



2007 LIVABILITY GRANTS AWARDEES IN THE INTERSTATE CORRIDOR URBAN RENEWAL AREA

The Portland Development Commission has awarded eight community livability grants totaling \$300,000 to eight non-profit organizations in the Interstate Corridor Urban Renewal Area (ICURA). The grants will be used to enhance and expand capacity of existing community facilities and historic structures in the ICURA including, an affordable childcare center, community centers, alternative educational opportunities, and an arts and cultural center.

The eight proposals awarded are:

June Key Delta Community Center, 5940 N. Albina Street: An award of \$104,421 will assist in the transformation of a former gas station into an ecologically sustainable community center. The Delta Sigma Theta Sorority project will construct an addition and renovate the existing structure using 90 percent salvaged materials and sustainable design principles. When completed, the project will provide a space for daytime programming for seniors, after school programming for local youth and space available to the public for use in the evenings. Capacity at the center will triple with this expansion. A community garden/landscape project is planned to provide senior citizens the opportunity to work in a community garden and contribute their garden and landscape skills to youth in the community.

Interstate Firehouse Cultural Center (IFCC) Silver Anniversary Improvements, 5340 N. Interstate Avenue: An award of \$34,000 will be used to address sound transfer issues from exterior noise at this historic building. New acoustical doors, windows and baffling will be installed in the historic firehouse.

Reduced sound transfer will increase the functionality of the space to resident performance arts organizations and community groups that use the space for public gatherings, while allowing for increased usage of television and video recording equipment. The IFCC was established in 1982 and serves as an arts and cultural center, a fully-producing theatre, a gallery space, dance studio, and an educational facility for the arts.

Kenton Firehouse Sustainable Landscape Project, 2209 N. Schofield:

An award of \$28,754 will be used to protect this historic facility and grounds through proven sustainable practices. The project will showcase the Kenton Firehouse as an example of environmental stewardship within the community. Funds will be used to disconnect two downspouts, create a new bio-swale, revegetate an existing bio swale, install conveyance pipes to the bio-swales, remove impervious driveway and install porous paving, refurbish existing gravel path, add lighting for security and install irrigation system. The Kenton Firehouse is a community center and an historic landmark. The building and grounds are used for private functions and public community meetings and the naturescaped courtyard and green space are desirable community amenities.

Celebration Tabernacle's Capital Renewal Project, 8131 N. Denver

Avenue: An award of \$3,588 will be used to make improvements to the interior of Friday's Café and Espresso shop in Kenton that also houses Celebration Tabernacle's Teach Me to Fish Program. This program provides low-income, youth and minority residents with job training and life skills. Funded improvements will increase the aesthetics and functional use of the café, thereby supporting the expansion of training opportunities and a community meeting space.

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Peninsula Children’s Center Capital Improvements, 4720 N. Maryland

Avenue: An award of \$58,308 will be used to make energy efficient improvements to this 100 year old building, including utilizing passive cooling techniques and updating to high-efficiency furnaces. Peninsula Children’s Center provides quality, affordable childcare and education as well as family services. Of the households it serves, 68 percent have total incomes of less than \$18,000 a year. Peninsula is the only North Portland child care provider with a sliding-scale tuition structure.

Open Meadow Middle School – Re-roofing of lower roof, 7602 N.

Emerald: An award of \$35,000 will be used to re-roof a portion of the roof of this alternative middle school located in the Kenton neighborhood. Founded in 1971, Open Meadow successfully re-engages youth at risk of disconnecting from school and those who have already dropped out. Open Meadow serves more than 600 youth ages 10-24 in two high school programs, a middle school, and several programs that transition youth from middle school to high school and from high school to college and careers.

Trillium Charter School Community Room, 5420 N. Interstate

Avenue: An award of \$18,150 will be used to construct a reclaimed hard wood floor over an existing concrete floor in a multi-purpose room. The room functions as a community room, as well as the school’s lunch room, meeting/event space, indoor gym, dance studio, music room, and theatre. This project is part of an on-going effort to renovate the new school building and community room space. Trillium offers free public educational choice, as well as much needed childcare and after school programs.

Albina Youth Opportunity School (AYOS), 3710 N. Mississippi: An award of \$17,779 will be used for exterior upgrades including painting and a new roof, flashing and gutters. AYOS has dedicated more than 40 years to serving middle and high school students who cannot benefit from a regular educational experience.

Since moving to Mississippi Avenue in 1972, AYOS has been a committed community partner, providing free community meeting space and linking youth to the neighborhood in a positive way. The building improvements will be a source of pride for students and bind the school more closely to the positive changes taking place along N. Mississippi Avenue.

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