASKED, WHAT ARE SOME OF THE ISSUES THE COMMUNITY IS FACING? AND TRYING TO CAPTURE THAT, AND AS PART OF THIS PROCESS WE WENT BACK TO THEM AND SAID, OK, HERE'S WHAT WE HEARD, HAVE WE MISSED ANYTHING. WE ALSO STARTED GOING THROUGH OUR PRIORITIZATION PROCESS WITH THE COMMUNITY TO SEE IF ANYTHING OF THESE ARE MORE KEY OR LESS KEY TO ADDRESS AS PART OF THE PROCESS. IN REGARDS TO HOW WE GATHERED INFORMATION CONTINUING TO THE NEXT SLIDE, WE HAD A PRETTY ROBUST PROCESS. AND I THINK A LOT OF PEOPLE APPRECIATED THERE WAS A LOT OF DIFFERENT WAYS PEOPLE COULD GET ENGAGED IN THE PROCESS, WHETHER IT BE THROUGH PARTICIPATION IN OPEN HOUSES AND TALKING TO STAFF THERE, OR EVEN JUST TALKING AMONGST THEIR COMMUNITY MEMBERS, OR TO SUMMITTING WRITTEN COMMENTS FOR THOSE FOLKS WHO ARE A LITTLE MORE SHY ABOUT PARTICIPATING IN A MORE OPEN PUBLIC PROCESS. SO JUST REALLY QUICKLY GOING OVER IT, WE WENT -- WE HAD TWO PUBLIC OPEN HOUSES, ONE TO KICK IT OFF IN MARCH, AND ONE TO COME BACK TO

THE COMMUNITY SAY, HERE'S WHAT WE HEARD FROM THE FIRST OPEN HOUSE, AND THROUGH THE FEEDBACK WE CAPTURED EVERYTHING BACK IN APRIL. AND THEN WE WENT THROUGH -- WE HAD TWO GOVERNMENT AND NONGOVERNMENT STAKEHOLDER MEETINGS, SO WE HAD A ROBUST PARTICIPATION FROM GOVERNMENT STAKEHOLDERS INCLUDING REPRESENTATIVES FROM NOAA FISHERIES, THE U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS, THE OREGON DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE, ODOT, AND DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY, AND ALSO FROM THE WEST MULTNOMAH COUNTY SOIL AND CONSERVATION DISTRICT. SO WE HAD HEAVY PARTICIPATION AS PART OF THE GOVERNMENT STAKEHOLDER GROUPS, AND SAME WITH THE NONGOVERNMENT STAKEHOLDER GROUPS. WE INVITE THE COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS TO COME AND PARTICIPATE AND GIVE US FEEDBACK, AND ALSO WE HAD BIKE AND PED COMMUNITY MEMBERS COME AND PARTICIPATE AS PART OF THAT AS WELL. AND THEN WITH THAT, WE HAD TWO FOCUS GROUPS TO LOOK -- DELVE MORE INTO MORE OF THE DETAILS OF WHAT WE HEARD. DIVIDING IT UP INTO A CHANNEL FOCUS GROUP AND AN ISLAND FOCUS GROUP. WITH THAT WE HAD FARMERS, BUSINESS OWNERS, OWNERS OF HUNTING CLUBS THAT ARE ON THE ISLAND, NATURAL RESOURCE ADVOCATES, AND RESIDENTS PARTICIPATE DURING THE FOCUS GROUP MEETINGS TO HAVE MORE DISCUSSIONS ABOUT SOME OF THE ISSUES THAT WE HEARD TO TRY TO FLUSH IT OUT A LITTLE BIT MORE. SO CONTINUING TO THE NEXT SLIDE, JUST KIND OF GIVING YOU AN IDEA OF WHAT PUBLIC OUTREACH WE HAD. IT WAS PRETTY AMAZING, WE HAD A LOT OF ONLINE PARTICIPATION AND PRESENCE. AS YOU CAN SEE FROM THE GRAPH, WE HAD ABOUT 179 RESPONSES RECEIVED ONLINE, SO JUST A TESTAMENT TO A LOT OF THE MOVEMENT TO ONLINE PARTICIPATION. AND ALSO RECEIVED 25% RESPONSE RATE. SO AS PART OF THIS PROCESS, WE DID OUTREACH TO EVERYONE ON THE ISLAND AS PART OF OUR INITIAL KICKOFF, WE DID SEND A MAILING TO EVERYONE IN THE AREA, AND TO RECEIVE A 25% RESPONSE RATE IS PRETTY AMAZING FOR THIS PROCESS. AND SPENT APPROXIMATELY 22 HOURS ENGAGING PEOPLE, ATTENDING MEETINGS, COMMUNITY FAIRS, STAKEHOLDER MEETINGS, AND FACE-TO-FACE ENGAGEMENT WITH THE COMMUNITY. AND RECEIVED APPROXIMATELY 132 PEOPLE ATTENDING THE MEETINGS. PRETTY SUCCESSFUL PUBLIC OUTREACH PROCESS. THE NEXT SLIDE WILL GO OVER WHAT WE HEARD. SO THERE'S A REAL DESIRE TO MAINTAIN THE RURAL CHARACTER OF THIS AREA. THIS IS A UNIQUE AREA, IT'S ABOUT 20-MINUTE LOCATION FROM DOWNTOWN PORTLAND, AND TO BE ABLE TO DO OUT THERE AND DRIVE AND BE IN THIS RURAL AREA IS A DEFINITELY A VALUE THE COMMUNITY SAW. AND WITH THAT COMES ALONG THE DESIRE TO PROTECT, MAINTAIN AND ENHANCE THE WILDLIFE AREA. WE KNOW THERE'S A FISH AND RIPARIAN HABITAT ALONG THE CHANNEL, BUT THERE'S ALSO GREAT WILDLIFE VIEWING OPTIONS ON THE ISLAND, AND THERE'S A DESIRE TO PROTECT THAT. AND THEN ALSO THERE'S A DESIRE TO CONTINUE TO SUPPORT FARMING, PRESERVING FARMING AND FARMLAND ON THE ISLAND. AND THEN ALSO WITH THIS COMES IMPACTS FROM USERS. WITH THE RECREATIONAL AND FARMING

OPPORTUNITIES OUT THERE, THERE'S CONCERNS ABOUT THE CUMULATIVE IMPACTS OF THE AMOUNTS OF VISITORS TO THE ISLAND. AND ALSO THE CONCERN ABOUT THE RESIDENTIAL AND FARMING CONFLICTS. AND ADDRESSING THAT. AND ALSO, CONTINUING ON TO THE NEXT SLIDE, WE HEARD ALONG THE ISLAND -- ALONG THE CHANNEL THERE'S CONCERNS ABOUT STANDARDS FOR MOORAGES AND MARINA AND HAVING CLEAR RULES AND REGULATIONS ALONG THE CHANNEL. AND WITH THAT GOES IN HAND WITH CONCERNS WITH WATER QUALITY AND UTILITY SERVICES ON THE CHANNEL. AND ROAD SAFETY, CONGESTION AND TRAFFIC CONFLICTS. CONFLICTS WITH ALL MODES OF USERS, TO THE FARM EQUIPMENT ON THE ISLAND, MOTOR VEHICLES, AND BIKES AND PEDS. AND ALSO ALONG THE CHANNEL THERE HAS BEEN CONCERNS ABOUT RAILROAD CROSSINGS, ABOUT MAINTAINING ACCESS, ABOUT CONCERNS WITH EMERGENCY ACCESS AND INSTANCES WHERE THERE ARE INCIDENTS RELATED TO THE RAILROAD AND BEING ABLE TO MAINTAIN SOME SORT OF AN ACCESS CHANNEL SO RESIDENTS CAN GO IN AND OUT SAFELY ALONG THEIR PROPERTY THERE. SO THOSE ARE SOME OF THE THINGS WE HEARD, AND NOW I'LL TURN IT OVER TO CHUCK AND GO OVER THE NEXT STEPS.

>> WE WANT TO CLOSE WITH AN OUTLINE OF WHAT WE PLAN TO DO NEXT. WE INTEND TO KICK OFF A PLANNING PROCESS SOON AND TO COMPLETE THAT PROCESS AS I INDICATED EARLIER, IN FISCAL YEAR 2014. WE WILL CONTINUE TO ENGAGE CITIZENS AND STAKEHOLDERS IN THE PLANNED DEVELOPMENT PROCESS USING THE SAME TOOLS WE USED IN THE SCOPING PROCESS. THOSE WORK REAL WELL TO GET PEOPLE ENGAGED, SO WE'RE GOING TO CONTINUE THAT. AS WE HAVE TYPICALLY DONE IN THE PAST, WE'LL CONVENE A CITIZEN TASK FORCE TO HEAR ABOUT ISSUES AND ASSIST STAFF IN DEVELOPING SOLUTIONS THAT SOLVE PROBLEMS AND BALANCE INTERESTS. AND WE'LL TAKE THE PLAN AND POLICY AND ZONING CODE AMENDMENTS TO THE PLANNING COMMISSION AND THEN TO YOU FOR APPROVAL AT THE END OF THE PROCESS. SO THIS CONCLUDES OUR PRESENTATION. UNLESS HAVE YOU QUESTIONS NOW, WE YIELD THE FLOOR TO HEAR FROM PEOPLE WHO WANT TO --

>> Chair Cogen: ARE THERE QUESTIONS?

>> Commissioner McKeel: WILL YOU JUST REMIND ME AGAIN THE TIME LINE OF WHEN THIS PIECE STARTED AND WHEN IT ENDED?

>> YEAH. WE STARTED THE OUTREACH PROCESS IN FEBRUARY OF THIS YEAR. AND CONCLUDED THE FORMAL COLLECTION PROCESS IN APRIL. BUT THEN WE HAD A PLANNING COMMISSION HEARING WHERE WE ACTUALLY GOT MORE INPUT, AND THAT WAS IN MAY.

Commissioner McKeel: AND THEN --

>> YOU'LL HEAR MORE TODAY. SO WE'RE REALLY NOT DONE.

Commissioner McKeel: AND THEN YOU'RE GOING TO MOVE ON TO THE UPDATE, THE PLAN UPDATE. CORRECT? AND HOW -- WHAT'S THE TIME LINE FOR THAT, DO YOU ANTICIPATE?

>> WE'RE ANTICIPATING COMING TO YOU LATE IN FISCAL YEAR 2014, EARLY 2015.

Commissioner McKeel: THANK YOU.

Chair Cogen: COMMISSIONER KAFOURY.

Commissioner Kafoury: I JUST WANT TO SAY THANK YOU, PARTICULARLY TO JOANNA AND KEVIN. I THINK YOU'VE DONE AN AMAZING JOB OF GETTING COMMUNITY INPUT. I'M REALLY EXCITED, I THINK THIS PLANNING IS LONG OVERDUE, AND I KNOW THAT -- I ALSO WANT TO THANK THE ISLAND RESIDENTS WHO HAVE BEEN REALLY SUPPORTIVE AND WHO HAVE BEEN ENGAGED AND COMMUNICATIVE, AND WE LOOK FORWARD TO HAVING SOME - - SOMETHING REALLY GOOD COME OUT FROM THIS PROCESS. SO THANK YOU.

Chair Cogen: DO WE HAVE PEOPLE SIGNED UP TO TESTIFY ON THIS?

>> JANE HARTLINE, MARY GREEN FELD, LINDA CLARKQUIST AND KATHLEEN MCGINTY. PLEASE COME FORWARD.

>> I'M JANE HARTLINE, THE COORDINATOR OF THE SAUVIE ISLAND HABITAT PARTNERSHIP. AND IN THAT CAPACITY I WRANGLE VOLUNTEERS, LOTS OF RESOURCES, VOLUNTEERS, TECHNICAL INFORMATION, AND FUNDS FOR HABITAT CONSERVATION PROJECTS ON THE ISLAND. I'M ALSO THE CHAIR OF THE WEST MULTNOMAH CONSERVATION DISTRICT, AND THEY DO A LOT OF WORK ON THE ISLAND, ON PUBLIC -- ON PRIVATE LANDS, AND SO WHEN I LOOKED THROUGH THE LAST PLAN, I NOTICED THERE WERE SOME NATIONAL RESOURCES CONCERNS ADDRESSED IN THAT. THE COUNTY DOESN'T OWN A LOT OF LAND ON THE ISLAND WHERE THERE ARE OPPORTUNITIES FOR, THAT BUT THERE ARE ROADWAYS ALONG THE BRIDGE, BUT THERE ARE ALSO OTHER ISSUES LIKE THE EMOTION ALONG THE CHANNEL, AND OTHER ISSUES THAT PROBABLY SHOULD BE ADDRESSED IN THE PLAN. SO I JUST WANTED TO SAY I STAND WILLING TO HELP WORK ON SOME OF THAT, AND I KNOW THE CONSERVATION DISTRICT IS STANDING BY AND IS HOPING THAT YOU WILL INVOLVE THEM IN -- WHEN IT COMES TO NATURAL RESOURCE ISSUES, AND WE'RE GLAD YOU'RE TAGGING THIS, AND I WOULD AGREE KEVIN AND JOANNA HAVE DONE A FABULOUS JOB OF GETTING OUR INPUT, AND I LOOK FORWARD TO WORKING WITH THEM.

Chair Cogen: THANK YOU. GOOD MORNING.

>> CHAIR COGEN, COMMISSIONER, I'M MARK GREENFIELD, I AM THE VICE-PRESIDENT OF THE SAUVIE ISLAND COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION AND ALSO CHAIR OF ITS LAND USE COMMITTEE. THERE ARE SEVEN MEMBERS OF THE SAUVIE ISLAND BOARD -- OF THE BOARD OF THE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION, INCLUDING TWO WHO ARE MEMBERS OF FAMILIES OF COMMERCIAL FARMERS ON THE ISLAND. SO THERE'S A GOOD DIVERSITY OF PEOPLE ON OUR BOARD, AND THE ISLAND ITSELF IS A VERY DIVERSE COMMUNITY THAT HAS MANY DIFFERENT INTERESTS AND MANY DIFFERENT ATTITUDES. YET ITS RESIDENTS DO TONED SHARE THE SENSE OF PLACE ABOUT THE ISLAND. IT'S RURAL AGRICULTURAL CHARACTER, ITS NATURAL RESOURCE AND HABITAT FOR WILDLIFE, AND ITS RECREATIONAL TUNS FOR FISHING, HUNTING, BIRDING, BICYCLE RIDING, HIKING, ETC. MY COMMENTS I'M GOING TO GIVE YOU REFLECT COMMENTS IN AN APRIL 4th, 2013, LETTER WRITTEN FOR THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION TO KEVIN, AND WE TOO REALLY STRONGLY BELIEVE THE STAFF HAS DONE A GREAT JOB ON THIS. PROBABLY THE BIGGEST CONCERNS WE HAVE ARE FIRST OF ALL THERE'S A REAL SERENITY OF LIVING ON SAUVIE ISLAND. THERE'S A REAL SENSE OF PLACE AND A REAL SENSE OF UNIQUENESS AND WATCHING OUT FOR PEOPLE'S NEIGHBORS. PEOPLE WHO VISIT THE ISLAND LOVE SAUVIE ISLAND, ONE OF OUR CONCERNS IS IT MIGHT BE LOVE TOO MUCH AS WE WATCH A 2 MILLION POPULATION URBAN AREA EXPANDING EVEN GREATER INTO THE FUTURE, AND WE'RE OF COURSE THE CLOSEST BEACH, A GOOD BICYCLING PLACE, AND THINGS LIKE THAT. THINGS THAT WE TAKE INTO CONSIDERATION ARE WHAT IS THE CARRYING CAPACITY? WE HAVE SUBSTANDARD ROADS, THE EMERGENCY SERVICES ARE PROVIDED BY A VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, AND THERE'S -- I DON'T THINK THERE'S THAT MANY PEOPLE WHO ARE PART OF THAT. THERE'S NOT GOOD CONNECTIVITY IN THE ROAD SYSTEM, THERE ARE NO URBAN SERVICES, AND WE ONLY HAVE THAT SINGLE ACCESS ON AND OFF. WE DON'T KNOW HOW MUCH POPULATION AND VISITATION WE CAN ACCOMMODATE. WE ARE CONCERNED, ESPECIALLY AS WE START TO HEAR COMMENTS FROM PEOPLE IN THE FIRE DEPARTMENT OF DIFFICULTIES GETTING TO PEOPLE WHO NEED IMMEDIATE SERVICES, THAT WE MAY BE REACHING THAT POINT. THERE WERE OVER A MILLION VISITORS I BELIEVE IT WAS A COUPLE YEARS AGO, I THINK THAT WAS JUST TO THE WILDLIFE REFUGE, AND THOSE NUMBERS ARE INCREASING. ONE OF OUR CONCERNS IS THAT THE AREA RETAIN ITS AGRICULTURAL CHARACTER. THERE ARE ISSUES THAT HAVE BEEN RAISED BETWEEN CONFLICTS BETWEEN FARMING AND EVENTS ON FARMLANDS, EITHER THROUGH FARM STANDS OR THROUGH AGRITOURISM. WE THINK THOSE ISSUES REALLY NEED TO BE ADDRESSED.

Chair Cogen: THANK YOU VERY MUCH. GOOD MORNING.

>> GOOD MORNING. I'M LINDA CLARKQUIST, AND MY HUSBAND AND I OWN A HOME ON THE ISLAND, AND WE THINK IT IS A VERY SPECIAL PLACE, AND THE QUALITY OF LIFE THERE IS PRETTY AMAZING. AND WE'RE VERY CONCERNED THAT WE ARE ABLE TO MAINTAIN THAT QUALITY OF LIFE, AND I COULD REITERATE EVERYTHING MARK HAS SAID IN TERMS OF WHAT IS SPECIAL ABOUT IT, AND WHERE -- OUR INFRASTRUCTURE BEING SO CLOSE TO PORTLAND, WHICH IS A HUGE METROPOLITAN CITY. THEY'RE THERE ARE PROBABLY VERY FEW RURAL AREAS THAT DEAL WITH THAT KIND OF PROXIMITY TO A LARGE CITY. SO I GUESS I WOULD REITERATE, I THINK THE INPUT RECEIVED HAS BEEN TREMENDOUS, AND I THINK THEY'VE HEARD OUR CONCERNS AND I FEEL VERY GOOD ABOUT THE PROCESS THAT HAS TAKEN PLACE SO FAR.

Chair Cogen: THANK YOU. GOOD MORNING.

>> GOOD MORNING. I'M KATHLEEN MCGINTY, I'M ON THE SAFETY ACTION TEAM. AND I JUST WANT TO ADD ONE THING -- WE HAVE 30 VOLUNTEERS, AND THEY'RE NOT ALWAYS THERE. THEY LIKE TO HUNT AND FISH, AND HAVE A LIFE. AND IT IS VERY CONCERNING, AS YOU GET OLDER, HOW ARE THEY GOING TO GET TO US BECAUSE OF THE TRAFFIC ON THE ISLAND? THANK YOU.

