

# IT department understaffed at state level

By HILLARY BORRUD  
Capital Bureau

SALEM — Oregon has taken steps over the last year to prevent major information technology project failures such as Cover Oregon, but the effort remains understaffed and incomplete, according to an audit released Monday.

Auditors also concluded the new project management strategy would not prevent many of the common problems that arose with state IT projects over the last 10 years.

Auditors at the Secretary of State's Office reviewed a new project management model developed by Oregon's chief information officer in the wake of the Cover Oregon fiasco. Although the strategy is a positive step, auditors found the CIO's office has taken more than a year to

develop the model and still has not finished it. One reason is the agency where the CIO works, the Department of Administrative Services, does not have enough employees assigned to the project.

Michael Jordan, who was chief operating officer for the state and director of DAS until March 5, agreed with most of the findings. Jordan agreed the chief information officer's office was understaffed, and pointed out in a Feb. 24 written response that the agency had asked for 12 more employees in the next two-year budget starting in July. Without additional employees, Jordan estimated his agency would finish developing the new project management strategy by summer 2017.

However, Jordan took issue with the auditors' recommendation for clear consequences

when IT projects fail to meet goals during the development process; Jordan wrote that it was also important to be "supportive and collaborative."

The Governor's Office initially asked for more time so that George Naughton could write "an enhanced response" to the audit after Jordan resigned March 5, said Secretary of State's office spokesman Tony Green. Kristen Grainger, a spokeswoman for Gov. Kate Brown, wrote in an email that it was simply an "opportunity to consider that DAS has a new interim director, and whether or not the agency response letter needed to reflect that. Upon further consideration, it did not." Naughton made only a few minor word changes before signing off on the response Jordan had written.

An independent IT services review that Brown called for last

week will cover management issues in addition to security issues, Grainger wrote. Brown announced her plan for the review in a press release last week acknowledging a data breach at the DAS-managed state data center.

Despite the audit's focus on IT project management, it did not examine what auditors described as "arguably the worst computer development failure in state history," Cover Oregon. Oregon spent \$300 million in federal money primarily to set up an online exchange for people to purchase health insurance, plus at least \$26 million in state money for related projects, The Associated Press reported. The exchange website failed to launch as planned in October 2013. Meanwhile, the state and technology company Oracle American, Inc. have filed dueling lawsuits over the project.

## BRIEFLY

### Ski areas ask Legislature for liability protection

SALEM (AP) — Ski areas are asking the Oregon Legislature for enhanced protection from lawsuits after the state Supreme Court invalidated the broad liability waivers often printed on the back of lift tickets.

Ski facility executives told the Senate Judiciary Committee Monday that they may have to raise their prices if they aren't shielded from lawsuits. They say they'll face higher bills for lawyers and insurance.

But Lauren Bagley, whose son was injured as a teenager at Mount Bachelor in 2006, says ski companies should be held accountable when their man-made equipment fails.

Committee chairman Floyd Prozanski asked both sides to work together and see if there's room for agreement.

### Portland mayor suspends city-funded travel to Indiana

PORTLAND (AP) — Mayor Charlie Hales says Portland's government is joining the reaction against an Indiana law aimed at preventing government from compelling people to do things they object to, such as catering gay weddings.

The law has been widely criticized as allowing discrimination against gays.

Hales said Monday he's suspended city-funded travel to Indiana. He called on business and civic leaders to do the same. Spokesman Dana Haynes says Portland employees do occasionally travel to Indiana — the planning and development department leaders went recently for a forum. But he says travel is scheduled department by department, and it's not yet known if any trips were in the works.

Washington Governor Jay Inslee also imposed an administrative-wide ban on state-funded travel to Indiana.

Oregon regulators are considering sanctions against two bakers who refused to provide a wedding cake to a same-sex couple.

### Newberg police: 4 cars torched in a day

NEWBERG (AP) — Police in Newberg say four cars were torched Sunday, and they're looking for clues that could lead them to a suspect.

