NYC 9/11 Public Portal Document

THE NEW YORK TIMES, THURSDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2001

Oregonians Respond To New York's Plight

By The New York Times

PORTLAND, Ore., Oct. 3 — About 850 Oregon residents, wallets at the ready, are set to visit New York in response to the city's tourism crisis.

"It's a statement, it's not really a trip," said Pete Sinclair, a US Bank executive from Portland. "It's people saying we're not going to change our lives and the way that we live."

Mr. Sinclair and five family members signed up for the trip, which will also be made by the mayors of Portland and Eugene, the Portland police chief, a state senator, a school superintendent and hundreds of ordinary Oregonians.

The idea for the trip came from Sho Dozono, chairman of the Portland Chamber of Commerce, in response to a plea from Mayor Rudolph W. Giuliani to come to New York and spend money. Mr. Dozono said he expected about 200 people to to sign up for the trip, which he labeled "Flight For Freedom."

By Monday night, when organizers closed the books, about 750 people had been confirmed for the trip and 100 requests remained to be handled. The trip's Web site had received about 31,000 visits.

The trip had local television coverage but there was no advertising.

The Azumano agency is not taking commissions, Mr. Dozono said.

CITY_21MC100_011830647

NYC-WTC_000230654