



**PORTLAND**  
BUSINESS ALLIANCE

# **Black Economic Prosperity**

Board Presentation, April 14, 2021

# “The Invisible Knee” & a call to action



A CALL TO ACTION

"The pathway forward does not require the elimination of capitalism, or upending the entrepreneurial spirit of our region, but instead empowering the Black community to aspire and achieve wealth through the fostering of an economic ecosystem that recognizes the historical systemic barriers Black people face when working to amass wealth. We know that George Floyd lost his life when a knee was held against his neck by Officer Derek Chauvin. It is the Invisible Knee, however, that has kept Black Americans from prospering: it is the unobservable forces that have prevented Black families from building, growing and sustaining generational wealth within the broader community."

- *"The Invisible Knee" - a call to action for economic equity, June 9, 2020*

# Black Economic Prosperity

Development of Objectives & Goals  
July 2020 - Present

# Black Economic Prosperity Objectives

## 1. Diagnose:

- Create dashboard of **economic & demographic data** to inform & measure Black economic prosperity in Portland region

## 2. Implement:

- Strategic Plan for Black Economic Prosperity

## 3. Develop:

- Regional Center for Black Economic Advancement
  - 1 FTE Director, Black Economic Prosperity

# Private Sector Funding Sources: 1 FTE

## Board Commitments or Pledges (49):

100% Board

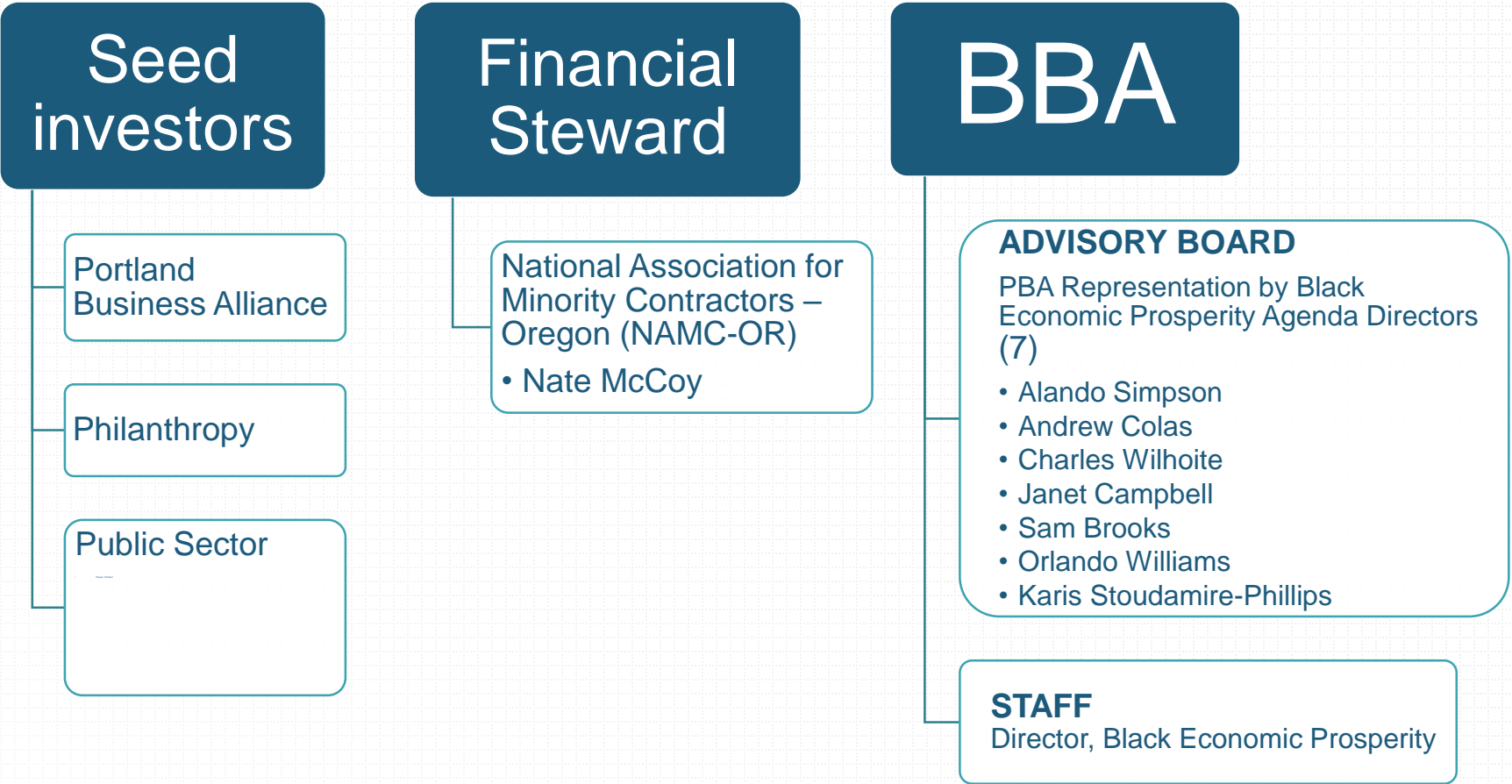
Give Goal

84 Directors

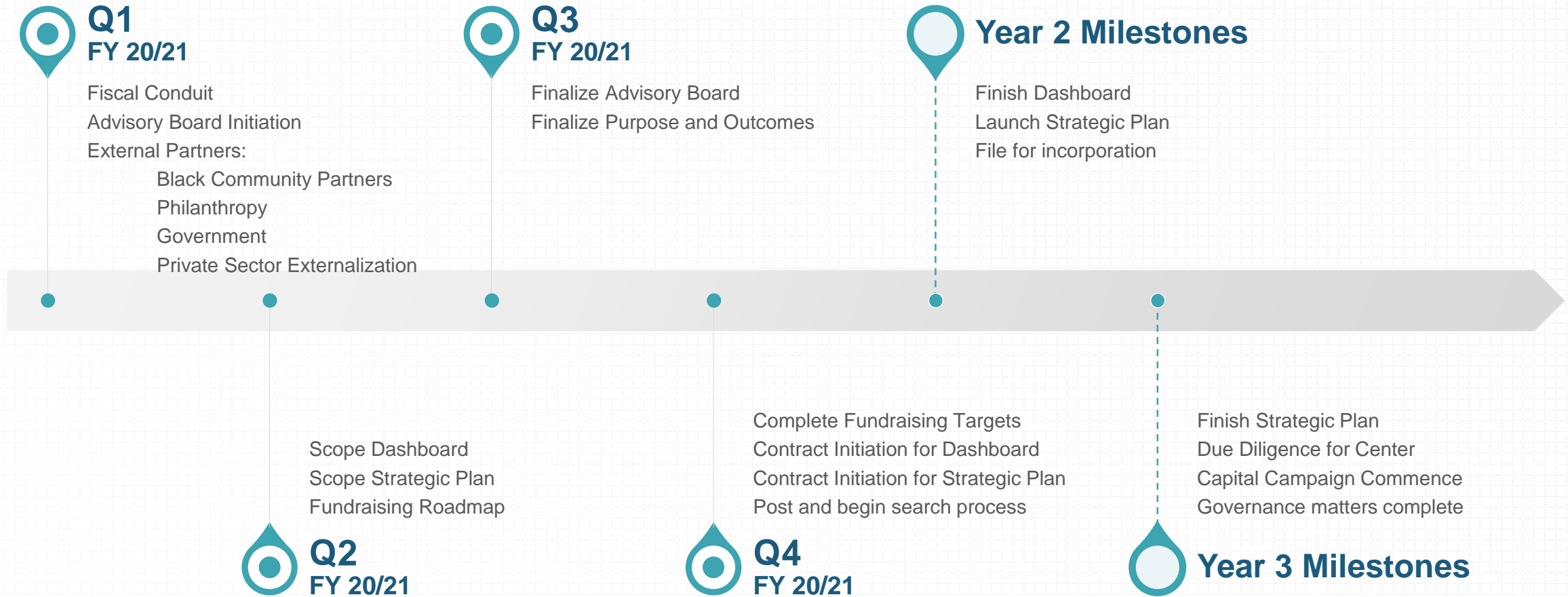
3-year commitment

Amazon	Key Bank	Portland Seed Fund
