



OFFICE OF MAYOR SAM ADAMS
CITY OF PORTLAND

Dear Stakeholder Advisory Committee,

Over the past year, as we've worked on our vision for the redevelopment of the Rose Quarter, we've focused on the district's potential. The Rose Quarter could be the next great district within Portland's Central City, and could serve as a catalyst for future eastside development and job creation.

We've also discussed an additional opportunity this project will bring – All of Portland's diverse communities benefiting from its development through living wages, local hiring and training programs, sustainable building practices, and funds for community programs. In the recent public process of the North-Northeast Economic Development Initiative, the citizens' advisory committee unanimously recommended that the Rose Quarter project include a community benefits agreement. This topic has also come up at our Stakeholder Advisory Committee meetings. To ensure community benefits are at the forefront of any future development of the Rose Quarter, PDC Commissioner Charles Wilhoite--who headed the North-Northeast Economic Development Initiative--and I are convening a separate subcommittee to examine and make recommendations for this community benefits agreement. This committee represents a broad constituency, and includes two members of our SAC--Marcus Mundy and Sam Brooks.

This subcommittee will assess recommendations for economic returns on the public investment, workforce training and hiring returns, construction contracting returns, and local business returns. The purpose of this subcommittee will be to make recommendations to the Stakeholder Advisory Committee and the City, to be included in the advisory committee's report and used in the subsequent development negotiations.

The first meeting of this group will be held on Thursday, July 22, 2010 at 5:30 p.m. at the Portland Development Commission, located at 222 NW 5th Avenue. The Rose Quarter Community Benefits Subcommittee will meet a maximum of three times in August and September; we'll discuss the future meeting schedule on the 22nd. Stakeholder Advisory Committee members are welcome to attend this subcommittee's meetings. We will also be discussing this in depth at our July 26 SAC meeting.

This is an exciting opportunity for a development project to benefit the entire community, and I look forward to the recommendations this subcommittee will bring to our SAC.

Sincerely,

Sam Adams
Mayor, City of Portland