



2015 ALBERTA STREET PROJECT

African American Youth Cultural Resource Inventory w/Recommendations

Please Consider Being A Sponsor or Partner in this landmark project!

The 1992 Alberta Street Cultural Resource Inventory with Recommendations was produced in Portland by six African American high school students as a summer work project. The final report documented the area's most valuable assets: its history, architecture, demographics, and included a list of recommendations. Our current objective is to replicate the original project in the same geographic area this summer (2015). This will create valuable educational employment opportunities for 16 local predominantly African American high school youth, who will gain market-ready job skills, communication, academic and leadership skills, and develop networks of local community business leaders, experts and other valuable resources during the course of this project.

The original 1992 report, with identical methodology, will be used as the guideline to provide a sound scientific basis for comparative analysis of changes during the past 23-year evolution of the Alberta Street community. The current report will also specifically identify and document current conditions and desired future conditions for the neighborhood. Substantive changes during those years include significant demographic shifts, neighborhood gentrification, neighborhood safety, and new opportunities for local business creation.

How you can help to accomplish this project: Play a "champion" role in securing tax-deductible partnerships and by sponsoring students. The City of Portland is paying 180 hours wages, transportation passes and work insurance through Worksystems' SummerWorks youth employment program for each of the 16 students, at a total cost of \$49,600; Portland Development Commission (PDC) has pledged \$20,000 for production of the final 2015 student project report; Oregon Association of Minority Entrepreneurs (OAME) partnered with us in 1992, and are also taking a leading role again this year; Portland Public Schools (PPS) is providing working space and computers; and Black United Fund (BUF) is providing administrative office space. How can you, your company, agency, and/or other organization(s) also contribute? Please let us know if you would also like to help.

In addition to providing local African American students with meaningful employment, this project will also result in three major products of lasting value to project partners, Portland, the Alberta Street community:

- 1) The **2015 Alberta Street Cultural Resource Inventory w/Recommendations** will be researched and written by students that replicates the original 1992 report, but to current technical standards. It will also include an entirely new component of a detailed comparative analysis in changes to the Alberta Street neighborhood during the past 23 years, with a focus on neighborhood gentrification, public safety, and local business opportunities.
- 2) The **Alberta Street Project Operations Manual** will be written during the course of the project by its original designers and administrators, Dr. Bob Zybach and Michael "Chappie" Grice. This will be a comprehensive "blueprint" for implementing the project design and outcome strategies in other Portland neighborhoods, at other times, and in other urban communities with similar challenges, opportunities, and capacity.
- 3) The **Alberta Street Project Website**, developed by the participants, will include project documentation, written report files and a comprehensive archive of findings and results, including: maps, photographs, transcribed interviews, a digital research library and public access to other products of the 2015 Alberta Street Project.

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