Chair Cogen: THANK YOU ALL VERY MUCH FOR COMING IN. DO WE HAVE ANYONE ELSE SIGNED UP?

>> MY NAME IS JOHNNY, I'M A FARMER ON SAUVIE ISLAND. SO WHAT WE'VE HEARD TODAY IS A SIDE OF REPELLANTS LIVE ON THE ISLAND. THE OTHER SIDE IS THE BUSINESSES THAT LIVE ON THE ISLAND. THAT'S WHO I'M HERE TO REPRESENT, THE BUSINESSES AND THE FARMERS. ONE THING YOU HAVE TO LOOK AT WHEN YOU'RE LOOKING TO DO WHATEVER PLANNING ON DOING THIS, IS AN AGRICULTURAL ZONE. IT'S ZONED FOR BUSINESS. SO WHATEVER PLAN THEY DECIDE TO TAKE, THEY NEED TO MAKE SURE THAT THEIR INTENTION IS TO HELP BUSINESSES THRIVE. EVEN THOUGH THERE MIGHT BE A CARRYING CAPACITY, NOBODY SAYS I DON'T WANT BUSINESSES MOVING INTO DOWNTOWN PORTLAND. SO YOU HAVE TO TAKE THAT INTO CONSIDERATION. ANOTHER CONSIDERATION THAT HAS TO BE TAKEN INTO IS THE CUMULATIVE IMPACT THAT'S COMING FROM BOTH FOR-PROFIT AND NONPROFIT EVENTS. THERE'S A LOT OF NONPROFIT EVENTS BEING HELD ON THE ISLAND TODAY, I HAD A NEIGHBOR, HE HAD 50 CARS OUT AT HIS HOUSE. FOR US WE HAVE A BUSINESS OUT THERE, WE HAD GONE THROUGH NUMEROUS THINGS WITH THE COUNTY, GETTING PERMITS, MAKE SURE THAT WE CAN ADEQUATELY HANDLE THE AMOUNT OF PEOPLE THAT ARE COMING TO OUR PLACE. UNLIKE SOMEONE WHO IS DOING A NONPROFIT EVENT, HELD AT SOMEONE'S HOUSE, THEY HAVE A SEPTIC SYSTEM THIS, IS ALL PRIVATE SEPTIC SYSTEMS, WE'RE NOT ON THE CITY SEWER, SO WHAT ENDS UP HAPPENING IS THEY NEED TO FIND A WAY TO WHERE THERE'S A BALANCE

BETWEEN THESE EVENTS, AND MAKE SURE THESE EVENTS AREN'T OVERPOWERING AND TAKING OVER LAND THAT'S USED FOR FARMING. ANY QUESTIONS FOR ME?

Chair Cogen: THANK YOU.

>> MY NAME IS MIKE HASHEM, ON BEHALF OF BELLA ORGANIC FARM ON SAUVIE ISLAND. I WANT TO THANK KEVIN AND JOANNA FOR THE SCOPING REPORT, IT WAS WELL DONE. I'M PROVIDING MY COMMENT IN SUPPORT OF THE SCOPING EFFORT. ALSO I WOULD LIKE TO WARN THE COMMISSIONERS TO NOT BE CONFUSED BY SOME OF THE LANGUAGE IN THE REPORT, AND REMIND THEM TO FOCUS ON CREATING A BALANCED PLAN AMONG VARIOUS INTERESTS AND VISION OF WHAT SHOULD AND SHOULD NOT BE CHANGED ON THE ISLAND. WE DON'T NEED NEW LAWS. WE ALREADY HAVE LOTS OF RULES ON THE BOOKS. JUST LET US FIGURE THOSE OUT AND TRY TO STREAMLINE THEM SO CITIZENS WOULD USE THEM. THE PLANNING DEPARTMENT NEED YOUR GUIDANCE TO BE BUSINESS FRIENDLY, TO HELP OUR FARMING COMMUNITY WITH ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND JOB CREATION. THE REPORT DISCUSSED THE NEED FOR EVERYONE WHO ENGAGES IN ANY TYPE OF BUSINESS ON THE ISLAND, INCLUDING THE NOT-FOR-PROFIT GROUPS TO BE REQUIRED TO OBTAIN A PERMIT. IT IS EASY TO CONFUSE EVENT HOSTED BY PERMITTED FARM STAND AND EVENTS POSTED BY UNPERMITTED FARMS OR INDIVIDUALS OR BY THE NONPROFIT GROUPS ON THE ISLAND. THE GOAL IS TO REQUIRE ALL BUSINESSES, INDIVIDUAL AND ORGANIZATIONS FOR PROFIT OR NOT, TO OBTAIN PERMIT AS A WAY TO MEASURE IMPACT ON THE ISLAND. PERMITTED FARM STANDS ARE ALREADY OVERREGULATED. LICENSED FARM STANDS HAVE SPENT THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS PROVIDING STUDIES, SANITATION, AND ENGINEERING REPORTS TO OPERATE THEIR FARMS. THE PROBLEM IS MANY INDIVIDUAL AND ORGANIZATIONS ENGAGE IN BUSINESS ON THE ISLAND AND PROVIDE NO PLANS ON HOW TO MANAGE THE IMPACT AND SIMPLY LEAVES EXISTING BUSINESSES TO MAKE THEIR MONEY UNREGULATED. THE COUNTY SHOULD RECOGNIZE THE ECONOMIC VALUE OF FARMS IN THE COMMUNITY, JUST AS CLACKAMAS COUNTY HAS DONE. FARM CREATE JOBS AND HELP INCREASE ECONOMIC VIABILITY OF MULTNOMAH COUNTY. I HOPE YOU WILL TRY TO STREAMLINE THE PERMIT PROCESS SO MORE FARMERS CAN MAKE A LIVING FROM THEIR FARM, EMPLOY PEOPLE, AND KEEP OTHER FARMLAND AND FARMING INSTEAD OF SUBDIVIDING THE LAND. YOU HEARD STORIES ABOUT THE MILLION VISITORS TO SAUVIE ISLAND ANNUALLY. HOW EVENTS WOULD CREATE TRAFFIC PROBLEM. OR THE FEAR OF PREVENTING EMERGENCY VEHICLES FROM REACHING THEIR DESTINATION. BUT THE SAME PEOPLE WHO TALKED ABOUT THOSE PROBLEMS PROVIDE YOU WITH NO EVIDENCE OR EXAMPLE OF SUCH PROBLEM. PEOPLE HAVE VISITED THE ISLAND FOR YEARS, THE ISLAND COMES TO LIFE FOR A FEW MONTHS A YEAR, WHEN OREGON'S SUN SHOWS ITS FACE, VISITORS VISIT THE FARMS AND BEACHES, AND FOR SEVEN MONTHS THE ISLAND GOES TO SLEEP. DUCKS AND GEESE TAKE OVER. THE

NEW BRIDGE HAS SOLVED THE TRAFFIC PROBLEM AND THE MORE FARMS OPEN THEIR DOORS TO VISITOR, THE LESS TRAFFIC IMPACT WE WILL SEE. IT IS THE OPPOSITE OF WHAT YOU HAVE BEEN TOLD. SINCE WE STARTED OPERATING OUR CORN MAZE IN OCTOBER, THE ISLAND HAS SEEN VERY LITTLE TRAFFIC DELAY. TRAFFIC GETS DISTRIBUTED BETWEEN FARMS, AND IN THE OLD DAYS WHEN ONE FARM OPERATED A CORN MAZE TRAFFIC USED TO BACK UP FIVE MILES ALL THE WAY INTO LINNTON. AND IT TOOK HOUR AND A HALF TO GET ON AND OFF THE ISLAND. BALANCE IS THE WORD OF WISDOM HERE TODAY. RIGHT REGULATION FOR WHAT IS NOT REGULATED, APPLY THE CODE EQUALLY AND USE COUNTY RESOURCES WISELY. THANK YOU.

Chair Cogen: THANK YOU.

>> HI, I'M SHIRLEY ASHTON. I HAVE A FACILITY ON THE OUTSIDE OF THE -- THE MULTNOMAH CHANNEL ALONG HIGHWAY 30. I WANT TO THANK KEVIN AND JOANNA. THEY WERE EXCELLENT DURING THIS PLANNING PROCESS. MY FACILITY IS ON THE SOUTH SIDE, WHICH IS THE HIGHWAY 30 SIDE. IT'S BEEN IN CONTINUOUS OPERATION FOR OVER 100 YEARS. AND WE'RE IN COMPLIANCE, AND WE'RE CONDITION THE 26 POLICY AREA. MY HUSBAND AND I PURCHASED THE PROPERTY IN 2000 AND UNLIKE SOME OF OUR MOORAGE OWNER NEIGHBORS, WE DID NOT INHERIT THE PROPERTY. WE'RE PROFESSIONAL MERCHANT MARINERS WHO PURCHASED THE PROPERTY TO MAKE A LIVING ON ITS USE AS A BOAT YARD FACILITY AND A MARINA. IT'S NOT A FAIRYTALE STORY. THE PROPERTY WAS IN DISREPAIR, THE UPLANDS WERE BEING USED FOR THE STORAGE OF CONTAINERS, EQUIPMENT, AND MACHINERY, THE BEAVERS ANDH TAKEN THROUGH TREES AND EATEN THROUGH VEGETATION AND THE BOAT YARD WAS RUN DOWN. THE MARINA NEEDED UPGRADES AND THERE WERE BETTERS LIVING IN THE MARINA WITH NO PUMP-OUT FACILITY. WITH A VISION OF IMPROVING THE PROPERTY, FURTHER DEVELOPING THE EXISTING USE FOR OUR LIVELIHOOD AND STARTING A FAMILY, WE EMBARKED ON THE MULTNOMAH COUNTY PLANNING AND PERMITTING PROCESS. DERRICK WAS OUR PLANNER AT THE TIME, AND WE SPENT MANY HOURS POURING OVER THE DETAILS OF OUR PLANS TO BETTER ENSURE WE WERE COMPLYING AND THAT OUR PLAN WOULD BE APPROVED. OUR PUBLIC HEARING ON FEBRUARY 1st, 2002 PROVIDING US WITH APPROVAL TO MOVE FORWARD WITH ONE MAJOR EXCEPTION THAT'S BEEN FOREVER FRUSTRATING TO US PERSONALLY. WE'VE PLANS FOR A PUMP-OUT STATION, NOT TO ATTRACT LIVE-ABOARD BETTERS, BUT DEAL WITH POLLUTION IN THE MARINA AND THE CHANNEL. WOE WANTED TO ALLOW THE BETTERS WHO NEEDED A FACILITY AN OPPORTUNITY TO PUMP OUT. FOR THE OBVIOUS REASONS, THOUGH THE CHANNEL, LOVE OF SWIMMING, LOVE OF BOATING. HOWEVER WE WERE FORCED TO REMOVE THAT PUMP-OUT FACILITY FROM OUR PLAN. THE ENTIRE APPROVAL DEPENDED UPON IT. AND THE REASON WAS GIVEN WAS WAS 59 STALLING A PUMP-OUT STATION WE WOULD BE CREATING A NEW SUER DISTRICT. THESE CONFLICTING PRIORITIES HALTED OUR ABILITY TOWN STALL A PUMP-OUT FACILITY.

HOWEVER, WITH THE COUNTY'S APPROVAL, WE HAVE UPGRADED OUR UNDERGROUND UTILITIES AND IMPROVED THE SAFETY ON THE DOCKS, REMOVED ALL THE OLD MACHINERY AND EQUIPMENT FROM THE UPLANDS, WE'VE PLANTED WELL OVER 300 NATIVE PLANTS AND TREES. WE'VE BUILT BUILDING, CLEANED UP THE BOAT YARD AND ADDED NEW EIGHT TO 10 YEAR-ROUND EMPLOYEE WAS HEALTH CARE AND FLEX TIME BENEFITS. SO OUR PRIMARY CONCERNS ARE AS FOLLOWS. FIRST, THE COUNTY IS NOT ACKNOWLEDGED OUTSIDE THE SCOPE OF OUR PERMIT APPROVAL THAT THE SOUTH SIDE SECTION, WHICH IS THE MAIN LINE -- MAINLAND SIDE OF THE MULTNOMAH COUNTY FROM THE SAUVIE ISLAND BRIDGE TO THE WILLAMETTE RIVER, HAS VARIOUS NONRURAL BUSINESSES AND USES, INCLUDING BOAT AND HOUSEBOAT MOORAGES, BOAT YARDS, A PGE UTILITY AND ROCK QUARRY. THIS SECTION ALSO HAS NEW AND UPGRADED WATER MAIN. IN ADDITION, THE RAILROAD CROSSING HAS BEEN IMPROVED AND HAS A SIGNAL AND THERE'S SIGNIFICANTLY DIFFERENT THAN MOORAGES LOCATED DOWN THE CHANNEL AND SHOULD BE TREATED AS SUCH. I'LL BE VERY BRIEF. SECOND -- WHILE WE SPENT TIME AND MONEY AND RESOURCES TRYING TO DO RIGHT THING, THERE ARE OTHER MOORAGES WHO ALSO CAN GET THE COUNTY'S APPROVAL WHO DON'T COME INTO COMPLIANCE. WE ALSO FEEL ANY AMENDMENTS MADE TO THE PLAN POLICIES SPECIFICALLY FOR MOORAGES AND FLOATING HOMES SHOULD BE CLEARLY DEFINED AND THE ZONING FOR CONDITIONAL USE NEEDS TO ALIGN WITH THE OTHER AGENCIES' RULES AND POLICIES STATE LANDS, OREGON STATE BOARD, PORTLAND CITY CODES, SO IN CONCLUSION, WE'RE CONCERNED THAT WE DON'T HAVE THE RESOURCES TO CONTINUE TO IMPROVE OUR PROPERTY AND THE ENVIRONMENT IF THE RULES KEEP CHANGING DEPENDING ON INTERPRETATION, OR SELECTIVELY ENFORCED AND THE PROCESS IS MORE DIFFICULT AND COSTLY TO EXECUTE. WE LIVE ON THE CHANNEL WITH OUR CHILDREN, WE WORK ON THE CHANNEL TO MAKE A LIVING. AND WE CARE ABOUT THE WATER QUALITY. AND PROTECTING THE ENVIRONMENT THAT WE DEPEND ON. WE CONTINUE TO OPERATE OUR SMALL BUSINESS HERE, WE PROVIDE EMPLOYMENT. AND THE ABILITY TO EXPAND ENOUGH TO AFFORD TO PAY INCREASED TAXES AND LAND USE FEES, IF WE ARE BURDENED BY MORE PROCESS RULES AND REGULATIONS PROHIBITING THIS ESSENTIALLY BEING SQUEEZED FROM ALL ANGLES, OUR PROPERTY IMPROVEMENTS WILL HALT AND WE WILL BE FORCED TO DIVEST FROM OUR BUSINESS, FROM OUR PROPERTY, AND FROM OUR COMMUNITY. THANK YOU.

Chair Cogen: THANK YOU. DO WE HAVE ANYONE ELSE SIGNED UP TO TESTIFY ON THIS?

Board Clerk: NO, CHAIR, THAT'S ALL.

Chair Cogen: THERE'S NO ACTION, BUT IF PEOPLE HAVE QUESTIONS WE CAN CALL BACK THE ORIGINAL PANEL, OTHERWISE WE CAN GO TO THE NEXT ITEM.

>> I WANT TO SAY THANK YOU TO EVERYBODY WHO CAME OUT TO LISTEN AND EVERYBODY WHO CAME OUT TO TESTIFY. IT LOOKS LIKE WE'VE GOT A LOT OF WORK AHEAD OF US.

Chair Cogen: INDEED. LET'S GO TO R-7.

>> R-7, NOTICE OF INTENT TO APPLY FOR THE 2015-2018 STATEWIDE TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM, ENHANCE GRANT FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO NORTHEAST 238th DRIVE.

Commissioner McKeel: SO MOVED.

Commissioner Kafoury: SECOND.

Chair Cogen: COMMISSIONER MCKEEL MOVED AND COMMISSIONER KAFOURY SECONDED, APPROVAL OF R-7.

Ms. Valencia: THANK YOU, CHAIR COGEN, COMMISSIONERS. ONCE AGAINST JOANNA VALENCIA, SENIOR TRANSPORTATION PLANNER. I'M HERE TODAY TO ASK FOR YOUR REQUEST FOR A RETROACTIVE APPROVAL FOR US TO SUMMIT TWO GRANT APPLICATIONS FOR TWO PROJECTS. ONE ON NORTHEAST 238th DRIVE BETWEEN HALSEY AND GLISAN, THIS WILL MAKE MULTIMODAL IMPROVEMENT AND FREIGHT IMPROVEMENTS TO A KEY PROJECT IDENTIFIED AS A TOP PRIORITY THAT CAME OUT OF THE EAST METRO CONNECTIONS PLAN. AND IN THE SECOND PROJECT, TO MAKE IMPROVEMENTS ON NORTHEAST SANDY BOULEVARD, THIS PROJECT WILL LEVERAGE ON IMPROVEMENTS THAT THE CITY OF GRESHAM IS PLANNING TO DO, SO THIS PROJECT WILL CONTINUE ON FROM GRESHAM FAIRVIEW CITY LIMITS TO 210th, AND ALSO IMPROVEMENTS ON SANDY AND 238th. AND THE IMPROVEMENTS ON SANDY AND 230th LEVERAGES ON A PROJECT THE COUNTY WILL BE WORKING ON IN 2015, IN WHICH WE WERE ABLE TO SECURE GRANT FUNDS TO MAKE THE IMPROVEMENTS FROM ESSENTIALLY 238th TO 230th. THIS IS A KEY INDUSTRIAL LOCATION FOR THOSE OF US WHO ARE FAMILIAR WITH THE AREA, IT'S ROUGHLY WHERE THE TOWNSEND PARK BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT IS. SO REALLY MAKING IMPROVEMENTS ON SANDY BOULEVARD TO REMOVE THE CONFLICTS WITH PEDESTRIAN, BIKES, AND FREIGHT. AND SO THE ASK TODAY IS TO ASK TO BE ABLE TO MOVE FORWARD WITH SUMMITTING THESE APPLICATIONS IN THE PROCESS. WE'RE AT THE 150% LIST, AND SO THE REGION ONE SUBCOMMITTEE IS PREDEBTED THEY'LL MAKE THE RECOMMENDATIONS BY FALL, LATE SUMMER THIS YEAR, WHICH WILL BE FORWARDED TO THE OTC FOR APPROVAL AND INCLUSION INTO THE ODOT STIP.

