



The Best of Oregon

CITY of BEAVERTON

NEWS RELEASE

Public Information Office

503-526-3737

publicinformation@BeavertonOregon.gov

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 20, 2016

BEAVERTON BOLD PROGRAM WELCOMES CONGRESSWOMAN BONAMICI

BEAVERTON, Ore. – The City of Beaverton’s Beaverton Organizing and Leadership Development (BOLD) program will welcome a visit this Saturday from U.S. Congresswoman Suzanne Bonamici (OR-01). The final training of this year’s BOLD program will take place on Saturday, May 21, at The Beaverton Building, 12725 SW Millikan Way. Participants will kick off a full day of workshops with Bonamici’s visit.

Congresswoman Bonamici’s visit highlights the significance of the program and the work that Beaverton is doing to engage and support immigrants, refugees, and communities of color.

“Beaverton is a leader in encouraging civic engagement and leadership among immigrants, refugees, and people of color,” said Congresswoman Bonamici. “Diversity and our acceptance of people from around the world make our communities strong and vibrant. The graduates of the BOLD program will invest their hard work, talents, and ideas in our community, and we will all benefit from having people in leadership roles who can speak from experience about the needs of communities of color, immigrants, and refugees.”

BOLD is held each spring and is specifically designed for immigrants, refugees and people of color to learn leadership development skills and civic engagement. The program exposes participants to the fundamentals of community leadership, cross-cultural organizing, the structure of local government, and ways to get involved. Participants of the program have the opportunity to meet the mayor and city councilors during the program, and this year will have the added bonus of meeting a federal elected official.

“We’re very proud to invest in our community through the BOLD program,” said Mayor Denny Doyle. “Representative Bonamici’s visit is an important highlight for participants and a message that word of the program’s successes is spreading.”

Many graduates of the BOLD program have gone on to serve on city boards and in other leadership positions in the community, as well as act as ambassadors to their communities. The program is a successful partnership between the city of Beaverton and the local nonprofit Unite Oregon, formerly known as the Center for Intercultural Organizing.

For more information about BOLD, contact Alexis Ball, equity outreach coordinator at 503-526-2503 or aball@BeavertonOregon.gov.

ABOUT BEAVERTON

Beaverton is a welcoming and responsible city that enjoys one of the most diverse populations in Oregon. In 2015, Beaverton was recognized as one of the **safest cities** in the Pacific Northwest (according to CQ Press with cities more than 75,000). Recently, the city's award-winning finance department received the **Distinguished Budget Presentation Award** as well as the **Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting**. In 2012, the city was awarded the **Mayors' Climate Protection Award** from the U.S. Conference of Mayors. It was named one of the **best places to raise kids** by *BusinessWeek* magazine. The city was named **one of the top 25 Suburbs for Retirement** by *Forbes.com* and **one of the 100 Best Walking Cities in America** by *Prevention* magazine. The city also received the **Recycler of the Year** award from the Association of Oregon Recyclers, named a **Tree City USA** by the Arbor Day Foundation, received a **Silver Award Bicycle Friendly Community** designation by the League of American Bicyclists, and recognized as one of the Environmental Protection Agency's **Green Power Communities**. Lastly, the city's nationally acclaimed visioning program was named **Public Involvement Project of the Year—Best Planning Project** by the International Association of Public Participation (IAP2) Cascade Chapter and also received the prestigious **3CMA Award of Excellence**.

For more information, reminders and community news, visit www.BeavertonOregon.gov. Also follow Beaverton on Facebook at www.facebook.com/CityofBeaverton, or Twitter at www.twitter.com/CityofBeaverton.

###

Caption: The Beaverton Organizing and Leadership Development (BOLD) program will welcome Congresswoman Suzanne Bonamici (OR-01) at the final BOLD training this year on Saturday, May 21. The BOLD program is designed to help immigrants, refugees, and communities of color learn leadership skills and civic engagement. *(Photo/City of Beaverton)*