Police in the Yamhill County city told KGW-TV that two cars were burned outside an apartment complex, two more at a nearby mobile home park.

The fires were discovered early Sunday. The vehicles at the apartment complex were described as engulfed in the flames. There were no reports of injuries.

# Time's running out for Vanport survivors

PORTLAND (AP) — Seventy years after a flood washed it away, Vanport is having something of a comeback.

In February, the Smithsonian Magazine published a long piece about the city's disappearance. The Oregon Historical Society's current exhibit features Vanport, too.

But many Portlanders still don't know the history of the 1948 tragedy that wiped Oregon's second-largest city off the map. City memorials are hidden beneath moss and blackberries. The flood isn't taught in Oregon schools.

A team from Concordia University believes they have an idea that will bring the story of Vanport back to life. Working with Beavumt Middle School students, the Concordia group is creating an interactive app and documentary.

"But time is running out," Concordia education professor Shawn Daley told the Beavumt students. Few of the 40,000 people who once lived in Vanport remained.

In March, Daley's team planned to interview six survivors. One died just before the interview. Another suffered a heart attack.

Shipbuilder Henry Kaiser created Vanport in the early days of World War II because he needed a place where his employees — particularly African American



AP Photo/The Oregonian, Allan deLay

### A boy clings to safety at Entrance Circle during Vanport flood of Memorial Day 1948. Fourteen people died.

workers — could live. The area had few homes, and real estate bigotry prohibited African Americans from living in most of Portland.

Kaiser built his new city on a flood plain in less than a year. It soon became the most state's most diverse city. About 15 percent of Vanport's residents were black.

The city had three fire stations, a movie theater and a library. Portland State University got its start there as Vanport Extension Center.

Daley realized last year many of his North Portland neighbors didn't know any of that history. One of Daley's Concordia graduate students, Matthew Blanchard,

confessed he had grown up across the river in Vancouver — the Van in Vanport — but didn't know the history either.

Daley and Blanchard began researching, but information about Vanport is scattered across the region. The Oregon Historical Society has some photos. Clark County has others. Portland State University keeps its own records, and the Vanport Multimedia Project has its own slice of history.

Using money from a National Council of Social Studies grant, Daley and Blanchard began to synthesize the information into one cellphone app.

In early March, they drove out to the land where Vanport once stood.

The federal government chose not to rebuild Vanport after the flood. Instead, it became a construction landfill. The city of Portland took it over in 1961. Today, the land holds a golf course and a race track.

State legislators have urged middle schools to teach Oregon history. A 2013 bill gave the Oregon Department of Education money to create an Oregon Studies program, but it's still in the early stages, said Markisha Smith, the director of ODE's equity unit.

Oregon school districts create their own curricula, so the state can't force any school to study Vanport, but leaders at the state department are interested in sharing the work Daley's team puts together.

James Thompson, now 83, rolled out a map and pointed out the bar where he once refilled olive and cherry bowls. He washed dishes every day but Sunday, he told them.

The morning of the flood, Thompson told the students, Army Corps members rolled out banners saying that levees would hold the Columbia River back. Thompson was heading out to stack sandbags when the river cut a six-foot hole into a railroad embankment that served as a dike.

"We saw this mass of people running down the street and all these cars," Thompson said. "You couldn't even move."

## Corrections

The East Oregonian works hard to be accurate and sincerely regrets any errors. If you notice a mistake in the paper, please call 541-966-0818.