Commissioner McKeel: I JUST HAVE A COMMENT. THANK YOU, JOANNA. THE 238th PROJECT COMES DIRECTLY OUT OF OUR EAST METRO CONNECTOR PLAN, WHICH WAS OUR -- IS OUR PRIORITY PROJECT OUT OF THE PLAN. AND

THE OTHER SANDY -- THE SANDY BOULEVARD WAS NOT IN OUR PLAN BECAUSE THE PLAN WENT FROM I-84 TO THE U.S. 26, BUT WE'RE VERY MINDFUL OF THE PROJECTS THAT ARE NORTH OF I-84 AS WELL TO CONNECTING INTO THE TRANSPORTATION GRID OUT THERE. SO THESE ARE BOTH VERY IMPORTANT PROJECTS AND WE'RE EXCITED.

Commissioner Smith: GOOD MORNING. IF WE DON'T RECEIVE THESE FUNDS, HOW WILL WE PAY FOR ALL THE IMPROVEMENTS?

>> IN THE EVENT THE FUNDS AREN'T RECEIVED, WE'D HAVE TO SEEK OUT OTHER FUNDING METHODS. THIS IS A FOUR-YEAR CYCLE, SO WE'D HAVE TO LOOK AT OTHER CYCLES INL AND OTHER OPPORTUNITIES FOR GRANT FUNDING.

Commissioner Smith: OK.

Chair Cogen: ALL IN FAVOR? [CHORUS OF AYES] OPPOSED? NOTICE OF INTENT IS APPROVED. GOOD LUCK.

>> THANK YOU.

>> R-8, PROCLAMATION PROCLAIMING JUNE 20TH, 2014, REFUGEE AWARENESS DAY IN MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON.

Chair Cogen: MAY I HAVE A MOTION?

Vice-Chair Shirpack: SO MOVED.

Commissioner Kafoury: SECOND.

Chair Cogen: COMMISSIONER SHIPRACK MOVED AND COMMISSIONER KAFOURY SECONDED, APPROVAL OF R-8.

Vice-Chair Shirpack: THANK YOU MR. CHAIR. IT REALLY IS AN HONOR TO BRING FORWARD THIS PROCLAMATION TODAY THAT HONORS REFUGEES IN OUR COMMUNITY AND DRAWS ATTENTION TO THE PLIGHT OF MILLIONS OF PEOPLE DISPLACED FROM THEIR HOMES EVERY YEAR. REFUGEES BRING WITH THEM DIVERSE EXPERIENCE AND WISDOM, ADDING TO THE RICH CULTURAL FABRIC OF OUR COMMUNITY. AND WE AS A COMMUNITY NEED TO RISE UP TO HELP SUPPORT THEM AS THEY MAKE THIS COURAGEOUS TRANSITION IN THEIR LIVES. I WOULD LIKE TO INTRODUCE VICTORIA CROSS, WHO HEADS UP OUR IMMIGRANT AND REFUGEE EMPLOYEE RESOURCE GROUP.

Chair Cogen: GOOD MORNING.

Ms. Cross: GOOD MORNING CHAIR COGEN, COMMISSIONERS. COMMISSIONER SHIPRACK, I'M VICTORIA CROSS, AND [INAUDIBLE] PEOPLE, EIGHT PEOPLE LIVE THEIR HOMES TO ESCAPE WAR, PERSECUTION, OR TERROR. NO ONE CHOOSE TO BE REFUGEE. IF YOU THINK ABOUT OUR PRESENTATION WILL BE 20 MINUTES, SO IT MEANS LIKE 160 PEOPLE WILL BE FORCED TO LEAVE THEIR HOMES. IT'S TWICE MORE THAN WE HAVE IN THE BOARDROOM. IT'S INCREDIBLE NUMBER. IF CONFLICT THREATEN YOUR FAMILY, WHAT WOULD YOU DO? WOULD YOU TRY TO SURVIVE? WOULD YOU TRY TO ESCAPE? OR TRY TO FLEE AND RISK KIDNAP, TORTURE, RAPE? FOR MANY REFUGEES, THE CHOICE IS BETWEEN THE HORRIFIC AND THE -- SOMETHING WORSE. EACH DAY WAR AND CONFLICT FORCE FAMILIES, MOTHERS, FATHERS, AND CHILDREN, TO FLEE THEIR HOMES. THEIR LIVES TORN APART AT THIS MOMENT. THEY MAY BE FORCED TO LEAVE LOVED ONES BEHIND, OR GET SEPARATED FROM THEM. THEY CAN NEVER SEE EACH OTHER AGAIN. CHILDREN MAY FIND THEMSELVES UNACCOMPANIED OR ALONE. A REFUGEE IS A PERSON WHOSE OUTSIDE HIS OR HER COUNTRY OF ORIGIN BECAUSE THEY HAVE SUFFERED OR FEAR PERSECUTION, ON ACCOUNT OF RACE, RELIGION, NATIONALITY, POLITICAL OPINION, OR BECAUSE THEY ARE A MEMBER OF THE PERSECUTED SOCIAL GROUP, OR BECAUSE THEY'RE FLEEING A WAR OR NATURAL DISASTER. MOST AMERICANS DON'T REALIZE OVER 43.7 MILLION REFUGEES IN THE WORLD. ALMOST HALF OF ALL FORCIBLY DISPLACED PEOPLE GLOBALLY ARE CHILDREN. 12 MILLION BOYS AND GIRLS ARE DISPLACED. IN THE MESSAGE TO MARK THE DAY, U.N. SECRETARY GENERAL SAID REFUGEES LIVE BECAUSE THEY HAVE NO CHOICE. WE MUST CHOOSE TO HELP. FOR MANY YEARS, MANY COUNTRIES AND REGIONS HAVE BEEN HOLDING THEIR OWN WORLD REFUGEE DAYS AND EVEN WEEKS, SINCE ACTUALLY 1914. EACH YEAR, MANY PEOPLE AROUND THE WORLD CELEBRATE WORLD REFUGEE DAY. THE FOCUS OF THIS WORLD REFUGEE DAY FOR THIS YEAR, 2013, IS ON THE IMPACT OF WAR ON FAMILIES. THE CORE MESSAGE IS, MILLIONS OF FAMILIES HAVE LOST THEIR HOMES FOR VIOLENCE, TO VIOLENCE AND WAR. ONE REFUGEE FAMILY WITHOUT SHELTER IS TOO MANY. I WOULD LIKE TO INTRODUCE DR. DEANE DEFONTES WHO WORKS AT THE COUNTY HEALTH CLINIC.

>> GOOD MORNING. I'M A FAMILY PHYSICIAN, WORKING WITH MULTNOMAH COUNTY. I KNOW YOU HAVE THE POWER POINT, SO I'M NOT GOING TO READ IT. I JUST WANTED TO TALK ABOUT OUR WORK, WHICH IS ONLY ONE PART OF THE RESETTLEMENT OF REFUGEES IN THIS PART OF THE NORTHWEST. IN THE LAST YEAR AND IN THE COMING YEAR, WE ANTICIPATE SEEING REFUGEES FROM THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO OR DRC AS IT'S CALLED, FROM BHUTAN, THROUGH NEPAL, BERMA, IRAQ, AND SOMALIA YA AS WELL AS MULTIPLE OTHER COUNTRIES. THE WORK WE DO AT MID COUNTY PRIMARILY IS A SCREENING PROGRAM. OREGON OUT OF THE 56,000 REFUGEES THAT THE U.S. GOVERNMENT TYPICALLY RESETTLES IN A GIVEN YEAR, THE PORTLAND METRO AREA SEES ABOUT A THOUSAND. AND OF THOSE, THEY HAVE A MEDICAL SCREENING AT OUR HEALTH CENTER,

ROUGHLY HALF CHOOSE TO STAY WITHIN THE COUNTY HEALTH SYSTEM. TRADITIONALLY AT MID COUNTY AND NOW INCREASINGLY AT OTHER HEALTH CENTERS IN NORTH PORTLAND BECAUSE OF THE COLUMBIA HOUSING PROJECT AND THEN ALSO ROCKWOOD AREA. AND SO INCREASINGLY CLIENTS ARE STAYING WITHIN THE COUNTY HEALTH SYSTEM. THERE ARE SOME GUIDELINES THAT WE FOLLOW PRIMARILY IN TERMS OF RESETTLEMENT. MUCH OF THE WORK WE FOCUS ON IS TRADITIONAL SORT OF ILLNESS, A LOT OF MENTAL HEALTH, YOU CAN IMAGINE GIVEN WHAT WE'VE HEARD, THERE'S A LOT OF POST TRAUMATIC STRESS. AND A LOT OF PHYSICAL SYMPTOMS, AND PSYCHOLOGICAL SYMPTOMS RELATED TO THAT. AND IT -- THAT IS ONE OF THE LARGER STRUGGLES WE FACE IN TERMS OF HELPING INDIVIDUALS AND THEIR FAMILIES RESETTLE. LASTLY, THE WORK IS FASCINATING. IN THE LAST YEAR WE'VE SERVED CLIENTS WITH OVER 60 LANGUAGES. MOST OF OUR WORK IS DONE THROUGH INTERPRETATION AS YOU CAN IMAGINE. WHICH ADDS ITS OWN CHALLENGES. THANK YOU. WITH THAT, I'D LIKE TO INTRODUCE SOKHOM TAUCH.

>> MY NAME IS SOKHOM TAUCH. I AM HONORED TO BE ASK TO SPEAK ON BEHALF OF REFUGEES TODAY. AND GIVE SPECIAL THANKS TO VICE CHAIR SHIPRAK FOR DRAFTING THIS PROCLAMATION AND INVITING ME HERE TODAY. 80% OF THE WORLD REFUGEE ARE WOMEN AND CHILDREN. WHO ARE MORE VULNERABLE TO THEIR CONDITION. I AM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF IMMIGRANT AND REFUGEE COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION, BUT I CAME TO PORTLAND IN 1975 AS ROAF GEE FROM CAMBODIA. LIKE SO MANY REFUGEES, I DID NOT KNOW THE LANGUAGE. I DID NOT KNOW HOW TO GET A JOB, AND WHAT TO DO NEXT. HERE I AM ALMOST 40 YEARS LATER, EXECUTIVE AT THE VERY AGENCY THAT HELPED ME WHEN I FIRST ARRIVED. AND IT IS IN LARGE PART THANKS TO THE INITIAL RESETTLEMENT HELP THAT WAS AFFORDED ME WHEN I FIRST ARRIVED. THE UNITED STATES HAS A TRADITION OF OFFERING REFUGE TO THOSE FLEEING PROSECUTION AND WAR. LESS THAN 1% OF THE REFUGEE ARE EVENTUALLY RESETTLED IN SAID COUNTRY, THE UNITED STATES WELCOME -- HALF OF THESE REFUGEE MORE THAN OTHER COUNTRIES COMBINED. WHEN REFUGEES FIRST ARRIVE HERE THEY ARE AFFORDED EIGHT MONTHS OF LIMITED SUPPORT WHILE THEY GET ON THEIR FEET. AT IRCO, WE HAD -- ENGLISH LANGUAGE TO FIND JOBS AND CARE FOR THEIR FAMILY. THE INITIAL ASSISTANCE IS VITAL AS IT EMPOWERS THE REFUGEE TO SUPPORT THEMSELVES, THEIR FAMILY, AND GIVE BACK TO THE COMMUNITY THROUGH PAY TAX, LABOR, AND CULTURAL DIVERSITY. IN TWO YEARS, MORE REFUGEE BECOME GREEN CARD HOLDER AND IN FIVE YEARS THEY BECOME AMERICAN. AS A RESULT OF AMERICA'S GENEROSITY AND -- [INDISCERNIBLE] EXCEL IN THE U.S. [INDISCERNABLE] THEIR FUTURE AND THEIR CHILDREN ARE FULL OF NEW PROMISES. REFUGEES HAVE BECOME [INDISCERNIBLE] ON TO BECOME DOCTORS, LAWYERS, U.S. CONGRESSMEN, SUCCESSFUL BUSINESS WOMAN AND MEN, OR JOIN THE ARMED FORCE TO PROTECT AMERICA. MULTNOMAH COUNTY CITY OF PORTLAND AND THE CITIES HAVE BEEN WELCOMING REFUGEES FROM ALL OVER THE WORLD

SINCE 1975. AND IRCO WE ARE PROUD TO SERVE THE NEARLY 1,000 REFUGEES THEY ARRIVE IN PORTLAND EVERY YEAR, AND ARE INCREDIBLY THANKFUL TO MULTNOMAH COUNTY FOR ITS SUPPORT AND RECOGNITION OF REFUGEE TODAY AND EVERY DAY. REFUGEES IN THE U.S. ARE THE [INDISCERNIBLE] THEIR ADMISSION WAS NOT BASED ON EMPLOYABILITY BUT THEIR VULNERABILITY. REFUGEE ARE HERE BECAUSE THE U.S. GOVERNMENT AND CITIES AND -- CAN HAVE [INDISCERNIBLE] MOST NEEDY AND WHOSE OWN GOVERNMENT ARE [INDISCERNIBLE] CAUSING THEIR PAIN. ON BEHALF OF REFUGEES I AM GRATEFUL OF BEING SAVED BY AMERICA. IT IS AMERICA AND THE COMMUNITY THEY LIVE IN WHO [INDISCERNIBLE] DIGNITY, AND THEIR PERSEVERANCE. THANK YOU CHAIR COGEN, COMMISSIONERS, AND VICE CHAIR SHIPRACK.

Commissioner Shiprack: THANK YOU.

>> CHAIR COGEN, COMMISSIONERS, THE NUMBER OF FOREIGN BORN RESIDENTS IN THE UNITED STATES IS AT ITS HIGHEST LEVEL IN U.S. HISTORY, REACHING 40 MILLION IN 2010. REFUGEES AND IMMIGRANTS MADE SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE MULTNOMAH COUNTY'S ECONOMY, EDUCATION, CULTURE, ART, LITERATURE, TECHNOLOGICAL, AND SCIENTIFIC ADVANCEMENT IN THE U.S. AND GENERAL. [INDISCERNIBLE] MULTNOMAH COUNTY ORGANIZED THE FIRST GROUP FOR REFUGEE AND IMMIGRANTS. THERE ARE LOTS OF EMPLOYERS WHO WORK IN MULTNOMAH COUNTY ARE REFUGEE AND IMMIGRANTS. FOR THE FIRST YEAR WE HAD 169 EMPLOYEES WHO ATTENDED OUR MEETINGS. REFUGEE AND IMMIGRANT EMPLOYEES CAME TOGETHER TO CELEBRATE THEIR RESOURCEFULS IN AND UNIQUE STRENGTH. TO ADDRESS CHALLENGES OF AMERICAN COMMUNICATION STYLES. [INDISCERNIBLE] EXPERIENCE AND EDUCATION. TO DISCUSS THE UNIQUE PERSPECTIVES THEY BRING TO WORKPLACE, TO BUILD THE EMPLOYEE NETWORK AND SKILL UTILIZATION, ENHANCE ORGANIZATIONAL DEVELOPMENT, AND STRENGTHEN COMMUNITY CONNECTION TO ORGANIZATION. I WANT TO TELL A STORY OF MY FRIEND, I MET HER YEARS AGO IN THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT. OVER THE YEARS WE BECAME FRIENDS. I ASKED HER TO TELL HER STORY, TO SHARE HER STORY WITH ME. SHE WAS BORN IN VIETNAM. SHE WAS A CHILD DURING THE VIETNAM WAR. HER FATHER HAD A HIGH RANK AND OLD REGIME ARMY, THAT'S HOW WERE CALLED AT THAT TIME. AFTER THE VIETNAM WAR, HER FATHER WAS SENT TO CONCENTRATION CAMP FOR 13 YEARS. SHE WAS IN SCHOOL -- HE GRADUATED FROM HIGH SCHOOL. SHE'S A GIFTED GIRL, SHE HAD A DREAM. SHE WANTED TO BE A DOCTOR. BUT BECAUSE HER FATHER WAS AN ENEMY, CALLED AT THAT TIME, SHE WASN'T ADMITTED TO THE MEDICAL SCHOOL. SHE TRIED SEVERAL TIMES, AND OF AFTER THE THIRD TIME SHE GIVE UP. SHE SAID, THEY DIDN'T WANT ME TO WORK WITH PEOPLE. SO SHE EVALUATED HER OPTIONS AND BECAME A VETERINARIAN. IT WAS ONLY AVENUE AVAILABLE FOR HER IN VIETNAM. OF AFTER 13 YEARS IN CONCENTRATION CAMP, HER FATHER, WITH HIS FAMILY, WAS ABLE TO MOVE AS A REFUGEE TO

THE U.S. AFTER THAT, HE WAS MARRIED AND TWO SONS, MOVED TO PORTLAND, OREGON. SHE DECIDED TO PURSUE HER DREAM. SHE WAS ADMITTED TO [INDISCERNIBLE] SCHOOL. SHE TOLD ME, I JUST WANTED TO TREAT PEOPLE. AS A BRAND-NEW NURSE, SHE CAME TO WORK AT THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT 16 YEARS AGO. SHE'S REALLY ENJOYING SERVING THE PORTLAND COMMUNITY. SHE TOLD ME HOW HAPPY SHE IS THAT HER DREAM TO BE A MEDICAL PROVIDER CAME TRUE. WITH ALL THIS TALKING ABOUT HOW DIFFICULT TO RELOCATE TO THE DIFFERENT COUNTRIES, HOW DIFFICULT TO ADJUST TO A NEW CULTURE, EVERY IMMIGRANT AND REFUGEE'S STORY HAS A UNIQUE STORY OF SURVIVAL, RESILIENCE, AND HOPE. I WANTED TO SHARE MY FRIEND'S STORY BECAUSE THIS STORY ABOUT DREAMS COME TRUE. AND NOW I WOULD LIKE TO TAKE -- TO HAND THIS OVER TO COMMISSIONER SHIPRACK TO READ THE PROCLAMATION.

Vice-Chair Shiprack: THANK YOU. THANK YOU, VICTORIA, AND THANK YOU ALL OF YOU FOR PRESENTING TODAY. I THINK THIS DOES REFLECT THE COMMUNITY IN ITS VERY, VERY BEST LIGHT. [VICE-CHAIR SHIPRACK READ THE PROCLAMATION INTO THE RECORD.]

Chair Cogen: THANK YOU. BOARD COMMENTS OR QUESTIONS?

