

PRIMARY ELECTION

Endorsements of the NORTHWEST OREGON LABOR COUNCIL

U.S. SENATE

JEFF MERKLEY

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

First District: **SUZANNE BONAMICI**

Third District: **EARL BLUMENAUER;**

Fifth District: **KURT SCHRADER**

CLACKAMAS COUNTY

Commissioner, Position 2: **PAUL SAVAS**

Commissioner, Position 5: **JIM BERNARD**

Ballot Measure 34-211 (*Tualatin Valley Fire & Rescue Local Option Levy*)
Support

COLUMBIA COUNTY

Circuit Judge, Position 1: **CATHLEEN CALLAHAN**

METRO

President: **Tom Hughes**

Councilor, District 1: **Shirley Craddick**

Councilor, District 2: **Carlotta Collette**

Councilor, District 4: **Kathryn Harrington**

CITY OF MILWAUKIE

Ballot Measure 3-439

(*Authorizes general obligation bonds to refinance light rail construction debt*)

Support

MULTNOMAH COUNTY

Chair: **Deborah Kafoury**

Commissioner, District 1: **Jules Bailey**

Commissioner, District 2: **Loretta Smith**

Sheriff: **DAN STATON**

CITY OF PORTLAND

City Council, Position 2: **NICK FISH**

City Council, Position 3: **DAN SALTZMAN**

Ballot Measure 26-156 (*Create New Water Bureau District*)

Oppose

WASHINGTON COUNTY

Commissioner, District 2: **Greg Malinowski**

Commissioner, District 4: **Elizabeth Furse**

OREGON HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Dist. 18 - **SCOTT MILLS;** Dist. 31 - **BRAD WITT;** Dist. 38 - **ANN LININGER;**

Dist. 42 - **ROB NOSSE;** Dist. 45 - **BARBARA SMITH WARNER;**

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9955 SE Washington, St., Suite 305, Portland, OR 97216

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**NORTHWEST
LABOR
PRESS**

Portland

Labor peace, finally, between DCTU and the City of Portland

By **DON McINTOSH**
Associate Editor

Members of the 1,600-strong District Council of Trade Unions (DCTU) have ratified a new contract at the City of Portland. Each of the DCTU's seven member unions held separate votes on the tentative agreement, then met April 25 to tally the results. Majorities in all seven unions favored ratification, though by different margins. It passed by 93 percent at AFSCME Local 189, the largest DCTU union, but just 52 percent at Laborers Local 483, the second-largest.

The agreement provides an immediate cost-of-living raise of 0.9 percent,

which is only about half the current rate of inflation. The raise is retroactive to Aug. 29 — two months after the last contract expired. Those two details account for the low approval rate in Local 483, said Executive Board member Wesley Buchholz: Members felt there was no good reason to give up a full cost-of-living increase given past hardships and the fact that the City is not in crisis financially. Buchholz said the other factor in Local 483's near-rejection was lingering mistrust toward changes to Article 6, the contract clause that restricts the City's ability to outsource union members' work.

DCTU chief negotiator Rob

Wheaton said the City sought concessions throughout bargaining. Members rejected an earlier tentative agreement and authorized a strike, but DCTU didn't set a strike date. Instead, the two sides continued to meet, and reached a deal March 28. In the end, Wheaton said, the DCTU was able to retain the previous contract's most important protections.

The final sticking point was a City proposal to allow contracting out bargaining unit work in cases where it lacked "proper equipment and skills."

"What we were having trouble

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Union pension funds create union jobs in Portland

Dozens of workers, elected officials, and community leaders gathered in Portland April 28 for a ceremonial groundbreaking on the \$43.2 million mixed-use residential development project called Lloyd District Commons. Located adjacent to the Oregon Convention Center in Northeast Portland, construction is a project of the AFL-CIO Building Investment Trust (BIT) using union pension funds and 100 percent union labor. April 28 is Workers Memorial Day, so in addition to the groundbreaking, attendees paid tribute to workers who have been injured or died on the job. Among those shoveling dirt are Portland Mayor Charlie Hales, Metro President Tom Hughes, City Commissioner Steve Novick, Labor Commissioner Brad Avakian, Mike Stotz, president of the AFL-CIO Investment Trust Corporation, Kevin McCarthy, president of PNC Realty Investors, Tom Chamberlain, president of the Oregon AFL-CIO, John Mohlis, executive secretary of the Oregon State Building Trades Council, and Willy Myers, executive secretary of the Columbia Pacific Building Trades Council.