Bank of America	Legacy Health	Portland State University
Barran Liebmann	Melvin Mark	Portland Timbers/Portland Thorns
Brown & Brown	Miller Nash Graham & Dunn	Portland Trail Blazers
Cambia Regence	Nike	Prosper Portland
Chown Hardware	NW Natural	Providence Health & Services
City of Roses Disposal & Recycling	OBRC	Schnitzer Steel
Colas Construction	Oregonian Group	Scott & Linda Andrews Family Trust
Comcast	OTAK	Stoel Rives
Downtown Development Group	Pacific Power	Swire Coca-Cola
Ferguson Wellman	PacificSource	The Standard
Fubonn	PGE	TMT Development
Fuze 7 Marketing	PNC	U.S. Bank
Gard Communications	Port of Portland	Walmart
Google Oregon	Portland Business Journal	Willamette Management Associates
Intel	Portland Clinic	
JP Morgan Chase	Portland Community College	

# Black Economic Prosperity - Organization:



# 3-year Black Economic Prosperity Timeline





# Elected Officials support update

- **Prosper Portland provided \$25,000 and letter of support.**
- **State of Oregon/Oregon Legislature**
  - \$300,000 request into Ways & Means
  - Representatives Bynum & Nosse and Senators Wagner & Frederick submitted \$600,000 BEPA American Rescue Act funds request.
  - Presentation to BIPOC Caucus on 4/16.
  - Labor Commissioner Val Hoyle submitting \$50,000 grant nomination to New Deal Leaders Black Voices Fund
- **Multnomah County**
  - May meeting with Jessica Vega Pederson re: County Matching Grant

# Black Economic Prosperity Success Factors

- The creation of intergenerational wealth improvements.
- Jobs and business growth within the Black community.
- Increase in philanthropic investment by Black-owned businesses and residents.