Commissioner Smith: THANK YOU. THANK YOU COMMISSIONER SHIPRACK FOR BRINGING THIS FORWARD AND THANK YOU FOR YOUR LEADERSHIP. I JUST WANT TO THANK VICTORIA, DEAN, SOKHOM FOR THE PRESENTATION. IT'S REALLY ENLIGHTENING AND THE EFFORTS BY OUR COUNTY TO SUPPORT REFUGEES WOULDN'T BE POSSIBLE WITHOUT ALL OF YOU AND HELPS US TO GO FORWARD. SO I THANK YOU FOR COMING BEFORE US TODAY. THANK YOU.

Chair Cogen: COMMISSIONER SHIPRACK, I APPRECIATE YOU BRINGING THIS FORWARD. AS I WAS LISTENING TO THE VERY COMPELLING TESTIMONY, I WAS REMINDED OF THE FACT THAT ABOUT 100 YEARS AGO MY GRANDPARENTS AND GREAT GRANDPARENTS WHO WERE PEASANTS IN RUSSIA FLED THE OPPRESSION FROM THE CZAR, AND WERE WELCOME IN ADDITION AMERICA, AND BECAUSE OF THAT I GOT TO BE HERE. AND HOW HAPPY I AM TO BE IN A COMMUNITY THAT IS WELCOMING OF REFUGEES, THAT HAS WONDERFUL COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS LIKE IRCO, AND TO BE WORKING IN AN ORGANIZATION LIKE MULTNOMAH COUNTY THAT BOTH PROVIDES SUPPORTIVE WORK ENVIRONMENTS BUT ALSO CRITICAL SERVICES TO REFUGEES IN OUR COMMUNITY. AND I THINK IT'S A RELY NICE THING.

Commissioner Shiprack: I JUST WANT TO COMMENT, OUR VERY PROUD AND PLEASED TO BE REPRESENTING THE GOVERNMENT THAT WELCOMES REFUGEES, THIS BENEFITS FLOW BOTH WAYS. AND I WANT TO SAY THAT REFUGEES BRING SO MUCH TO THE FABRIC OF OUR COMMUNITY, AND THE DIFFERENT CULTURES, THE APPRECIATION OF AMERICA, THE REMINDERS

THAT THERE'S MUCH THAT NEEDS TO BE DONE HERE, BUT THERE'S ALSO MUCH GOOD TO BE FOUND HERE. AND JUST TO -- IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD THAT I LIVE IN, THERE ARE REFUGEES FROM THE UKRAINE, FROM VIETNAM, FROM ARGENTINA, FROM THE CZECH REPUBLIC, AND FROM SOMALIA. AND I KNOW THAT WE ALL APPRECIATE YOU AS WELL. THANK YOU FOR BEING HERE.

Chair Cogen: ALL IN FAVOR? [CHORUS OF AYES] OPPOSED? THE PROCLAMATION IS ADOPTED. THANK YOU.

>> R-9, PROCLAMATION PROCLAIMING JUNE 13, 2013, AS BEING SHELDON AND DEAN GISVOLD APPRECIATION DAY IN MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON.

>> SO MOVED.

>> SECOND.

>> Chair Cogen: MOVED AND SECONDED APPROVAL OF R-9.

>> Commissioner Kafoury: COME ON UP, FOLKS. YOU DON'T GET TO SIT IN THE BACK OF THE ROOM WHILE WE EMBARRASS YOU. YOU HAVE TO COME FORWARD. I'M GOING TO READ THE PROCLAMATION BUT FIRST IT'S GOING TO SAY A FEW WORDS AND THEN GIVE OUR INVITED GUESTS A CHANCE TO TALK. I'M REALLY, THIS IS QUITE AN HONOR TO HAVE NOT JUST ONE PILLAR OF OUR COMMUNITY HERE, BUT TWO TO HONOR. BOTH BING AND DEAN HAVE DONE SO MUCH FOR OUR COMMUNITY, AND WE WOULD BE HERE FOR HOURS IF WE TRIED TO TALK ABOUT EVERYTHING THAT THEY'VE BOTH BEEN INVOLVED IN, AND WHERE THEIR FINGERPRINTS ARE ALL OVER THE CITY. BUT TODAY THE IMPETUS WAS THAT THEY ARE BOTH RETIRING FROM THE BOARD OF CENTRAL CITY CONCERN, WHICH THOSE OF YOU WHO HAVE SERVED ON A BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF AN ORGANIZATION, KNOW HOW DIFFICULT IT CAN BE, AND THEY HAVE BOTH BEEN THERE SINCE NEARLY THE BEGINNING. AND IT'S QUITE AN AMAZING ACCOMPLISHMENT. THEY'VE SEEN THIS ORGANIZATION GROW FROM A VERY SMALL ONE TO ONE OF OUR MOST TRUSTED AND WELL-INFORMED COMMUNITY PARTNERS. SO I AM REALLY EXCITED TO DO THIS FOR YOU BOTH TODAY AND WE HAVE ED BLACKBURN THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO SAY A FEW WORDS AS WELL.

>> THANK YOU COMMISSIONER KAFOURY, CHAIR COGEN, COUNTY COMMISSIONERS. THIS IS A BIG DAY FOR ME PERSONALLY, BECAUSE IT'S HARD TO IMAGINE CENTRAL CITY CONCERN WITHOUT DEAN AND BING. AND WHAT DEBORAH SAYS, STARTING OUT AS A SMALL ORGANIZATION, IT WAS A CREATION OF BURNSIDE CONSORTIUM OF THE COUNTY AND CITY TO RECEIVE A FEDERAL GRANT. AND ALL THESE YEARS LATER, IT'S A MAJOR HEALTH CARE PROVIDER, A MAJOR BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CARE PROVIDER, MAJOR HOUSING PROVIDER, MAJOR EMPLOYMENT SERVICES PROVIDER, AND

A REAL ESTATE DEVELOPER. AND WITHOUT THEIR EXPERTISE OVER THESE YEARS, AND IT'S NOT ALWAYS BEEN EASY, I'VE BEEN THROUGH A FEW OF THOSE ROUGH TIMES, BUT THEY WERE THROUGH A FEW OF BEFORE I GOT THERE, IT'S AN AMAZING COMMITMENT, AMAZING SKILL AND DEDICATION TO OUR COMMUNITY. AND AS DEBORAH SAID, BOTH OF THEM HAVE BEEN INVOLVED IN VARIOUS ASPECTS OF IN MULTNOMAH COUNTY, ACTIVITIES AND GOVERNANCE, AND PORTLAND DEVELOPMENT OVER THE YEARS. THEY'RE TRULY HISTORICAL CHARACTERS HERE. THEY'RE ALSO WONDERFUL PEOPLE. AND IT'S BEEN SUCH A PLEASURE FOR US TO HAVE THEM ON OUR BOARD AND GUIDE OUR DEVELOPMENT OVER THE YEARS. I CAN'T TELL YOU WHAT IT MEANS TO US. SO WITH THAT, I WANT TO TURN IT OVER TO COMMISSIONER KAFOURY.

>> Commissioner Kafoury: GREAT. I OF COURSE CAN'T GET AWAY WITHOUT MENTIONING THAT I HAVE KNOWN BOTH OF THEM PRETTY MUCH MY ENTIRE LIFE, AND HAVE BEEN SO ENTER TWINED WITH THEM PERSONALLY AS WELL AS PROFESSIONAL. SO THANKS. THE MULTNOMAH COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS FINDS AFTER THE STEEP POPULATION DECLINE IN PORTLAND DURING THE '60s, BING SHELDON AND DEAN GISVOLD BROUGHT THEIR VISION AND TENACITY TO THE DOWNTOWN PLAN OF 1972. THE RESULT WAS A NATIONALLY RENOWNED BLUEPRINT FOR A VITAL URBAN CORE THAT URGED TRANSIT CORRIDORS INSTEAD OF FREEWAYS, AND SUPPORTED PEDESTRIAN-FRIENDLY DEVELOPMENT. THIS IS THE COMMUNITY WE ALL ENJOY TODAY. TO THE CHAGRIN OF CLIENTS AND PROSPECTIVE EMPLOYEES, BING MOVED HIS GROWING ARCHITECTURAL FIRM INTO OLD TOWN IN 1972, A TIME WHEN THE AREA WAS KNOWN FOR ITS RUN-DOWN HOTELS. IN 1971, DEAN BAFFLED COWORKERS, NEIGHBORS, AND COMMUNITY LEADERS BY RIDING HIS BIKE TO WORK AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE. BOTH DRAWN TO CIVIC ENGAGEMENT AND WITH TREMENDOUS COMPASSION FOR THE WELFARE OF PEOPLE STRUGGLING WITH ALCOHOLISM WHO FREQUENTED THE DOWNTOWN -- OLD TOWN DISTRICT, BING AND DEAN PARTICIPATED IN WORK WHICH SECURED A NATIONAL PUBLIC INEBRIATE PROJECT GRANT IN 1979. THE GRANT FUNDED A SOBERING STATION SOLUTION, INSTEAD OF JAIL, FOR CHRONIC ALCOHOLICS. BING BECAME A FOUNDING BOARD MEMBER OF THE BURNSIDE CONSORTIUM IN 1978. DEAN JOINED THE BOARD IN 1980. THE BURNSIDE CONSORTIUM WAS RENAMED CENTRAL CITY CONCERN IN 1984. IN THE LATE 1970s, DEAN AND BING RECOGNIZED THE NEED FOR SAFE, LOW-INCOME HOUSING FOR THE PEOPLE LIVING IN OLD TOWN. IN 1983, THEY HELPED CENTRAL CITY CONCERN PURCHASE ITS FIRST BUILDING, THE BUTTE HOTEL, BUILT IN 1912. CENTRAL CITY'S CURRENT PROPERTIES INCLUDE NINE RENOVATED RESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS IN OLD TOWN AND THREE SUCH BUILDINGS SOUTH OF BURNSIDE. TOTAL UNITS OF HOUSING FROM INCREASED FROM 38 TO MORE THAN 1600. FOR 26 CONSECUTIVE YEARS DEAN GISVOLD HAS CHAIRED MONTHLY BOARD MEETING AND BING SHELDON HAS SERVED AS VICE CHAIR. THAT'S QUITE AMAZING. CENTRAL CITY CONCERN ENTER THE HEALTH CARE ARENA WHEN IT BEGAN OPERATING

HOOPER SOBERING AND DETAX CENTER IN 1983. THEY GUIDED THE AGENCY IN EXPAND, THE SERVICES TO INCLUDE THE OLD TOWN CLINIC, SERVING MORE THAN 4,000 PEOPLE, AND A MYRIAD OF RECOVERY PROGRAMS. IN 2011, DEAN WAS INSTRUMENTAL TO THE RAPID DEVELOPMENT OF CENTRAL CITY CONCERN'S NEW HEALTH CARE BUILDING AT THE MAJOR INTERSECTION OF WEST BUNL BURNSIDE AND NORTHWEST BROADWAY A SITE PREVIOUSLY OCCUPIED BY AN ABANDONED FAST FOOD RESTAURANT. HE WAS ALWAYS CHAMPION FOR BRINGING DENTAL SERVICES INTO THE FOLD. IN 2012, MULTNOMAH COUNTY'S FIRST DOWNTOWN DENTAL CLINIC OPENED, AND IT'S LOCATION IS ON THE THIRD FLOOR OF CENTRAL CITY'S HEALTH CARE BUILDING. ALSO WHAT SHOULD HAVE BEEN AND WAS GOING TO BE ED'S OFFICE. SERA ARCHITECTS FOUNDED BY BING SHELDON, DESIGNED THE HEALTH CARE BUILDING. SERA HAS WORK ORDER NUMEROUS BUILDING PROJECTS WITH CENTRAL CITY CONCERN. FOR THE PAST 26 YEARS, DEAN AND BING HAVE GUIDED CENTRAL CITY CONCERN ON A STRONG PATH OF FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY AND ACCOUNTABILITY. AS SUCH, THE AGENCY HAS BEEN A VERY POSITIVE RELATIONSHIP WITH BOTH MULTNOMAH COUNTY AND THE CITY OF PORTLAND, AND HAS BEEN ABLE TO HELP MANY THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE IN NEED. OUR COMMUNITY IS RICHER BECAUSE OF THIS VISION, AND BECAUSE OF THE VISION, INTELLIGENCE, AND DILIGENCE THAT DEAN GISVOLD AND BING SHELDON HAVE SHARED WITH US. THANK YOU. WOULD YOU LIKE TO SAY A FEW WORDS?

>> I WOULD, YES. FIRST I WANT TO SAY THANK YOU VERY MUCH. TOTALLY UNEXPECTED. I KNEW IN ADVANCE I NEEDED TO SHOW UP, BUT ALL THOSE KIND WORDS WE APPRECIATE VERY MUCH. I'D JUST LIKE TO MAKE TWO POINTS. ONE IS, BY HONORING US, YOU HONOR OUR PRESENT BOARD AND OUR PAST BOARD MEMBERS, YOU HONOR OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS, PRESENT AND PAST, YOU HON OUR STAFF. BING AND I DIDN'T DO THIS BY OURSELVES. AND WE HAD ABLE HELP IN THE ENTIRE WAY. SECOND, IS THAT WE VIEWED OUR CLIENTS AS THE CITY OF PORTLAND, OUR PRIMARY CLIENTS, THE CITY OF PORTLAND AND MULTNOMAH COUNTY. AND WITHOUT THE POLITICAL WILL OF PEOPLE LIKE YOU, AND THE CITY COUNCIL, AND YOUR PREDECESSORS AND HOPEFULLY YOUR SUCCESSORS, WE COULDN'T DO WHAT WE DO. FOR THAT I THANK YOU VERY MUCH. AND I THANK YOU FOR THE PROCLAMATION, I NEVER THOUGHT I'D HAVE A DAY. BUT I'M GLAD TO HAVE IT. THANKS.

>> I THINK WHAT CENTRAL CITY CONCERN AND MULTNOMAH COUNTY AND THE CITY REALLY TYPIFY IS A PERFECT PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP. I THINK THAT WE WOULDN'T EXIST WITHOUT THE FULL SUPPORT AND COOPERATION OF BOTH PUBLIC BODIES AND WE COULDN'T DO THE KIND OF WORK WE DO WITHOUT A LOT OF ENERGY AND COMMITMENT FROM PRIVATE PEOPLE LIKE DEAN AND I, AND FOR YEARS, I'VE TOLD DEAN AS LONG AS YOU'RE THE CHAIR, I'LL BE YOUR VICE CHAIR. AND WE HUNG IN, BUT WE FINALLY BOTH CONCLUDED, OK, IT'S TIME, AND WE SHOULD BOTH QUIETLY

DISAPPEAR. SO THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR THESE WONDERFUL WORDS TODAY, AND MY FAMILY WILL ALWAYS HONOR IT, AND -- [LAUGHTER] ANYWAY. YES. THANK YOU, AND THANKS AGAIN TO THE STAFF. WE'RE BLESSED WITH A WONDERFULLY COMMITTED STAFF OF PEOPLE WHO REALLY HELP ALL OF US MAKE THIS HAPPEN. SO THIS IS TERRIFIC FOR THE WHOLE COMMUNITY.

>> I JUST WANT TO MAKE ONE OTHER POINT. THE FACT WE'RE LEAVING AND TAKING WITH US 65 YEARS OF EXPERIENCE, WE'VE ALREADY BEEN VOTED WHAT'S THE LABEL WE'VE BEEN GIVEN? EMERITUS BOARD MEMBERS. I WAS LOOKING FOR SOMETHING ELSE, BUT THAT'S OK. IN ANY EVENT, I JUST WANT TO ASSURE YOU THAT THE BOARD IS THE BEST WE'VE EVER HAD. THE CURRENT BOARD MEMBERS. THE NEW OFFICERS ARE TERRIFIC. THE -- OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AS YOU WELL KNOW IS FIRST RATE. HE'S NOT GOING ANYWHERE. OUR STAFF IS ON THE TOP OF THEIR GAME. THE ORGANIZATION IS IN GOOD HEALTH, BOTH CULTURALLY, MORALLY, AND FISCALLY. AND WILL CONTINUE TO PROVIDE EXCELLENT SERVICES. AND IF THEY DON'T, THEN THEY'LL HAVE TO ANSWER TO BING AND ME.

>> ABSOLUTELY. RIGHT ON.

>> BUT THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

>> THANK YOU.

>> Chair Cogen: BOARD COMMENTS, QUESTIONS?

>> Commissioner Smith: COMMISSIONER KAFOURY, THANK YOU FOR BEING THIS FORWARD. THIS IS A WONDERFUL OPPORTUNITY FOR US TO APPLAUD ALL THE GOOD WORK YOU'VE DONE OVER THE PAST 30 YEARS, AND I JUST SAY THANK YOU, THANK YOU FROM THIS COMMUNITY.

>> Commissioner Shiprack: I'M GOING TO STEAL FROM COMMISSIONER KAFOURY AND JUST SAY DITTO. [LAUGHTER]

>> Chair Cogen: I'LL JUST --

>> Commissioner Kafoury: I FORGOT TO READ THE MOST IMPORTANT PART, WHICH IS WHAT YOU WERE ALL WAITING FOR. THE MULTNOMAH COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS PROCLAIMS JUNE 13th, 2013, AS BING SHELDON AND DEAN GISVOLD APPRECIATION DAY IN MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON.

>> Chair Cogen: EXCELLENT.

>> SO EXCITING.

>> Chair Cogen: CENTRAL CITY CONCERN IS SUCH A PHENOMENAL ORGANIZATION. THIS COMMUNITY IS SO FORTUNATE TO HAVE IT. IT'S A TREMENDOUS PARTNER FOR MULTNOMAH COUNTY, BUT THIS IS A GOOD OPPORTUNITY TO REMEMBER THAT ORGANIZATIONS AREN'T REAL, THEY'RE LEGAL FICTIONS. IT'S REALLY PEOPLE THAT MAKE ANYTHING WHAT IT IS. AND TO HAVE THE INCREDIBLE DEDICATION -- I WAS ONCE ON A BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR SIX YEARS AND THEY KICKED ME OFF BECAUSE IT HAD BEEN TOO LONG. THE FACT YOU'VE BEEN THERE FOR THAT LONG IS REALLY A REMARKABLE COMMITMENT TO CENTRAL CITY CONCERN, BUT MORE THAN THAT, TO THE COMMUNITY. AND IT'S ALSO WORTH NOTING, AS WE BEGIN DEAN AND BING DAY, THAT THE TREMENDOUS GIFT THAT YOU'VE GIVEN TO THE COMMUNITY THROUGH CENTRAL CITY CONCERN IS JUST PART OF WHAT YOU'VE GIVEN. I WAS REMINDED OF THAT LAST WEEK WHEN WE PASSED THE FIRST-EVER BUDGET FOR THE MULTNOMAH COUNTY LIBRARY DISTRICT, AND DEAN'S LONG ADVOCACY PLAYED A ROLE IN GETTING THAT PASSED. AND YESTERDAY MORNING AT 7:00 IN THE MORNING I WAS IN THE PEARL DISTRICT TALKING ABOUT THE NEW JAMES BEARD PUBLIC MARKET, AND BING IS THERE, WHO HAS HAD HIS FIRM HELP DESIGN THE THING. THE LEVEL OF GIFT AND INVOLVEMENT HAVE YOU IN THIS COMMUNITY IS TRULY PHENOMENAL. AND I APPRECIATE COMMISSIONER KAFOURY OF TAKING US THROUGH A MOMENT OF ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF THAT. SO THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

>> THANK YOU.

