



PROVEN  
RECORD

MARTÍ CIFUENTES BRINGS A WEALTH OF EXPERIENCE AS A MIDSEASON REPLACEMENT AS HE TRIES TO HELP THE TIMBERS MAINTAIN THEIR RESURGENCE THIS SEASON. **C1**

PORTLAND RETAIL

As sun sets on Lloyd Center, could Pioneer Place become next ‘indie’ mall?

Those planning to relocate soon to downtown include a comic book shop, Lego store, magic theater and a holiday market.

Veronica Nocera  
The Oregonian/OregonLive

In 2022, Jason Leivian took a gamble. The Floating World Comics owner had spent 16 years operating a brick and mortar in Old Town Portland before opting to relocate his business across the river. Two years into the COVID-19 pandemic, foot traffic downtown was still dismally low. Leivian knew it was time to move on.

He chose Lloyd Center — at the time, somewhat of a “ghost mall,” newly devoid of any and all traditional anchor stores — to be the comic shop’s new home.

Initially, Leivian was following his friend Musique Plastique owner Tony Remple into the mall’s largely vacant, brightly lit aisles. But he quickly saw potential amid the empty storefronts and soon began ushering in the first wave of local stores, art galleries and nonprofits to come.

“It was a super risky move,” Leivian told The Oregonian/OregonLive in July. “People thought I was crazy, but I was like, ‘No, trust me. This is going to be really cool.’”

He was right.

**SEE PORTLAND RETAIL, A2**



Floating World Comics, Kathmandu to You and Auntie Anne’s pretzels are among the businesses that are ready to make the jump to downtown Portland’s Pioneer Place after the Lloyd Center closes this weekend. Photos by Samantha Swindler, file

**INSIDE**

**THE LLOYD CENTER’S FAREWELL**  
**Activism:** Second World Naked Bike Ride this weekend features a protest at the mall. **A2**

**What’s next:** Some tenants have found new homes. Where are they headed? **A3**

**Final day celebration:** Say goodbye to Lloyd Center at these eight wild events. **D1**

NBA

Commissioners pledge \$100M to Moda Center project

But they didn’t fully resolve how they would cobble together that contribution, while talks continue at Portland City Hall.

Alissa Gary and Shane Dixon Kavanaugh  
The Oregonian/OregonLive

Multnomah County commissioners agreed in a 4-1 vote Thursday to contribute \$100 million to the Trail Blazers’ proposed

\$600 million renovation of the Moda Center, with Commissioner Meghan Moyer saying no.

But the source of the county money remains undecided. At the special meeting called to iron out funding ahead of the city of Portland’s Aug. 12 deadline, commissioners didn’t fully resolve how they would cobble together the contribution.

“How real is this commitment for money, if we can’t agree on a way to fund it?” Moyer said during the meeting.

Three of the five commissioners agreed that the tax from the sale of the Trail Blazers, which would have contributed about \$35

million to the renovation, should not be used in the deal, striking down an idea that had angered the county’s largest union.

Chair Jessica Vega Pederson cheered the vote, saying it sent an important signal to the Blazers.

“I want this step today to be seen by the NBA and the board of governors as a sign of just how serious we are about keeping the Blazers here in Portland,” she said.

Meanwhile, talks continued at Portland City Hall, where councilors considered 11 amendments to its draft term sheet and passed none of them.

**SEE NBA, A4**

TECHNOLOGY

Poll: Oregonians want data center moratorium, no more tax breaks

The AI industry received \$450M in state incentives this year. Voters of all political stripes want that to stop.

Mike Rogoway  
The Oregonian/OregonLive

Oregonians are deeply skeptical of artificial intelligence and the data center industry, according to a new poll from DHM Research.

Voters are overwhelmingly opposed to issuing new tax breaks for artificial intelligence data centers, the poll found, by more than a 3-to-1 margin. Data center operators are receiving more than \$450 million in Oregon incentives this year and their tax breaks will grow enormously in the years ahead, based on agreements already signed.

The new poll also found two-thirds of Oregon voters want a temporary moratorium on new construction of data centers for artificial intelligence. The poll didn’t explain why voters want the moratorium but there has been a growing outcry among activists across the state who want a slowdown in construction so the state can manage data centers’ impact on energy supplies and the environment.

DHM released its poll as the state’s Data Center Advisory Committee held an all-day meeting to begin wrestling with proposals that could blunt the industry’s impact. The committee has been meeting since the governor convened it last February and doesn’t plan to issue recommendations before fall.

Public sentiment and technology are moving much faster than that. Data centers are pushing to expand rapidly across Oregon while residents in some communities are putting up fierce resistance.

Hillsboro, home to one of Oregon’s densest concentrations of data centers, voted last month to establish a 120-day moratorium on new data center permits. Salem is contemplating its own moratorium as calls grow for a statewide halt.

**SEE TECHNOLOGY, A4**

NATION & WORLD

How El-Sayed won

In Michigan’s tight Senate Democratic primary, the progressive defeated the establishment’s candidate. **B1**

LIFE

Go east for family fun

From a new library with a maker space to a Sandy River beach, east Multnomah County has plenty to offer families. **D1**



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