- Expansion of our tax base by Black residents in the greater Portland region.

# Timeline Review & Board Action

June 10, 2020 - Present

# Timeline & Review pre-Alliance Board Actions

- June 10, 2020: “Invisible Knee” statement issued
- June 17, 2020: Board adopts “Invisible Knee” work & development of policy agenda
  - July 1: Black Economic Prosperity Agenda meeting 1
  - July 17: Black Economic Prosperity Agenda meeting 2
  - July 24: Black Economic Prosperity Agenda meeting 3
  - July 28: Reimagine Oregon Releases Agenda
  - July 31: Black Economic Prosperity Agenda meeting 4
  - August 4: Black Economic Prosperity Agenda meeting 5
  - August 7: Final Agenda Meeting
  - August 14: Strategy Session 1
  - August 27: Funding Strategy Field Test
  - August 31: Strategy Session 2

# Alliance Board Actions

- Sept. 1, 2020: Executive Committee Meeting  
**VOTE to support the establishment of BEPA**
- Sept. 3: Philanthropy check-in
- Sept. 9: Board Meeting –  
**VOTE to ratify the establishment of BEPA**  
**COMMITMENT to 100% board give**
- Sept. 16: Forum on Black Economic Prosperity
- Oct. 5: Meeting with Black community leaders

# Alliance Board Actions

- Nov. 24 – BEPA Board Meeting 1
- Jan. 27, 2021 – BEPA Board Meeting 2
- Feb. 10 – Board Presentation & Update
- March 14 – Induction of new board members
  - Orlando Williams
  - Karis Stoudamire-Phillips
- Motus Recruiting retained for national search
- April - Fundraising goal secured
  - Financial (but not 100% board participation)



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April 14, 2021

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