>> Chair Cogen: ALL IN FAVOR? [CHORUS OF AYES] OPPOSED? IT IS DEAN AND BING DAY! [APPLAUSE]

>> R-10, PROCLAMATION DECLARING JUNE 12, 20 TREEN, AS LOVING DAY IN MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON.

>> SO MOVED.

>> SECOND.

>> CHAIR COGEN: MOVED AND SECONDED, APPROVAL OF R-10. OUR PROCLAMATION FEST CONTINUES.

>> Commissioner Smith: THIS MORNING WE'RE JOINED BY BEN DUNCAN, GOOD MORNING, PROGRAM MANAGER FOR THE HEALTH EQUITY INITIATIVE, AND SONLY, SENIOR POLICY ADVISOR FOR THE EQUITY AND EMPOWERMENT LENS TO COMMEMORATE LOVING DAY. THIS CIVIL RIGHTS RULING BY THE UNITED STATES SUPREME COURT INVALIDATED LAWS PROHIBITING INTERRACIAL MARRIAGE. WHILE LOVING DAY WAS TECHNICALLY YESTERDAY, JUNE 12th, WE WANTED TO PROCLAIM TO BE PART OF THIS BOARD AGENDA BECAUSE THERE HAVE BEEN SO MANY OTHER GREAT EQUALITY PRESENTATIONS THIS WEEK. WE WANTED TO MAKE SURE THAT WE WERE A PART OF THIS DAY. THE

EXECUTIVE ORDER SUPPORTING GENDER NEUTRAL BATHROOMS, A BRIEFING ABOUT BETTER COLLECTION OF DATA FOR OUR LGBTQ COLLEAGUES AND COMMUNITY MEMBERS, A PRIDE PROCLAMATION, AND A PROCLAMATION CELEBRATING WORLD REFUGEE AWARENESS DAY. AND I'D SAY WE FIT PERFECTLY WITHIN THIS DAY. THE LOVING DAY PROCLAMATION FITS INTO THE THEME THAT MULTNOMAH COUNTY CARES ABOUT PEOPLE FROM ALL WALKS OF LIFE. I HAVE FAMILY MEMBERS, FRIENDS, COLLEAGUES, AND CONSTITUENTS FROM A VARIETY OF RACIAL AND ETHNIC BACKGROUNDS WHO WOULD NOT HAVE HAD THE RIGHT TO LEGALLY MARRY THEIR HUSBANDS AND WIVES IF IT WEREN'T FOR THIS RULING. AND NOW WE WAIT YET ANOTHER MONUMENTAL CIVIL RIGHTS DECISION BY THE SUPREME COURT REGARDING PROPOSITION 8. AND THE DEFENSE OF MARRIAGE ACT. JUST MINUTES BEFORE THE PRIDE PROCLAMATION ON OUR AGENDA AND DAYS BEFORE THE PRIDE PARADE, LOVING DAY REMINDS US OF A TIME WHEN MANY OF THE SAME ARGUMENTS USED AGAINST MARRIAGE EQUALITY WERE USED TO JUSTIFY LAWS THAT PREVENTED PEOPLE OF DIFFERENT RACES FROM MARRYING. WITHOUT FURTHER ADO, WE ARE GOING TO WATCH AN ABC NEWS STORY FROM 1967 THAT COVERS THE CASE OF THE LOVINGS AND THEIR STRUGGLE TO BE LEGALLY RECOGNIZED AS HUSBAND AND WIFE. THEN I'LL TURN IT OVER TO MR. BEN DUNCAN.

>> I THINK MARRYING WHO YOU WANT TO IS ALL RIGHT, THAT NO MAN SHOULD HAVE [INDISCERNIBLE] IT'S A GOD GIVEN RIGHT, I THINK.

>> SHE MARRIED THE BOY NEXT DOOR, RICHARD LOVING A. INSTRUCTION WORKER, MILDRED THE DAUGHTER AFTER SHARE COPPER. THEY WERE BORN AND RAISED IN VIRGINIA, WHERE WHITE AND COLORED PEOPLE SEEM UNAWARE OF THE RACIAL PREJUDICE THAT EXISTS IN MUCH OF THE COUNTRY. THE LOVINGS DIDN'T KNOW IT WAS A CRIME FOR WHITE PERSON TO MARRY A NEGRO IN VIRGINIA. THEY FOUND OUT THE HARD WAY.

>> I DIDN'T REALIZE HOW BAD IT WAS UNTIL WE GOT MARRIED.

>> FULL OF LOVE THEMSELVES, THEY DIDN'T EXPECT TO FIND HATE IN OTHERS. THEIR HOME SWARMS WITH CHILDREN, THEIR OWN THREE AS WELL AS NEIGHBORHOOD FRIENDS WHO ENJOY THE WARMTH HERE. MRS. LOVING RECALLS HOW THE ORDEAL BEGAN IN 1958.

>> THE NIGHT WE WERE ARRESTED? I GUESS IT WAS ABOUT 2:00 A.M. AND I SAW THIS LIGHT, AND I WOKE UP, AND IT WAS THE POLICEMAN STANDING BESIDE THE BED. AND HE TOLD US TO GET UP. THAT WE WAS UNDER ARREST.

>> YOU GO AHEAD AND PLAY.

>> AND ANYWAY, THEY LOCKED US UP, IN JANUARY THEY HAD THE TRIAL. AND THEY TOLD US TO LEAVE THE STATE FOR 25 YEARS. BUT THE WAY I

UNDERSTOOD IT, THE LAW SAID WE WOULD COME BACK TO ADVISE WHEN IT WE WANTED TO. SO THAT EASTER WE CAME BACK, AND THEY GOT US AGAIN.

>> WE HAD BEEN THERE A FEW TIMES BEFORE, THAT BUT EASTER WE CAME DOWN, THEY FOUND OUT WE WAS DOWN, THEY ARRESTED US AGAIN.

>> THEY SPENT FIVE YEARS IN A NEGRO GHETTO IN WASHINGTON, DC WHERE THE SUFFERED UNEMPLOYMENT, LONELINESS AND UNCERTAINTY. WHEN ONE OF THE CHILDREN UNUSED TO CITY STREETS, WAS HIT BY A CAR, MRS. LOVING DECIDED TO ACT. SHE WROTE A LETTER TO THE THEN ATTORNEY GENERAL OF THE UNITED STATES, ROBERT KENNEDY WHO PASSED IT ON TO A VIRGINIA LAWYER, A MEMBER OF THE CIVIL LIBERTIES UNION.

>> WE HAVE THREE CHILDREN AND CANNOT AFFORD AN ATTORNEY. WE WROTE TO THE ATTORNEY GENERAL, HE SUGGESTED WE GET IN TOUCH WITH YOU FOR ADVICE. PLEASE HELP US IF YOU CAN, HOPE TO HEAR FROM YOU REAL SOON, YOURS TRULY, MR. AND MRS. RICHARD LOVING. AND IT WAS THAT SIMPLE LETTER THAT GOT US INTO THIS NOT SO SIMPLE CASE.

>> BERNARD COHEN COULD AND DID HELP THE LOVES. HE TEAMED UP WITH ANOTHER ATTORNEY, AND AT NO FEE THEY REOPENED THE LOVING CASE IN THE VIRGINIA COURTS. APPEALING EACH LOSING DECISION UNTIL AT LAST THE UNITED STATES SUPREME COURT HEARD THESE ARGUMENTS.

>> ARGUING PROTECTION, WE ADVANCED THE ARGUMENT THAT THESE STATUTES ARE SLAVERY STATUTES. THEY'RE MEANT TO KEEP THE NEGRO PEOPLE IN THE BADGES AND BONDS OF SLAVERY.

>> THE OUTRAGEOUS CIVIL EFFECTS OF THESE STATUTES ARE NOT ALWAYS APPARENT RIGHT AWAY. FOR EXAMPLE, IF RICHARD LOVING WERE TO DIE, THEN MILDRED LOVING WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO COLLECT SOCIAL SECURITY BENEFITS AS HIS WIDOW.

>> WHAT IS FUNDAMENTALLY IMPORTANT IS WE ASKED THE COURT TO DECIDE THAT A STATE MAY NOT PASS A LAW WHICH PROSCRIBES MARRIAGE BETWEEN TWO CONSENTING ADULTS BASED ON RACE ALONE.

>> THE ATTORNEYS FOR THE STATE OF VIRGINIA REFUSED TO TALK WITH ABC. BERNARD COHEN DESCRIBED THEIR ARGUMENTS.

>> THEY SEEM TO SAY THAT THERE WAS A PRESENT DAY JUSTIFICATION FOR THESE LAWS, THAT IS THAT THEY'RE INTERESTED IN THE WELFARE OF THE CHILDREN OF SUCH MARRIAGES.

>> TODAY THE UNITED STATES SUPREME COURT HANDED DOWN A DECISION. THE LOVES' ORDEAL IS AT LAST OVER. RICHARD AND MILDRED LOVING HAVE

WON THE RIGHT TO BE MAN AND WIFE, FATHER AND MOTHER, IN THE STATE OF VIRGINIA. ANTIMISCEGENATION LAWS HAVE BEEN DECLARED ILLEGAL NOT ONLY IN VIRGINIA, BUT ALL 16 STATES THAT HAVE HELD SUCH STATUTES. THIS IS HOPE RIDEN, ABC NEWS, REPORTING.

>> GOOD MORNING. BEN DUNCAN WITH THE HEALTH EQUITY INITIATIVE. I WANT TO START BY THANKING COMMISSIONER SMITH IN PARTICULAR AND PAIGE HENDRICKS WHO DID A LOT OF THE WORK COORDINATING TODAY. WHILE I THINK YOU KNOW LOVING DAY IS DEEPLY CONNECTED TO ISSUES AROUND EQUITY, SONALI WILL TALK MORE ABOUT THAT. FOR ME TODAY IS THE ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF LOVING DAY IS REALLY PERSONAL. WITH THE GOAL TO FIGHT RACIAL PREJUDICE AND BUILD MULTICULTURAL COMMUNITY, IT'S REFLECTIVE OF MY OWN JOURNEY AND EXPERIENCES GROWING UP THE SON OF A JEWISH MOTHER FROM THE BRONX, AND AN AFRICAN-AMERICAN FATHER WHO WAS PART OF THAT, CREATE MIGRATION FROM THE SOUTH TO THE NORTHEAST. AND IT HONORS A CHALLENGE THEY FACED RAISING TWO BIRACIAL CHILDREN IN A WORLD THAT STILL NOT COMPLETELY ACCEPTING. AND IT HONORS MY CHALLENGE GROWING UP IN A WORLD WHERE I CONSISTENTLY HAD TO EXPLAIN, WHAT AM I? AND THE CHALLENGES OF NAVIGATING TWO WORLDS. LOVING DAY IS ALSO REFLECTIVE OF MY OWN CURRENT FAMILY, WITH A LATINO WIFE AND A 2 AND A HALF-YEAR-OLD CHILD WHO I DON'T KNOW IF THEY MADE IT TODAY, BUT HE'S REALLY CUTE, SO WE'LL GET THAT ON THE PUBLIC RECORD. I TRIED TO GET HIM TO SUMMIT WRITTEN TESTIMONY, BUT HE'S 2 1/2, SO -- YOU KNOW, THIS IS A CHILD THAT'S GOING TO GROW UP 25% WHITE, 25% BLACK, AND 50% LATINO. SO I THINK IT'S IMPORTANT AS WE SEE OUR DEMOGRAPHICS CONTINUE TO CHANGE, IN THE COUNTRY AND IN THE COUNTY, AND IN 2010 SENSE, 4.6% OF MULTNOMAH COUNTY IDENTIFIED AS MORE THAN ONE RACE. SO LOVING DAY AND THE NEED TO BUILD COMMUNITY IS AS IMPORTANT AS EVER. AND I'M REALLY GRATEFUL THAT MY SON GROWS UP IN A COMMUNITY AND HOPEFULLY IN A WORLD THAT CONTINUES EACH DAY TO BE MORE ACCEPTING. I ALSO WANT TO POINT OUT WHAT WE CELEBRATE IN HONOR THE LOVESES AND THEIR COURAGE AND IMPORTANCE IN BREAKING DOUBT BARRIERS FOR INTERRACIAL MARRIAGE, IT WAS JUST AS RECENTLY AS 2000 ALABAMA TOOK THE LAWS OFF THE BOOKS.

>> I THINK HE'S HERE.

>> 3 HE IS! HE IS CUTE. ALABAMA IS WHERE MY FATHERS'S FAMILY ALSO CAME FROM. 2000 THEY TOOK THOSE LAWS OFF THE BOOKS. OREGON LAW PROHIBITED INTERRACIAL MARRIAGE UNTIL 1951, AND STILL TODAY WE SEE BIGOTRY, PREJUDICE, AND TOO MANY HURTFUL STORIES TO TELL THAT RELATE TO THE EXPERIENCES OF FAMILIES WHO ARE MULTIPLE RACES. I'LL FINISH BY ACKNOWLEDGING, AS I THINK COMMISSIONER SMITH POINTED OUT, AS WE HONOR AND RECOGNIZE PRIDE MONTH, THE BEST VOICE TO CLOSE MY TESTIMONY IS FROM MILDRED LOVING HERSELF. I'M GOING TO READ AN

EXCERPT FROM A SPEECH SHE GAVE ON THE 40th ANNIVERSARY OF THE LOVING DECISION IN 2007. "MY GENERATION WAS BITTERLY DIVIDED OVER SOMETHING THAT SHOULD HAVE BEEN SO CLEAR AND RIGHT. BUT I HAVE LIVED LONG ENOUGH TO SEE BIG CHANGES. THE OLDER GENERATIONS' FEAR AND PREJUDICES HAVE GIVEN WAY AND TODAY'S YOUNG PEOPLE REALIZE IF SOMEONE LOVES SOMEONE THEY HAVE A RIGHT TO MARRY. SURROUNDED AS I AM NOW BY WONDERFUL CHILDREN AND GRANDCHILDREN, NOT A DAY GOES BY I DON'T THINK OF RICHARD AND OUR LOVE, OUR RIGHT TO MARRY, AND HOW MUCH IT MEANT TO ME TO HAVE THAT FREEDOM TO MARRY THE PERSON PRECIOUS TO ME. EVEN IF OTHERS THOUGHT HE WAS THE WRONG KIND OF PERSON FOR ME TO MARRY. I BELIEVE ALL AMERICANS NO MATTER THEIR RACE, NO MATTER THEIR SEX, NO MATTER THEIR SEXUAL ORIENTATION, SHOULD HAVE THAT SAME FREEDOM TO MARRY. GOVERNMENT HAS NO BUSINESS IMPOSE SOMETHING PEOPLE'S RELIGIOUS BELIEFS OVER OTHERS, ESPECIALLY IF IT DENIES PEOPLE'S CIVIL RIGHTS. I'M STILL NOT A POLITICAL PERSON. BUT I AM PROUD RICHARD'S AND MY NAME IS ON A COURT CASE THAT CAN HELP REINFORCE THE LOVE, THE COMMITMENT, THE FAIRNESS AND THE FAMILY THAT SO PEOPLE BLACK OR WHITE, YOUNG OR OLD, GAY OR STRAIGHT, SEEK IN LIFE. I SUPPORT THE FREEDOM TO MARRY FOR ALL, THAT'S WHAT THE LOVING DECISION AND LOVING IS ALL ABOUT. SO WITH THAT I'LL PASS IT ON TO SONALI.

