



State Representative Alissa Keny-Guyer



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Friends,

Since the end of the 2014 session, I've had opportunities to participate in town halls, constituent coffees and the great pleasure to work on some district projects (details below). With the 2015 Oregon Legislative Session fast approaching, I am beginning to meet with groups and organizations to consider legislation for the next session.

One of my priority areas for next session is early learning. Before I became a legislator, I worked hard to improve our 0-5 population. In order to meet our 40-40-20 goals we need to make strong investments in early learning. I look forward to joining the Speaker to expand childcare subsidies for working families and affordable child care. More importantly, I hope to help pass a budget which funds full-day kindergarten.

In the next few months, I plan to meet with organizations and groups to discuss legislation I plan to move forward. If you have any ideas, please share! I look forward to hearing from you.

Warmly,

Alissa

82nd Avenue Opportunities Town Hall

PCC SE Campus Community Hall

[2305 SE 82nd Ave.](#)

Thursday, November 6

6:30pm-8:00pm

Accessible via bus lines 4 (Division) & 72 (82nd)

Free Parking

THE EARLY LEARNING WING &

NEIGHBORHOOD CENTER AT EARL BOYLES

The community served by Earl Boyles Elementary School is diverse, with more than a dozen ethnicities represented. It is a high-need district, with a poverty rate twice that of Multnomah County.

We need to support children and their families from birth, and connect them to health services, parent education and high-quality early education that is integrated with the primary grades.



In partnership with the nonprofit Children's Institute and as an Early Works site, Earl Boyles is meant to be a learning laboratory for policy makers and educators interested in improving outcomes for children in their communities. The Early Learning Wing and Neighborhood Center will provide the space for three pre-k classrooms, four kindergarten classrooms, wraparound services and more.

David Douglas School District has taken the bold step of building an innovative Early Learning Wing and Neighborhood Center at Earl Boyles Elementary. Motivated by the research linking early childhood experiences to improved education outcomes, such as meeting third-grade benchmarks and increased high school graduation rates, DDSD is committed to reaching children before kindergarten. The construction project, estimated to cost \$6.8 million, will add early childhood education classrooms and establish the school as a center for the community.

NAYA Generations Project

The NAYA Generations project is an innovative integrated inter-generational housing and learning community. Its residents comprise of some of the Native community's most vulnerable elements: Children in foster care/child welfare; elders; and early learners. NAYA Generations project is culturally -based and will guide the delivery of services to residents, learners, and visitors.

NAYA Generations Housing:

This site consists of forty (40) units of affordable housing: ten (10) units designated for families who are committed to providing permanent homes for children in foster care, and thirty (30) units for elders willing to volunteer their time to support and

mentor the children and families. This promotes a high sense of community and strong supportive relationships among residents. The Generations project will focus on exiting Native children who are currently disproportionately represented in the child welfare system, and providing them with permanency within a caring family surrounded by a supportive community.

NAYA Generations and Portland Public Schools Educational and Support Services:

The educational and support services program for early learners at Generations is a dynamic partnership between Portland Public Schools and NAYA who have co-developed the facility and programming to serve the Lents community as a model early learning program (hub) focused on urban Native multi-tribal/Indigenous peoples values and traditions. Early learning services will be delivered in nine classrooms to toddlers (0-3); pre-kindergarten (3-4 year olds) in the form of Head Start and kindergartners (5 year olds). Additional support services will include: extended day care, tutoring, counseling, employment and career training services for youth and adults, financial education, Microenterprise classes, housing and emergency energy assistance and health services.

THE PORTLAND MERCADO

Opening this Fall is Portland Mercado right in the heart of my district. The Mercado is designed by Hacienda CDC to offer affordable retail space for entrepreneurs to launch and grow their businesses.

The project will celebrate the Latino contribution to the region, honor Portland's growing diversity and serve as a bridge to unite cultures through food, entertainment and commerce.

The building will host roughly 18 vendor spaces, including day tables, office spaces, small stalls, larger retail shops, a commissary kitchen, and eight outdoor food carts.



I can't wait until this opens and support my locally-owned businesses!