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**To:** [charlie.hales@portlandoregon.gov](mailto:charlie.hales@portlandoregon.gov)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 25, 2015 9:37 AM  
**Subject:** 2015 Alberta Street Project

Mayor Hales,

This summer 16 local predominantly African American youth will have a chance to contribute to Portland's rich cultural heritage through their participation in the 2015 Alberta Street Project. Not only will these young people assist in providing the city with a valuable resource document for future urban planning processes, this project will also enable them to develop valuable life skills that come with the benefits of employment; planning, communication, responsibility, teamwork, accountability, and the development of interpersonal skills. The processes they will use to compile, interpret, and report the data they collect will also introduce them to concepts of science, technology, engineering and math.

The Coalition of Black Men strongly supports this project and the benefits it will bring to future Alberta Street development. More importantly, we support this project for the creation of summer jobs for African American youth, a demographic that has the highest percentage of unemployment. We believe passionately that if you want to rescue an African American youth from the ravages of gang violence, give them a job! Your support of this project with city resources is requested and appreciated.

Sincerely,

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Ralph L. Evans  
President  
Coalition of Black Men  
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