>> THANK YOU. I'M SONALI BALAJEE, AND I'M HERE TOO DO A LITTLE BIT MUCH A DISCUSSION OF HOW THIS EQUITY AND EMPOWERMENT LENS CAN BE APPLIED TO THE WORK THAT WE'RE TALKING ABOUT TODAY. SO IN SHORT, THE LENS ITSELF IS A QUALITY IMPROVEMENT TOOL, AND IT'S AFTER ELIMINATING THE ROOT CAUSES THAT LEAD TO INEQUITIES. SPECIFICALLY TO RACIAL INEQUITIES. HE'S SO CUTE! AND WHAT I -- I HAD THESE TALKING POINTS PUT TOGETHER AND I'M GOING TO GO UNSCRIPTED. AND I TOSSED THOSE IN FAVOR OF ACTUALLY MODELING THE LENS AND STARTING WITH BEN'S NARRATIVE AND -- HI! AND BUILDING OUT FROM THERE. AND THINKING ABOUT HOW -- I'M VERY DISTRACTED RIGHT NOW. THINKING ABOUT HOW WHEN WE THINK ABOUT THE LOVING DECISION ITSELF, AS A POLICY, RIGHT, HOW IS THAT FAIR AND JUST AND HOW DOES THAT BRING ABOUT RACIAL JUSTICE? THESE THINGS ARE REALLY CRITICAL TO THINK ABOUT. SO IN THE LENS WE THINK ABOUT FOUR AREAS. WE THINK ABOUT HOW WHAT WE HAVE IN FRONT OF US AFFECTS PEOPLE, HOW IT AFFECTS PLACE, HOW IT AFFECTS PROCESS, AND HOW IT AFFECTS POWER. SO I STARTED THINKING ABOUT WHEN WE THINK ABOUT THE LOVING DECISION, HOW IS IT POSITIVELY AFFECTING THE PEOPLE IN OUR COMMUNITY? THE PEOPLE FROM VARIOUS DEMOGRAPHICS, THE PEOPLE WHO IDENTIFY AS MULTIRACIAL, OR ARE SEEN AS MULTIRACIAL, WHICH IS REALLY IMPORTANT. AND SOMETHING THAT IS CRITICAL THAT BEN BROUGHT UP IS THINKING ABOUT HOW WE SEE THESE STORIES AS FULL OF BIGOTRY, PREJUDICE, WHAT THAT FEELS LIKE, WHAT IT MEANS TO IDENTIFY AS SOMEONE WHO IS MULTIRACIAL OR COMING FROM DIFFERENT CULTURES. AND THAT CAN HAVE A NEGATIVE EFFECT ON

POSITIVE MENTAL HEALTH, WHICH WE KNOW IS A RESOURCE AND A PATHWAY TO BE AGENTS IN OUR OWN LIVES. SO HAVING DECISIONS LIKE THIS CREATES A BETTER ENVIRONMENT, CREATES BETTER SERVICES, CREATES LESS DISSONANCE FOR FOLKS, WHICH IS REALLY CRITICAL. ANOTHER THING THAT I WAS THINKING ABOUT IN RELATION TO THE DOMA ACT WE WERE TALKING ABOUT TOO, IS THAT RESTRICTING PEOPLE'S RIGHTS NEGATIVELY AFFECTS THEIR ABILITY TO DO WELL IN THE SOCIAL DETERMINANT AREAS. IT CAN NEGATIVELY AFFECT HOW WELL YOU CAN DO USA ROUNDHOUSING, EDUCATION, DIGNITY AND RESPECT, SOCIAL COHESION, SO BY POSITIVELY PROMOTING THE LOVING DECISION, WE POSITIVELY AFFECT THE SOCIAL DETERMINANTS. SO THAT'S FOR PEOPLE. WHEN WE THINK ABOUT PLACE, WHAT KIND OF COMMUNITY, WE'VE HEARD A LOT ABOUT THIS TODAY, WHAT KIND OF COMMUNITY DO WE WANT TO SEE IN THE COUNTY AROUND PROMOTING INTERCULTURAL AND INTERRACIAL RELATIONSHIPS AND HOW DO THAT AFFECT PEOPLE'S SENSE OF SAFETY? PEOPLE'S RIGHT TO LIVELIHOOD? WHEN WE THINK ABOUT PROCESS, HOW ARE WE ENGAGING ALL OF OUR DEMOGRAPHICS, THINKING ABOUT THE VARIOUS NEEDS OF FOLKS WHO ARE MULTIRACIAL, AND MULTICULTURAL? OR INTERRACIAL AND INTERCULTURAL, WHEN WE'RE DELIVERING OUR SERVICES, WHEN WE'RE THINKING ABOUT OUR PLANNING? AND THE POWER, THE FOURTH P S. ONE THAT'S REALLY INTRIGUING TO ME. WHAT BARRIERS EXIST IN OUR SYSTEMS AND OUR SERVICES FOR FOLKS WHO ARE IN INTERRACIAL OR INTERCULTURAL RELATIONSHIPS? AND THEN WHAT BARRIERS -- SO THE LOVING DECISION MIGHT TAKE CARE AFTER POLITICAL BARRIER, OR A LEGAL BARRIER, BUT HOW ARE WE ADDRESSING THE PSYCHO EMOTIONAL AND THE MENTAL HEALTH IN OUR EDUCATION, COUNTY SERVICES, AND HEALTH SERVICES? I READ A GREAT QUOTE THIS MORNING THAT RACIAL JUSTICE IS ABOUT ELIMINATING RACIAL HIERARCHY. WHEN YOU IDENTIFY AS A COUPLE WHO IS INTERRACIAL, HOW ARE PEOPLE SITUATED DIFFERENTLY IN THAT HIERARCHY AND HOW DO WE THINK ABOUT THAT IN WHAT WE'RE DOING IN OUR OWN COMMUNITIES, I KNOW BEING INDIAN SRI LANKAN, FOR FOLKS WHO IDENTIFY AS MULTICULTURAL THERE ARE PERCEPTIONS EVEN WITHIN MY COMMUNITY WHAT THAT LOOKS LIKE. IT'S WITHIN OUR OWN COMMUNITIES, HOW DO WE ADDRESS THAT AND ELIMINATE THOSE BARRIERS? SO THEN SHIFT FROM THAT TO WHAT WE'RE DOING. AND WHAT -- HOW DO WE MOVE FROM HERE IN OUR OUTCOME AREAS. WE HAVE ADOPTED FIX IN THE LENS. AND I'M GOING TO GO THROUGH ONE LITTLE BIT IN EACH, HOPEFULLY WITHIN MY TIME. SO THE SHIFT IN SOCIAL NORMS BY HAVING A DIGNITY AND RESPECT CAMPAIGN THAT'S EFFECTIVE AND LOOKING AT RACIAL DYNAMICS WITHIN THAT, THAT'S REALLY POWERFUL. BY THINKING ABOUT COURAGEOUS ACTION AND VOICING -- JUST WHEN I SAW THAT FOUR-MINUTE VIDEO I WAS THINKING ABOUT HOW COURAGEOUS THE LOVES WERE TO MOVE FORWARD. IN 1967, BEFORE TO EVEN GET MARRIED AND COME BACK AND GO TO COURT AND ALL OF THAT. IT'S ASTOUNDING, AND HOW DO WE CONTINUE TO DO THAT IN OUR WORK? FOR STRENGTHENING ORGANIZATIONAL CAPACITY, WE HAVE ALL THESE DIFFERENT TRAININGS

AROUND THE -- UNDOING THE ISMS AND HOW DO WE BETTER INCORPORATE THE COMPLEXITY OF IDENTITY FOR FOLKS WHO ARE IN INTERCULTURAL RELATIONSHIPS AND THE CHILDREN WHO COME FROM SUCH? I KNOW MY CHILD IS INDIAN SRI LANKAN AND JEWISH AMERICAN, AND SHE ALWAYS BRINGS QUESTIONS HOME ABOUT, WHO AM I HERE, HOW DO I IDENTIFY HERE, I DON'T QUITE FIT IN. SO WE NEED TO HAVE THOSE KINDS OF CONVERSATIONS HONESTLY AS EMPLOYEES, BUT ALSO WITHIN OUR SERVICE PROVISION. AND AROUND STRENGTHENED ALLIANCES, HOW ARE WE INTEGRATING PEOPLE'S VOICE AND PINEDALEONING THE INNOVATIVE PARTNERSHIPS WE NEED. AND THE OTHER ONE WAS IMPROVED POLICIES. SO THERE'S A TON OF WORK HAPPENING AT THE COUNTY AROUND BETTER DATA COLLECTION AROUND DOME GRAPHICS. SO WE CAN BETTER UNDERSTAND THE VARIETY, THE DIVERSITY OF VOICE, WHICH IS AMAZING. AND BY HAVING A PATRIOTIC LOWE IMAGINATION, WHICH IS ON THE BOOKS, AND BEN WILL START READING THIS SOON, THAT'S A GREAT, GREAT START WHICH ALSO SHIFTS NORMS. HOW DO WE INSTITUTIONALIZE THAT AND THINK ABOUT THAT IN OUR SERVICE DELIVERY? SO WE'RE REALLY HAPPY TO BE HERE, AND BEN IS GOING READ THE PROCLAMATION.

>> IT'S AN HONOR TO READ THIS. I DON'T THINK I GET TO VOTE, BUT -- SO PROCLAIMING JUNE 12th, 2013, AS LOVING DAY IN MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON. THE MULTNOMAH COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS FINDS MILDRED JETER, AN AFRICAN-AMERICAN WOMAN, AND RICHARD LOVING, A CAUCASIAN MAN, FELL IN LOVE AND MARRIED IN 1958. BECAUSE VIRGINIA'S LAW MADE INTERRACIAL MARRIAGE A FELONY OFFENSE, THE LOVING WERE ARRESTED IN 1958. THEIR SENTENCE WAS SUSPENDED, PROVIDED THEY DID NOT RETURN TO COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA AS A COUPLE FOR 25 YEARS. TO AVOID IMPRISONMENT, THEY MOVED TO WASHINGTON, DC. WHILE THE LOVING WERE LEGALLY ALLOWED TO MARRY AND LIVE TOGETHER IN WASHINGTON, DC, THEY EXPERIENCED DISCRIMINATION IN RENTING PROPERTY, RACIST TAUNTING, EMOTIONAL HARDSHIP, AND DIFFICULTY SUPPORTING THEIR CHILDREN. MISSING THEIR FAMILY AND DESPERATE FOR JUSTICE, MRS. LOVING WROTE TO UNITED STATES ATTORNEY GENERAL ROBERT KENNEDY SEEKING HELP. HER LETTER SPARKED A LEGAL BATTLE THAT ROSE TO THE SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES. ON JUNE 12th, 1967, THE SUPREME COURT OVERTURNED LAWS THAT BANNED RACIALLY MIXED MARRIAGES IN THE CASE OF LOVING V VIRGINIA. LOVING DAY COMMEMORATES THE ANNIVERSARY OF THE LANDMARK DECISION EVERY JUNE 12th. WITH THIS RULING, THE COURT ENDED AN ERA OF LAWS ENFORCED IN 42 STATES THROUGHOUT AMERICAN HISTORY AND GRANTED THE SAME FREEDOM TO EVERY INTERRACIAL INCUMBENT IN EVERY STATE. LOVING DAY IS AN OPPORTUNITY TO HIGHLIGHT THE PROGRESS MADE TOWARDS EQUITY AND EMPOWERMENT OF PEOPLE FROM ALL BACKGROUNDS SEEKING TO MARRY. CELEBRATIONS ARE HELD ACROSS THIS COUNTY -- COUNTRY ON JUNE 12th IN HONOR OF THIS MONUMENTAL COURT DECISION. THANKS.

>> Commissioner Smith: THANK YOU, BEN, THANK YOU, SONALI. THIS WAS HUGE THIS MORNING AS I WAS THINKING ABOUT YOUR COMMENTS IN 1967, MY GRANDMOTHER, SHE WAS PART POTAWATOMI AND BLACKFOOT, AND WE ASKED, YOU KNOW, WHO WE WERE, AND SHE MARRIED AN AFRICAN-AMERICAN MAN. AND WHAT SHE SAID WAS, IT WAS EASIER IF YOU CAN EVEN IMAGINE THIS, IT WAS EASIER TO SAY WERE YOU AFRICAN-AMERICAN THAN IF YOU WERE NATIVE. AND THINKING ABOUT THE HIERARCHY YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT, THAT WAS SO -- WHAT WENT ON IN MY FAMILY. SO THIS IS HUGE FOR ME, AND IT'S VERY PERSONAL. AND I THANK YOU ALL FOR BRINGING THIS FORWARD.

>> Chair Cogen: BOARD COMMENTS?

>> Commissioner Shiprack: ONE OTHER. I WANT TO SAY I APPRECIATE COMMISSIONER SMITH THIS COMING IN FRONT OF US TODAY. I APPRECIATE IT BECAUSE OF THE SENSE OF HISTORY. I APPRECIATE IT BECAUSE OF THE SENSE OF POLICY, AND THE IMPACT THAT WE CAN HAVE. AND ALSO BECAUSE IT IS PERSONAL. AND SO IT REALLY -- THIS REALLY COVERS THE BASES. AND THANK YOU SONALI AND BEN, FOR YOUR PRESENTATION AS WELL.

>> THANKS.

>> Chair Cogen: COMMISSIONER KAFOURY.

>> Commissioner Kafoury: I'D LIKE TO HEAR FROM THE LITTLEST CONSTITUENT HERE TODAY. MAYBE HE COULD COME UP AND SAY A FEW WORDS, WHAT IT MEANS TO HIM. THANK YOU FOR BRINGING HIM, BEN. AND THANK YOU BOTH FOR THIS, AND COMMISSIONER SMITH OF COURSE. FABULOUS. IF I SAY ANYTHING MORE I'M GOING TO CRY.

>> Chair Cogen: THANKS COMMISSIONER SMITH FOR BRINGING THIS FORWARD. WE'LL LET THE RECORD REFLECT BEN WAS NOT EXAGGERATING ABOUT HOW CUTE HIS SON IS. [LAUGHTER] I WANT TO -- I WAS THINKING ABOUT, ONE THING THAT'S ALWAYS STRUCK ME ABOUT THIS CASE IS HOW COOL IT IS AND HOW APT IT IS AND SURPRISING IT IS THAT THE SUPREME COURT CASE THAT ESSENTIALLY UPHELD LOVE OVER HATE WAS NAMED LOVING? THAT'S JUST REALLY INTERESTING AND SURPRISING. I REMEMBER BEING A KID IN THE '70s AND TALKING TO MY PARENTS ABOUT THIS CASE, AND REALLY BEING SHOCKED THAT THERE WERE LAWS THAT SAID PEOPLE OF DIFFERENT RACES COULDN'T MARRY. IT WAS LIKE, WHAT IS WRONG WITH PEOPLE? HOW COULD THAT SOMEBODY IT STRUCK ME AS HARD TO EVEN CONCEIVE OF, AND WHAT I WAS INTERESTING TO ME, THAT'S THE SAME CONVERSATION I HAD WITH MY KIDS NOW ABOUT GAY MARRIAGE. AND THEY DON'T EVEN UNDERSTAND HOW THAT COULD POSSIBLY BE THE CASE. AND IT'S INTERESTING AND APT TIMING, BECAUSE NOT ONLY BECAUSE THIS IS

PRIDE WEEK, BUT BECAUSE THE SUPREME COURT IS ABOUT TO RULE ON HOPEFULLY IN THE RIGHT WAY, ON GAY MARRIAGE TOO. AND I THINK IT'S JUST HOPEFULLY IT'S THE CASE THAT LOVE KEEPS TRIUMPHING. NATURAL FAVOR? [CHORUS OF AYES] OPPOSED? THE PROCLAMATION IS ADOPTED AND IT IS LOVING DAY IN MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON. [APPLAUSE]

>> R-11, PROCLAMATION PROCLAIMING JUNE 2013 AS PRIDE MONTH FOR THE LGBTQ COMMUNITY IN MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON.

>> SO MOVED.

>> SECOND.

>> Chair Cogen: COMMISSIONER KAFOURY MOVES, COMMISSIONER SMITH SECONDED APPROVAL OF R-11.

>> GOOD MORNING CHAIR COGAN AND COMMISSIONERS. MY NAME IS RASHEEDA WEBBER, AND I AM WITH THE OFFICE OF DIVERSITY AND EQUITY. I AM THE EMPLOYEE RESOURCE GROUP COORDINATOR FOR OUR EMPLOYEE RESOURCE GROUPS. AND I'M HERE ON BEHALF OF PRIDE MONTH, AND PRISM OUR LGBTQ GROUP. TODAY WE WILL HAVE REPRESENTATIVES AND DIRECTORS FROM EACH DEPARTMENT SHARING TESTIMONIES ON THIS STATEMENT. WHY IT'S PROCLAIMING JUNE AS PRIDE MONTH IMPORTANT TO YOUR DEPARTMENT. AT THIS TIME, I WILL NOW INTRODUCE LIZ RODRIGUEZ AS -- WHO IS THE CHAIR OF PRISM. SHELL READ THE PROCLAMATION LATER. LIZ?

>> THANK YOU, RASHEEDA. GOOD MORNING CHAIR, COMMISSIONERS. THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME TODAY. MY NAME IS LIZ RODRIGUEZ, REPRESENTING PRISM. WOULD I LIKE TO THANK YOU FOR YOUR PAST, PRESENT, AND CONTINUED SUPPORT OF OUR LGBTQ COMMUNITY. THIS WEEK SIGNING OF AN EXECUTIVE ORDER FOR PROVIDING ACCESS TO GENDER NEUTRAL RESTROOMS WITHIN OUR FACILITIES PLACES MULTNOMAH COUNTY AT THE NATIONWIDE FOREFRONT OF INCLUSION EFFORTS AND VALIDATES OUR DEDICATION TO EQUITY. OUR COUNTY MISSION VISION AND VALUE STATEMENT PROVIDE AS FRAMEWORK FOR MAKING DECISIONS, BUT IT IS OUR COMMITTED LEADERSHIP WHO ENACT THOSE VALUES EVERY DAY IN THE COURSE OF THEIR SERVICE DELIVERY THAT HELP FOSTER OUR CELEBRATION OF DIVERSITY, AND OUR ENVIRONMENT OF PRIDE AND ADVOCACY FOR OUR MOST VULNERABLE POPULATIONS. I AM HONORED AND GRATEFUL TO BE SITTING HERE TODAY ALONGSIDE SOME OF THOSE LEADERS AS THEY RALLY THEIR SUPPORT OF OUR LGBTQ COMMUNITY THROUGH PERSONAL TESTIMONIES ON THE IMPORTANT OF A PRIDE MONTH PROCLAMATION WITHIN THEIR RESPECTIVE DEPARTMENTS IN MULTNOMAH COUNTY. JOINING US TODAY ARE SCOTT TAYLOR, DIRECTOR OF DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY JUSTICE. LOREEN NICHOLS, HEALTH

DEPARTMENT DEPUTY DIRECTOR, SHERIFF DANIEL STATON. SHERRY SWACKHAMER, KIM PEOPLE'S, INTERIM DIRECTOR OF DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY SERVICES, AND SUSAN MYERS, DIRECTOR OF OUR DEPARTMENT OF COUNTY HUMAN SERVICES.

>> GOOD MORNING COMMISSIONERS.

>> Commissioner Smith: GOOD MORNING.

>> THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR THIS OPPORTUNITY. DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY JUSTICE WANTED TO MAKE SURE THAT -- WE FIND THIS AN AREA WE STRONGLY SUPPORT. WE WILL BE PART OF THE ALLIANCE FOR SAFE COMMUNITY, AND A SAFER COMMUNITIES, WE ALSO WILL HAVE PEOPLE IN THE PARADE AND A BOOTH OPERATING FOR DCJ, AND A NUMBER OF OUR EMPLOYEES WILL BE MANNING BOTH OF THOSE. WE THINK THIS PROCLAMATION, THE PEOPLE WE SUPERVISE REFLECT THE POPULATION MADE UP OF OUR COMMUNITY. THE STAFF WE EMPLOY REFLECT THE POPULATION WE SUPERVISORS AND SERVE. SO IT AFFIRMS THAT THE COUNTY ARE AND DCJ IS A SUPPORTIVE AND ACCEPTING COMMUNITY THAT WELCOMES ALL FORMS OF DIVERSITY, PRIDE IS IMPORTANT TO DCJ BECAUSE IT BRINGS AWARENESS TO THE ISSUES AND NEEDS OF MANY LGBTQ PEOPLE DEAL WITH DAILY, AND WE WANT TO BECOME MORE AND MORE AWARE OF THAT AND HOW WE CAN MAKE IT A WELCOMING PLACE TO WORK, AND A COMMUNITY WITH THE FOLKS WE MANAGE. THE MESSAGE TO OUR CLIENTS IS THAT ONE OF THE KEY CONCEPTS THAT PERTAINS TO OUR CORE CORRECTIONAL PRACTICES RESPONSIVITY. AND RESPONSIVITY MEANS WE ACKNOWLEDGE RESPECT AND SERVE THE WHOLE PERSON. IT IS OUR VALUE AND OUR PRACTICE TO BE SENSITIVE AND SUPPORTIVE TO ALL ADULTS AND YOUTH REGARDLESS OF SEXUAL ORIENTATION AND GENDER IDENTITY. FOR MANY OF THE YOUTH IN OUR CARE, THE TREATMENT THEY RECEIVE WILL EITHER EMPOWER THEM OR MAKE THEM MORE VULNERABLE, AND IT'S OUR GOAL TO EMPOWER WHENEVER POSSIBLE. AND THE MESSAGE TO OUR EMPLOYEES SENDS FOR THOSE WHO SEEK EMPLOYMENT WITH DCJ, OUR MESSAGE IS WE WELCOME THE WHOLE PERSON AND WE STAND BESIDE YOU, AND DCJ IS COMMITTED TO MAINTAINING A DIALOGUE ABOUT THESE ISSUES AND KEEP THE CONVERSATION GOING LONG AFTER THIS MONTH IS OVER. AND SO WE APPRECIATE THE OPPORTUNITY TO JOIN IN SUPPORTING THIS PROCLAMATION.

