

Hikers test 4T trail

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astically supported the project once he was elected. "After I did it, I fell back in love with Portland."

The inaugural walk on September 19 began at the Washington Park MAX station, slipping past the Oregon Zoo and over Highway 26 before entering dense forest along the Marquam Trail. The trail then climbs up to Council Crest Park, the highest point in the city, for views (on a drier day) of the Cascade Peaks, before offering hikers a choice between a strenuous 2.2 mile walk through the Marquam Nature Park or a 1.6 mile shortcut along SW Marquam Hill Road.

"We're on the trails all the time," said Hillsdale resident Sheila Fink, who did the inaugural walk with her husband, Carl. "It's one of the things that keeps us here."

The walking portion of the trail cov-

ers 4.5 miles (four miles if you use the shortcut) before arriving at the OHSU campus and tram. The three-minute tram ride is mostly gentle, with a few exciting dips, as it passes over the Lair Hill neighborhood's multi-colored Victorian houses.

At the bottom, a trolley awaits to carry hikers back to the MAX station at SW 10th Avenue and SW Yamhill Street downtown. To truly come full circle, take the MAX back to the Oregon Zoo and ride the elevator 260 more feet to where you began.

For three to four hours of exercise and entertainment, you pay only the cost of a TriMet ticket—\$2 for a two-hour pass, or \$4.75 for an all-day ticket. Nine interpretive signs and over 100 directional markers keep trail users on the correct route. But you'll have to leave Fido at home for this hike; dogs are not allowed on the tram, trolley, or train unless they are service dogs.

PGE should go green

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100 percent of its effort into developing and/or purchasing renewable resource electricity to make up the difference.

"Continuing coal-generated power is an irresponsible, costly path," said Brock Howell, advocate for Environment Oregon. "Oregon communities are investing heavily in solutions to the climate crisis, but by refusing to systematically bring Oregon's only coal plant to closure, PGE will lock Oregon into another 40 years of toxic pollution and ensure we can't meet our state climate goals. This has huge environmental and long-term economic liability."

But unless PGE closes Boardman, ceases plans to build new natural-gas fired plants, and stops polluting the environment, is it rational to assume that they are serious about advancing renewable energy sources like solar, wind power, wave energy or geother-

mal? Think about that the next time someone from PGE asks you to pay extra for renewable energy.

South Waterfront Retail

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riverfront."

The Planning Commission ultimately voted four to one to remove the feet of Southwest Curry and Gaines streets from the required retail areas. The amendments, with both sets of recommendations, will next go to City Council.

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