

Moda Center: Where Our Future Comes Together

A brighter future for Oregon is within reach, and it begins by coming together. In 2026, Oregon leaders have the opportunity to secure the long-term future of Moda Center and strengthen a cornerstone of our state's economy and identity.

For more than 50 years, the Trail Blazers have been central to Oregon's story. Today, as Portland works to regain economic momentum and civic vitality, a reimagined Moda Center can play a leading role in that comeback. The Trail Blazers' incoming ownership group is making more than a \$4.2 billion investment in our city, county, and state. We ask state and local partners to match that commitment by investing in the long-term success of Moda Center.

This is bigger than basketball. Moda Center is Oregon's busiest entertainment venue and one of our most important gathering places. As a publicly owned arena, it generates \$670 million in regional economic activity each year, attracts more than 1.6 million visitors, and supports over 4,000 jobs. It brings people together for NBA and WNBA games, concerts, family shows, cultural events, and major national competitions, shaping lasting memories and first impressions of Portland.

Investing in Moda Center is an investment in workers, small businesses, and communities across Oregon. A renovation will support thousands of good-paying construction jobs at a time when Portland's building market has slowed and create workforce opportunities that benefit underserved communities.

The Trail Blazers' commitment extends well beyond the court. Since 2009, the organization and its foundation have donated more than \$19 million to nonprofit organizations across the region, while players and staff continue to volunteer their time and leadership in communities statewide. Through partnership with the Albina Vision Trust, the Blazers are supporting community-led restorative development to help ensure that growth benefits surrounding neighborhoods.

Moda Center is also a national leader in sustainability. As the first existing NBA arena to achieve LEED Platinum certification, and through programs that have eliminated more than one million single-use cups, the organization has demonstrated that economic vitality and environmental responsibility can go hand in hand. A renovated arena can further advance that commitment.

Portland is one of only 28 NBA markets in North America and, beginning in 2026, Moda Center will also be home to the new WNBA Portland Fire. In 2030, it will host the NCAA Women's Final Four, bringing unprecedented national attention to Oregon. To be ready, phased construction must begin in summer 2027.

This is a generational opportunity. Renovating Moda Center is not simply about updating a building. It is about strengthening Oregon's economy, supporting jobs, revitalizing our central city, and ensuring that this publicly owned asset continues to serve people across Portland and throughout our state for decades to come.

Together, we can build the future Oregon deserves.



From the desk of Rep. Ben Bowman