>> GOOD MORNING, CHAIR, COMMISSIONERS. IT'S MY PLEASURE TO JOIN YOU TODAY AS YOU PROCLAIM JUNE 2013 AS GAY PRIDE MONTH IN MULTNOMAH COUNTY. AS WE CELEBRATE LGBTQ PRIDE MONTH, I WOULD LIKE TO HIGHLIGHT WHY IT IS IMPORTANT TO MYSELF AND TO THE MEN AND WOMEN OF THE MULTNOMAH COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE. AS A LAW ENFORCEMENT ORGANIZATION, OUR PRIMARY MISSION IS TO SERVE THE CITIZENS OF MULTNOMAH COUNTY WITH EQUAL, CONSIDERATE, AND RESPECTFUL

TREATMENT OF ALL PERSONS. THIS ETHIC IS AT THE CORE OF OUR DECISION MAKING AND THE WAY IN WHICH OUR ORGANIZATION FROM NEWEST EMPLOYEE TO THE ELECTED OFFICIAL, VIEW HOW WE SERVE OUR PUBLIC. WE BELIEVE THAT RECRUITING AND RETAINING EMPLOYEES FROM THE LGBTQ COMMUNITY MAKES US A RICHER, MORE DIVERSE ORGANIZATION THAT IS BETTER ABLE TO FULFILL OUR MISSION. OUR ORGANIZATION HAS BEEN SUCCESSFUL IN RECRUITING IN THE LGBTQ COMMUNITY, AND EXPERIENCE THE BENEFITS AND THE DIVERSE WORK FORCE THAT WE HAVE TODAY. WE ARE PROUD, AND I AM PROUD THAT WE CONTINUE 20 PLUS YEARS OF COSPONSORSHIP OF THE SEXUAL MINORITY ROUND TABLE, CURRENTLY UNDERGOING A NAME CHANGE TO THE ALLIANCE FOR SAFER COMMUNITIES, TO BETTER REFLECT THE ORGANIZATION'S GOAL AND FOCUS. THE PURPOSE OF THE ALLIANCE FOR SAFER COMMUNITIES IS, QUOTE -- TO CONTINUE TO ENHANCE THE RELATIONSHIP AND COOPERATION BETWEEN THE LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMUNITY, SEXUAL MINORITY COMMUNITY, AND THEIR ALLY AND FOSTER AN ENVIRONMENT OF MUTUAL RESPECT. UNQUOTE. THE SHERIFF'S OFFICE IS PROUD TO PARTICIPATE IN THE PRIDE PARADE THIS COMING SUNDAY, AS A VISIBLE SHOW OF SUPPORT FROM THE SHERIFF'S OFFICE TO THE LGBTQ COMMUNITY. I WANT TO THANK YOU FOR INCLUDING US IN YOUR PROCLAMATION TODAY, AND I'D LIKE TO TAKE ONE MOMENT TO THANK A GENTLEMAN THAT IS NOT IN THE ROOM BUT HAS BEEN A HUGE LEADER FOR US AS A SHERIFF'S OFFICE, AND THAT WOULD BE DANNY ROSEN. HE HAS FOCUSED US AND GUIDED US AS WE'VE WORKED WITH THE ALLIANCE FOR SAFER COMMUNITIES, AND I WANT TO THANK HIM PERSONALLY.

>> Chair Cogen: THANK YOU, SHERIFF.

>> GOOD MORNING CHAIR COGEN AND COMMISSIONERS. I'M REALLY HAPPY TO BE HERE TODAY TO REPRESENT THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT. LOREEN NICHOLS, DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY HEALTH SERVICES. RECOGNITION AND CELEBRATION OF LGBTQ COMMUNITY DURING PRIDE IS PARTICULARLY IMPORTANT TO THE WORK THAT WE DO IN THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT. AND AS YOU KNOW, PUBLIC HEALTH PLAY AS UNIQUE ROLE IN SUPPORTING COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS AND MEMBERS OF THE LGBTQ COMMUNITY. WE IDENTIFY AND ADDRESS HEALTH ISSUES, RAISE AWARENESS, AND COMBAT STIGMA IN A LOT OF OUR EFFORTS AND PROGRAMS. WE'RE HOPEFUL BY CONTINUING TO FOCUS OUR EFFORTS WITH THE LGBT COMMUNITY, WE'LL MOVE FURTHER TOWARDS HEALTH EQUITY. ALTHOUGH LGBTQ PEOPLE ARE MAKING RAPID STRIDES TO SECURE CIVIL RIGHTS, VISIBILITY IN SOCIETAL ACCEPTANCE SIGNIFICANT HEALTH DISPARITIES REMAIN. HERE IN OREGON, THE ANNUAL SYPHILIS INCIDENTS IN MULTNOMAH COUNTY HAS CONTINUED AT AN ALARMING RATE. PARTICULARLY AMONG GAY AND BISEXUAL MEN. BOTH ADULTS AND YOUTH WHO IDENTIFY AS LESBIAN, GAY, AND BISEXUAL ARE MUCH MORE LIKELY TO EXPERIENCE SEXUAL ASSAULT, AND INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE, AND FOR YOUTH, PHYSICAL VIOLENCE BY AN ADULT.

AND FINALLY, MORE THAN 20% OF LGBT YOUTH REPORT MAKING A SUICIDE ATTEMPT IN THE PREVIOUS 12 MONTHS. COMPARED TO FEWER THAN 5% OF STRAIGHT IDENTIFIED PEERS. WHICH IS REALLY TOO MUCH FOR ANYONE. THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT'S PROGRAMS AND SERVICES WORK TOWARDS REDUCING THESE UNFAIR AND AVOIDABLE DISPARITIES THROUGH INNOVATIVE PROGRAMS AND COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS. A FEW EXAMPLES -- [INDISCERNIBLE] BRINGS TOGETHER A COALITION OF COMMUNITY PARTNERS, FOCUSED ON PROVIDING HEALTHY SEXUALITY, EDUCATION, IN THE LATINO COMMUNITY IN A CULTURALLY CONSCIOUS WAY, INCLUDING LOOKING AT HOW MACHISMO AND HOMOPHOBIA CONTRIBUTE TO ADVERSE HEALTH OUTCOMES. THROUGH WORKING WITH YOUTH ADVISORY COUNCILS OUR SCHOOL-BASED HEALTH CENTERS SUPPORT STUDENT LEADERS, RAISE AWARENESS AND COMBAT BULLYING. IN PARTNERSHIP WITH CASCADE AIDS PROGRAM, PROJECT, THE STD PROGRAM OFFERS FREE NONJUDGMENTAL HIV TESTING, A COMMUNITY SPACE AT PIVOT, A COMMUNITY SPACE FOR GAY, BI, TRANSMEN WHO LOVE MEN. AND FINALLY, WE CONTINUE TO PUSH FOR IMPROVED DATA COLLECTION ON SEXUAL AND GENDER MINORITIES, THAT BOTH THE NATIONAL AND LOCAL LEVELS. THIS DATA CAN HELP US MAKE -- GET A CLEARER PICTURE OF THE HEALTH ISSUES AND INEQUITIES FACED BY THE LGBT COMMUNITY AND INFORM HOW WE RESPOND WITH PROGRAMS AND SERVICES. THERE'S MUCH WE'RE DOING AND THERE'S MUCH WE CAN DO WITH THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT TO CONTINUE TO REDUCE DISPARITIES AND SUPPORT EQUITY FOR LGBTQ POPULATIONS. INSISTING ON CULTURAL COMPETENCY TRAINING FOR HEALTH PROVIDERS, CREATING POLICIES FOR LGBT INCLUSION AND SEX EDUCATION FOR YOUTH, CONTINUING TO INCREASE THE INFORMATION WE GATHER REGARDING GENDER AND SEXUAL ORIENTATION, PROVIDING SAFE SCHOOLS AND ANTIVIOLENCE WORK, ANTI-BULLYING WORK, AND SUPPORTING CIVIL RIGHTS IN EMPLOYMENT BENEFITS AND REALLY CREATING EQUITY THERE. ALL OF THESE EFFORTS HELP SUPPORT HEALTHY DEVELOPMENT, THEY SUPPORT HEALTHY RELATIONSHIPS, HEALTHY INDIVIDUALS, AND HEALTHY COMMUNITIES FOR PEOPLE OF ALL GENDERS AND FOR ALL SEXUAL ORIENTATIONS. THANK YOU.

Chair Cogen: THANK YOU.

Ms. Swackhamer: GOOD MORNING COMMISSIONERS. CHAIR COGEN. I'M SHERRY SWACKHAMER, THE DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF COUNTY ASSETS. AND WE ARE PROUD TO CELEBRATE PRIDE MONTH, BECAUSE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COUNTY ASSETS, WE TREAT EACH OTHER WITH DIGNITY AND RESPECT AND TAKE PRIDE IN THE SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTIONS THAT COME FROM DIVERSE INDIVIDUALS AND IDEAS. WE ALSO PURSUE INCLUSION AND SOCIAL JUSTICE FOR EVERYONE. THESE SENTIMENTS COME DIRECTLY FROM DCA'S STATEMENT OF OUR CORE VALUES, A STATEMENT WHICH REFLECTS THE CONSENSUS OF ALL DCA MEMBERS. WE'RE ALSO VERY PROUD TO HAVE ONE OF OUR OWN, LIZ RODRIGUEZ, AS THE COCHAIR OF PRISM. LIZ IS A ROLE MODEL FOR ALL OF US. IN ADDITION TO OUR SUPPORT

OF PRIDE MONTH AS AN AFFIRMATION OF OUR VALUES AND BELIEFS, PROCLAIMING JUNE AS PRIDE MONTH IS IMPORTANT TO OUR COMMITMENT TO BUILD THE BEST WORK FORCE POSSIBLE. ONE THAT FOCUSES ON CREATIVITY, COLLABORATION, INNOVATION, AND EFFICIENCIES. FOR PROGRESSIVE ORGANIZATIONS, INCLUSION MEANS NOT ONLY BUILDING A DIVERSE WORK FORCE, BUT LEVERAGING THAT DIVERSITY FOR A COMPETITIVE EDGE IN HIRING AND KEEPING AWFUL EMPLOYEES. THE BEST AND THE BRIGHTEST EMPLOYEES SEEK OUT DIVERSE AND INCLUSIVE WORK ENVIRONMENTS BECAUSE THEY KNOW THEY CAN THRIVE IN AN ORGANIZATION THAT SUPPORTS AND EMPOWERS ALL EMPLOYEES. AND WHEN THAT SUPPORT EXTENDS TO TANGIBLE BENEFITS LIKE MEDICAL INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR SAME-SEX DOMESTIC PARTNERS, IT CAN BE AN IMPORTANT FACTOR IN SETTING US APART FROM OTHER ORGANIZATIONS AND ENHANCING OUR DRAW AS AN EMPLOYER OF CHOICE. AS MULTNOMAH COUNTY, WE KNOW THAT OUR WORK MATTERS. EQUALLY IMPORTANT IS THAT WE KNOW OUR EMPLOYEES MATTER. WHICH IS WHY ON BEHALF OF THE DEPARTMENT OF COUNTY ASSETS, I THANK THE CHAIR AND THE COMMISSIONERS FOR PROCLAIMING JUNE AS PRIDE MONTH, AND I THANK THE PRISM EMPLOYEE RESOURCE GROUP, OUR LGBTQ EMPLOYEES AND THEIR ALLIES FOR THEIR WORK TO ENSURE THAT OUR COUNTY EMPLOYEES ARE VALUED, PRODUCTIVE, AND SUCCESSFUL. WE THINK OUR TAG LINE SUMS IT ALL. WE STRIVE FOR CREATIVE SYNERGIES, INNOVATIVE TECHNOLOGIES, SUSTAINABLE PRACTICES, AND MOST IMPORTANTLY, AN INCLUSIVE WORKPLACE.

Chair Cogen: THANK YOU. GOOD MORNING.

Mr. Peoples: GOOD MORNING CHAIR COGEN, COMMISSIONERS. I'M KIM PEOPLES, THE INTERIM DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY SERVICES. ON BEHALF OF THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY SERVICES, I AM VERY PLEASED TO BE HERE THIS MORNING IN SUPPORT OF THE EFFORTS OF PRISM, TO COMMEMORATE AND RECOGNIZE THE STRUGGLES, SUCCESSES AND INITIATIVES OF THE LGBTQ COMMUNITY THROUGH TODAY'S PROCLAMATION. WE ALL RECOGNIZE THE COUNTY PROVIDERS SOCIAL SERVICES, INFRASTRUCTURE SYSTEMS, AND LOCAL GOVERNANCE TO THE ENTIRE MULTNOMAH COUNTY COMMUNITY. I BELIEVE TODAY'S RECOGNITION OF THE EFFORTS OF THE PRISM COMMUNITY IS YET ANOTHER THREAD IN THE FABRIC OF THE COUNTY SUPPORT AND THUS ADDS TO THE HOLISTIC COMPONENT OF THE COUNTY'S MISSION. I APPLAUD YOUR SUPPORT AND EFFORTS. AT DCS WE STRIVE TO PROVIDE A WELCOMING ENVIRONMENT TO INDIVIDUALS WHO SEEK TO JOIN US AND FOR THOSE THAT SEEK OUR SERVICES. IN THE WORKPLACE WE PROVIDE AN INCLUSIVE RECRUITMENT PROCESS THAT ENSURES A WELCOMING EXPERIENCE THROUGH THE BEGINNING OF THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE WORK OFFERED AS WELL THROUGH THE ENTIRE INTERVIEW PROCESS. ONCE ON BOARD WE PROMOTE AN ORGANIZATIONAL CULTURE THAT IS INCLUSIVE AND RESPECTFUL. A VERY

EXCITING DEVELOPMENT IS A COLLABORATION WITH THE OFFICE OF DIVERSITY AND EQUITY, WHICH IS THE VENUE FOR NEW CHANGE EVENTS. WE'VE CALLED THAT THE EQUITY SUMMIT. AND THE EQUITY SUMMIT IS A VENUE FOR OUR CHANGE AGENTS TO START DISCUSSIONS OF INCLUSIONARY PRACTICES WITHIN THE DEPARTMENT AND CONSCIOUSNESS RAISING OF DIVERSITY EQUITY, AND INCLUSIONARY TOPICS. OUR SERVICE DELIVERY IS BEGINNING TO IMPLEMENT THE EQUITY LENS AND THE WORK THAT WE DO FROM TRANSPORTATION TO ELECTIONS TO LAND USE PLANNING, TO ANIMAL SERVICES. IN CLOSING, DCS LOOKS FORWARD TO WORKING WITH PRISM AND THE OFFICE OF DIVERSITY AND EQUITY ON UPCOMING INITIATIVES AROUND SOCIAL JUSTICE, INCLUSION, AND EQUALITY. SO THANK YOU AND WE SUPPORT BY ALL MEANS THE PROCLAMATION TODAY.

>> GOOD MORNING, I'M SUSAN MYERS, THE DIRECTOR OF THE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES. THROUGHOUT MY ADULT LIFE, I'VE INTENTIONALLY CHOSE TO LIVE IN COMMUNITIES WHICH VALUE THE QUALITY OF LIFE FOR ALL PEOPLE, INCLUDING EQUAL RIGHTS FOR LESBIAN, GAY, BISEXUAL, TRANSGENDERED AND QUESTIONING PEOPLE. MULTNOMAH COUNTY IS ONE OF THOSE COMMUNITIES AND FRANKLY THIS IS ONE OF THE MAIN REASONS I CHOSE TO LIVE HERE. I ALSO KNOW THAT IT IS A PRIVILEGE TO GET TO CHOOSE WHERE ONE LIVES. THE REALITY IS THAT MOST PEOPLE CAN'T JUST PICK UP AND MOVE AWAY FROM A COMMUNITY THAT IS OPPRESSIVE AND OPENLY HOSTILE TO THEIR WAY OF LIFE AND TRUE BEING. I'VE SAID THIS BEFORE IN RELATION TO OTHER ISSUES AND I'LL SAY IT AGAIN, WE LIVE IN A NICE CUSHIONY BUBBLE, AND IT FEELS REALLY GOOD SOMETIMES, AND I LIKE IT. I KNOW THOUGH MANY LGBTQ PEOPLE ACROSS THIS COUNTRY AND CERTAINLY IN OTHER PLACES IN THE WORLD DON'T GET TO ENJOY THE FREEDOM TO BE, TO LIVE LIFE AS WHO YOU ARE, WITHOUT FEAR, WHICH WE GET TO EXPERIENCE HERE IN MULTNOMAH COUNTY. AND FOR THAT WE ARE TRULY FORTUNATE. HOWEVER, THIS DOESN'T MEAN WE'RE PERFECT AND WITHOUT ISSUES. OF COURSE ONE OF THE MORE OBVIOUS FORMS OF DISCRIMINATION WE'VE TALKED ABOUT ONCE OR TWICE HERE TODAY ALREADY, THAT REMAINS THAT LGBT PEOPLE CAN'T GET MARRIED IN OREGON, IN THIS COUNTRY, AND IN MANY PLACES IN THE WORLD. BUT BELIEVE IT OR NOT, LGBT PEOPLE HERE IN MULTNOMAH COUNTY DO EXPERIENCE DISCRIMINATION, AND I WANT TO SHARE WHAT WE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES, ARE DOING TO ADDRESS IT. LGBT PEOPLE AGE JUST LIKE EVERYONE ELSE. AND MANY OF OUR LGBTQ SENIORS HAVE BEEN OPEN ABOUT THEIR SEXUAL ORIENTATION OR GENDER EXPRESSION FOR A LONG TIME, AND MANY HAVE NOT. THEY GREW UP IN A DIFFERENT TIME, WE TALKED ABOUT DIFFERENT TIMES IN TERMS OF INTERRACIAL MARRIAGE, THERE WAS ALSO CERTAINLY A DIFFERENT TIME FOR LGBTQ PEOPLE. THEY GREW UP IN A DIFFERENT TIME WHEN BEING OPENLY GAY OR TRANSGENDERED WAS ILLEGAL, AND DEFINED AS A MENTAL ILLNESS. BEING FOUND OUT OFTEN RESULTED IN DAMAGED CAREERS, RUINED

LIVES, CRIMINAL RECORDS, AND SOMETIMES DEATH. FORTUNATELY BEING GAY IS NO LONGER ILLEGAL, OR A MENTAL ILLNESS, BUT MANY OF OUR LGBTQ SENIORS ARE FACING DIFFICULT CHOICES ABOUT WHETHER OR NOT TO RETURN TO THE CLOSET. YOU SEE MANY OF OUR NURSING HOMES AND ASSISTED LIVING FACILITIES ARE NOT PARTICULARLY OPEN TO SERVING LGBTQ PEOPLE, AND DISCRIMINATE AGAINST THEM. THE RESIDENTS AND THEIR PARTNERS ARE OPENLY HARASSED, EITHER BY THE STATE, THE STAFF, BY THE OTHER RESIDENTS OF THE FACILITY, OR SOMETIMES BY THEIR OWN FAMILY MEMBERS. IF A PERSON DOESN'T HAVE THE MENTAL AND PHYSICAL CAPACITY TO ADVOCATE FOR THEMSELVES, THE LIKELY RESULT IS A VERY CRUEL AND INHUMANE END OF LIFE. IN ORDER TO ADDRESS THIS HORRENDOUS ISSUE, WE FORMED THE LGBT ALLIANCE, WHICH IS A GROUP OF AGING AND DISABILITY STAFF AND COMMUNITY PARTNERS WHO ARE WORKING TO INCREASE THE AWARENESS OF INEQUITIES FOR THE LGBT COMMUNITY AND WHO ARE DEVELOPING A TRAINING AND DESIGNATION FOR ADULT CARE HOME PROVIDERS INTERESTED IN BECOMING LGBTQ FRIENDLY. EARLIER THIS YEAR STAFF HOSTED SCREENING AND DISCUSSIONS ON THE FILM "GEN SILENT" A DOCUMENTARY THAT FOLLOWS THE LIVES OF SINKS LGBTQ SENIORS WHO STRUGGLE TO DECIDE IF THEY WILL HIDE THEIR SEXUAL ORIENTATION OR GENDER IDENTITY, EVEN SOMETIMES AFTER MANY YEARS OF BEING OUT, IN ORDER TO SURVIVE IN THE LONG-TERM HEALTH CARE SYSTEM. IT IS A VERY MOVING FILM AND I ENCOURAGE ALL OF YOU TO SEE IT. WE ALSO KNOW THAT SEXUAL MINORITY YOUTH CONTINUE TO STRUGGLE WITH HARASSMENT AND BULLYING, WHICH OFTEN RESULTS IN SEVERE DEPRESSION, SCHOOL DROPOUT, AND HIGH RISK FOR SUICIDE. OUR COMMUNITY SERVICES DIVISION NOTES THAT LARGE NUMBERS OF HOMELESS YOUTH ARE HOMELESS BECAUSE THEY ARE LGBTQ AND THEIR FAMILIES HAVE ABANDONED THEM. IT IS ONE OF THE FEW MINORITIES WHERE YOU CAN'T RELY ON YOUR FAMILY FOR SUPPORT. THE SUN SERVICE SYSTEMS SEXUAL MINORITY YOUTH SERVICES PROGRAM OFFERS COUNSELING AND SUPPORT TO MORE THAN 800 YOUTH EACH YEAR. THE PROGRAM TRAINS APPROXIMATELY 500 SCHOOL AND DIRECT SERVICE STAFF TO ENHANCE THEIR UNDERSTANDING OF THE NEEDS OF SEXUAL MINORITY YOUTH SO THAT THEY CAN PROVIDE COMPETENT AND HIGH-QUALITY SERVICES. ALSO THE SEXUAL MINORITY YOUTH RESOURCE CENTER IS A DROP-IN CENTER WORKING TO INCREASE SCHOOL RETENTION AND SUCCESS, AND LAST YEAR NEARLY 92% OF THE YOUTH SERVED IN THE DROP-IN CENTER REENROLLED OR REMAINED IN SCHOOL. ALSO DCHS PROVIDES ADDITIONAL SERVICES TO THE LGBTQ COMMUNITY, OUR DOMESTIC VIOLENCE COORDINATION OFFICE FUNDS AN LGBTQ VICTIMS SERVICES PROGRAM, THROUGH BRADLEY ENGLE, WHICH INCLUDES ADVOCACY, SUPPORT GROUPS AND A HEALTHY RELATIONSHIPS CLASS. AND THEN OUR MENTAL HEALTH AND ADDICTION SERVICES DIVISIONS CONTRACTS WITH QUEST CENTER FOR INTEGRATIVE HEALTH, WHICH OFFERS SERVICES FOR THE LGBTQ COMMUNITY AND INDIVIDUALS LIVING WITH HIV. ALL OF THESE ACTIVITIES DEMONSTRATE A COMMITMENT BY DHS

AND YOU, THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, TO BUILD A MORE INCLUSIVE ENVIRONMENT, REMOVE BARRIERS, AND CREATE A CULTURE OF COMPASSION. THE LGBTQ WE'VE ALREADY MENTIONED, COMMUNITY, HAS SEEN PROFOUND ADVANCES IN ANTIDISCRIMINATION LEGISLATION, BUT MUCH MORE REMAINS TO BE DONE TO ENSURE THAT ALL OF OUR COMMUNITY MEMBERS ARE TREATED EQUALLY AND HAVE THE SAME PROTECTION AND OPPORTUNITIES AS THEIR FAMILY MEMBERS, NEIGHBORS, AND COWORKERS. IT IS NOT ENOUGH TO BE A COMMUNITY THAT IS TOLERANT OF LGBTQ PEOPLE. THE IDEAL IS TO BE A COMMUNITY THAT IS ENCOURAGING, SUPPORTIVE, THAT ACTIVELY ADVOCATES FOR EQUALITY, AND THAT OPENLY CELEBRATES OUR DIFFERENCES. I BELIEVE THAT HERE IN MULTNOMAH COUNTY WE STRIVE FOR THIS IDEAL, AND I FEEL HONORED TO LIVE HERE AND HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO CONTRIBUTE AND TO BE OF SERVICE. SO THANK YOU.

>> Chair Cogen: THANK YOU.

>> I'M DAVE RATLIFF WITH THE LIBRARY. I'M FILLING IN FOR VAILEY OEHLKE TODAY, WHO IS AT HARVARD UNIVERSITY RIGHT NOW BEING FUNDED IN FACT BY A GROUP THAT GIVES SCHOLARSHIPS TO LESBIAN, GAY, AND BISEXUAL PEOPLE TO FURTHER THEIR EDUCATION. IN THIS CASE, SOMETHING SHE PROBABLY WOULDN'T HAVE BEEN ABLE TO DO ON HER OWN DIME AT HARVARD. SO WITH THAT, I'LL GET STARTED. LIBRARIES HAVE LONG BEEN ABOUT SERVING EVERYONE EQUALLY, AND INCLUSION IS ONE OF THE CORE PRINCIPLES OF LIBRARIANSHIP, SO IT'S NO SURPRISE THAT THE LIBRARY IS SORT OF A SAFE HAVEN FOR LGBTQ FOLKS. PARTICULARLY YOUNG PEOPLE. IT'S ONE OF THE FEW PLACES THAT FOLKS CAN GO AND GET INFORMATION FROM A TOTALLY UNBIASED PERSPECTIVE, TOTALLY ON THEIR OWN TERMS WITH ABSOLUTELY PRIVACY. IF THEY WANT TO TALK SOMEBODY, THEY CAN, BUT IT'S NOT LIKE GOING TO A COUNSELOR. THAT'S SOMETHING WE TRY VERY HARD TO MAKE SURE THAT WE MAINTAIN AN ENVIRONMENT THAT IS WELCOMING FOR ABSOLUTELY EVERYBODY IN THE COMMUNITY. BELIEVE IT OR NOT, THERE'S ACTUALLY A LIBRARY BILL OF RIGHTS. MOST PEOPLE HAVE NEVER HEARD OF IT, BUT IT INFORMS EVERYTHING WE DO. FOR EXAMPLE, WE DON'T TAKE BOOKS OUT OF OUR COLLECTION BECAUSE OF THE ORIGIN, BACKGROUND, OR VIEWS OF THE FOLKS WHO CONTRIBUTED TO THE CREATION OF THOSE ITEMS. WE HAVE MATERIALS THAT PRESENT AM POINTS OF VIEW AND WE DON'T REMOVE THINGS BECAUSE OF DOCTRINAL DISAPPROVAL THERE. ARE A LOT OF BOOKS THAT HAVE BEEN BANNED BECAUSE OF THEIR PRESENTATION OF SAME-SEX RELATIONSHIPS, LITERALLY HUNDREDS, BUT HERE ARE A FEW TITLES YOU MIGHT RECOGNIZE -- THE KITE RUNNER, REVOLUTIONARY VOICES, THE PERKS OF BEING A WALLFLOWER, MY SISTER'S KEEPER, TANGO MAKES THREE, UNCLE BOBBY'S WEDDING, AND EVEN THE COLOR PURPLE. YOU'LL FIND ALL OF THOSE AT THE LIBRARY. PERHAPS MOST IMPORTANTLY WE ENSURE THAT NO PERSON IS DENIED ACCESS. EVERYONE RECEIVES POORER ACCESS THAN ANYONE ELSE

BECAUSE OF THEIR GENDER, THEIR FINANCE, THEIR SEXUAL ORIENTATION, OR ANY OTHER ISSUE THAT MIGHT BE BEYOND THEIR CONTROL. SO I'M PROUD TO BE A MEMBER OF A PROFESSION THAT HAS LONG FOUND EQUALITY TO BE THE UTAH MOST PORTS. I'M EVEN MORE PROUD TO WORK FOR A COUNTY THAT HAS SOME OF THE MORE PROGRESSIVE POLICIES IN THE NATION AROUND EQUITY ISSUES. THAT'S PART OF WHY I WORK HERE. LANGUAGE REFLECTING SIMILAR PRINCIPLES IS BECOMING MORE COMMON THESE DAYS, THANK GOODNESS, BUT WHEN THE LIBRARY BILL OF RIGHTS WAS WRITTEN, THAT WAS 75 YEARS AGO, AND THOSE PRINCIPLES WERE NOT NECESSARILY COMMON AT ALL. THE FIRST PANEL OF THE SUPERMAN COMIC STRIP WAS BEING PUBLISHED IN A NEWSPAPER THAT YEAR, THERE HAD NOT BEEN AN INVASION OF PEARL HARBOR, AND IT WOULD BE ANOTHER 34 YEARS BEFORE THE FIELD OF PSYCHOLOGY WOULD AGREE THAT HOMOSEXUALITY WAS NOT A MENTAL ILLNESS. SO MOSTLY I WOULD LIKE TO FINISH MY THANKING THE COMMISSIONERS FOR THE PROCLAMATION TODAY AND FOR MAKING SURE OUR COMMUNITY KNOWS WHERE THIS COUNTY STANDS IN TERMS OF VALUE.

Chair Cogen: THANK YOU.

Ms. Rodriguez: THANK YOU LEADERS. JUNE COMMEMORATES THE LOVING V VIRGINIA SUPREME COURT DECISION, AND WE ALL HOPE TO HAVE MORE REASONS TO CELEBRATE IN THE NEAR FUTURE AS FULL MARRIAGE EQUALITY IS REALIZED IN OREGON AND HOPEFULLY AT A FEDERAL LEVEL THROUGH THE REPEAL OF DOMA. TODAY WE CAN CELEBRATE THE ACHIEVEMENTS REACHED THROUGH THE SOLIDARITY AND DETERMINATION OF THOSE BRAVE MEN AND WOMEN WHO IN 1969 DECIDED TO FIGHT BACK AGAINST DISCRIMINATION AND OPPRESSION BASED SOLELY ON WHO THEY LOVED. LET'S SHOW OUR SOLIDARITY. LET'S PROCLAIM JUNE AS PRIDE MONTH IN MULTNOMAH COUNTY. WITH YOUR PERMISSION I'LL READ THE PROCLAMATION.

Chair Cogen: PLEASE DO.

[MS. RODRIGUEZ READ THE PROCLAMATION INTO THE RECORD.]

Chair Cogen: THANKS, LIZ.

Ms. Rodriguez: YOU'RE WELCOME.

Chair Cogen: BOARD COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS?

Commissioner Smith: THANK YOU. I JUST WANT TO THANK YOU FOR BRINGING THIS PROCLAMATION FURTHER. AND FORWARD TODAY. IT'S SO NICE TO SEE ALLIES IN THE ROOM. AND I KNOW HOPEFULLY THIS TIME NEXT YEAR WE'LL BE HAVING ANOTHER CONVERSATION. SO THANK YOU.

Chair Cogen: COMMISSIONER KAFOURY.

Commissioner Kafoury: THANK YOU. IT'S BEEN QUITE A MOVING DAY AGAIN. ALL THESE PROCLAMATIONS. WHAT REALLY STRUCK ME IS SEEING ALL THE LEADERS FROM OUR COUNTY. WE GET OFTEN CHANCES TO TALK ABOUT HOW WE FEEL ABOUT THIS ISSUE, BUT IT'S REALLY QUITE MOVING AND QUITE INSPIRING TOO SEE ALL THE LEADERS OF MULTNOMAH COUNTY HERE FROM EVERY DEPARTMENT COME FORWARD AND TALK ABOUT WHAT IT MEANS TO BE EQUAL AND WHAT IT MEANS TO BE -- TREAT PEOPLE WITH DIGNITY AND RESPECT. SO I WANT TO THANK YOU FROM THE BOTTOM OF MY HEART.

Commissioner Shiprack: IF I COULD ADD TO THAT, THANK YOU -- THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR THIS PRESENTATION. REALLY, I FREE THAT HEARING FROM ALL OF YOU IS SO POWERFUL, AND IN CONTEXT WITH THE OTHER PRESENTATIONS WE'VE HAD TODAY, I JUST REALLY APPRECIATE THAT IN OUR CONTACT WITH THE COMMUNITY, WE CAN EITHER STRENGTHEN THE COMMUNITY, OR WE CAN MAKE IT MORE VULNERABLE. AND WE HAVE CHOSEN TO STRENGTHEN IT -- YESTERDAY -- TUESDAY? EARLIER THIS WEEK WE HEARD FROM A PRESENTER WHOSE TOPIC REALLY STUNNED ME. HE SAID THAT -- HE WAS FROM OREGON STATE UNIVERSITY, AND HIS -- IN HIS JOB HE DEALT WITH STUDENTS WHOSE FAMILIES HAD CUT THEM OFF FROM ANY FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE BECAUSE THE STUDENT HAD THE COURAGE AND HONESTY AND PRESENCE TO COME OUT TO THEIR OWN PARENTS. AND THEN JUST NOW WE HEARD AN ATTORNEY WHO SAID IF RICHARD LOVING HAD DIED, MILDRED AND THE THREE CHILDREN WOULD NOT HAVE BEEN ELIGIBLE FOR SOCIAL SECURITY BENEFITS. AND JUST THE JUXTAPOSITION OF THESE ISSUES LEADS ME INTO WHAT I WANTED TO COMMENT ON, WHICH IS, GENERATIONAL BAFFLEMENT. HOW COULD THEY HAVE BEEN THAT WAY? HOW COULD THAT HAVE BEEN THE LAW BACK THEN? SO I THINK THAT WE REALLY ARE LEVERAGING DIVERSITY. I FEEL OPTIMISTIC TODAY, AND I WANT TO THANK YOU FOR LEADING ME INTO THAT. I THINK THE MORE WE TREAT EACH OTHER WITH KINDNESS, AND EMPATHY, AND THE MORE WE PRACTICE THE CORE VALUES OF LIBRARIES, INCLUSIVENESS, THE BETTER OFF ALL OF US WILL BE. SO THANK YOU AGAIN.

>> THANK YOU, COMMISSIONER SHIPRACK.

Chair Cogen: WE'VE DONE A LOT OF PROCLAIMING THIS MORNING. AND THERE'S A REAL UP SIDE TO THAT. BY MAKING PROCLAMATIONS WE GET A CHANCE TO THINK ABOUT WHO WE ARE, AND WHAT WE BELIEVE IN. AND WHAT THIS ORGANIZATION STANDS FOR. AND CERTAINLY WHEN IT COMES TO PRIDE MONTH, THIS IS AN ORGANIZATION THAT STANDS FOR EQUALITY. AND HAS STOOD FOR EQUALITY. THIS IS AN ORGANIZATION THAT HAS STOOD FOR EQUALITY WHEN IT WASN'T A POLITICALLY POPULAR THING TO DO, AND IT'S AN ORGANIZATION THAT CONTINUES TO STAND FOR EQUALITY AND WILL

CONTINUE TO STAND FOR EQUALITY. LIKE COMMISSIONER KAFOURY, I WAS GLAD THAT THIS YEAR WE GOT TO HEAR FROM INDIVIDUAL DEPARTMENT DIRECTORS ABOUT WHAT THIS MEANS IN YOUR OWN PART OF THE ORGANIZATION. I THINK THAT HELPS FLESH OUT THE SIGNIFICANCE THAT THESE VALUES HAVE ON A DAILY BASIS FOR THE PEOPLE WHO WORK HERE AND ALSO FOR THE COMMUNITY THAT WE SERVE. AND IT'S JUST ANOTHER PIECE OF THE REASON I'M SO PROUD TO BE PART OF MULTNOMAH COUNTY. ALL IN FAVOR? [CHORUS OF AYES] OPPOSED? THE PROCLAMATION IS ADOPTED. [APPLAUSE] AND THAT BRINGS US TO THE END OF OUR AGENDA. WE'RE TEMPORARILY DONE PROCLAIMING. THERE IS TIME LEFT AT THE END FOR ANYONE WHO HAS ANY NONAGENDA ITEMS. ANY COMMISSIONERS HAVE ANYTHING? COMMISSIONER SMITH.

Commissioner Smith: I'D LIKE TO INVITE FOLKS WHO ARE IN MULTNOMAH COUNTY TO WALK WITH US IN THE PRIDE PARADE ON SUNDAY.

Chair Cogen: YES.

Commissioner Smith: THANKS.

Chair Cogen: WALK ON SUNDAY. AND THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS, WE'RE ADJOURNED. [GAVEL]

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 12:12 p.m.

This transcript was prepared by LNS Captioning and edited by the Board Clerk's office. For access to the video and/or board packet materials, please view at:
http://multnomah.granicus.com/ViewPublisher.php?view_id=3

Submitted by:
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Marina Baker, Assistant Board Clerk
Board of County Commissioners
Multnomah County