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## AccuWeather.com Forecast

TODAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Showers around; windy, cooler	A shower in the afternoon	Sunny to partly cloudy	Partly sunny	Clouds and intervals of sunshine

### PENDLETON TEMPERATURE FORECAST

55°	38°	57°	36°	56°	33°	59°	37°	56°	35°
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### HERMISTON TEMPERATURE FORECAST

60°	38°	61°	35°	61°	32°	63°	36°	60°	34°
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### ALMANAC

#### PENDLETON

through 3 p.m. yesterday

TEMPERATURE	HIGH	LOW
Yesterday	67°	41°
Normals	58°	37°
Records	79° (1964)	19° (1936)

#### PRECIPITATION

24 hours ending 3 p.m. 0.00"  
Month to date 1.19"  
Normal month to date 1.40"  
Year to date 2.74"  
Last year to date 4.62"  
Normal year to date 3.91"

#### HERMISTON

through 3 p.m. yesterday

TEMPERATURE	HIGH	LOW
Yesterday	69°	36°
Normals	61°	37°
Records	79° (2003)	16° (1954)

#### PRECIPITATION

24 hours ending 3 p.m. 0.00"  
Month to date 0.46"  
Normal month to date 0.85"  
Year to date 1.52"  
Last year to date 2.75"  
Normal year to date 3.09"

### SUN AND MOON

Sunrise today	6:38 a.m.
Sunset tonight	7:22 p.m.
Moonrise today	4:01 p.m.
Moonset today	4:50 a.m.

Full	Last	New	First
Apr 4	Apr 11	Apr 18	Apr 25

### REGIONAL FORECAST

Coastal Oregon: A shower or thunderstorm around today; cooler in central parts.

Eastern Washington: A blend of sun and clouds today with a shower in places.

Eastern and Central Oregon: Partly sunny today; showers around, breezy and cooler, except dry in the south.

Cascades: Cooler today; showers around; however, snow showers in the south.

Northern California: Partly sunny today. Cooler; pleasant in central parts. Clear tonight.

Western Washington: Variably cloudy today with a couple of thunderstorms. A couple of showers tonight.

### REGIONAL CITIES

	Today			Wed.		
	Hi	Lo	W	Hi	Lo	W
Astoria	53	40	t	53	41	sh
Baker City	51	27	sh	48	24	c
Bend	46	24	sh	47	24	c
Brookings	54	41	pc	54	41	pc
Burns	50	24	sh	49	23	c
Enterprise	48	29	sh	43	25	c
Eugene	55	38	t	57	37	sh
Heppner	53	33	sh	52	31	pc
Hermiston	60	38	pc	61	35	pc
John Day	47	30	sh	45	28	c
Klamath Falls	47	21	pc	47	23	pc
La Grande	52	34	sh	49	31	pc
Meacham	45	30	sh	45	26	pc
Medford	56	36	pc	56	37	pc
Newport	52	40	t	51	40	sh
North Bend	54	42	t	53	41	sh
Ontario	61	34	sh	57	31	pc
Pasco	63	39	pc	62	35	pc
Pendleton	55	38	sh	57	36	pc
Portland	56	41	t	55	39	sh
Redmond	49	24	sh	51	24	c
Salem	55	39	t	56	36	sh
Spokane	55	34	t	52	31	c
Ukiah	46	29	sh	45	27	pc
Vancouver	55	41	t	54	38	sh
Walla Walla	58	41	sh	58	39	pc
Yakima	61	35	pc	62	33	pc

### WORLD CITIES

	Today			Wed.		
	Hi	Lo	W	Hi	Lo	W
Beijing	63	41	sh	58	39	c
Hong Kong	79	71	pc	79	72	pc
Jerusalem	63	48	s	57	47	sh
London	54	40	pc	51	44	pc
Mexico City	77	51	pc	77	51	pc
Moscow	39	32	sn	40	33	sn
Paris	56	42	pc	52	44	sh
Rome	66	49	s	67	46	s
Seoul	60	47	r	65	45	c
Sydney	76	66	sh	79	66	pc
Tokyo	67	56	s	65	50	sh

### WINDS

(in mph)	Today	Wednesday
Boardman	WSW 20-30	WSW 10-20
Pendleton	W 20-30	W 12-25

### UV INDEX TODAY

0 2 4 4 2 0

8 a.m. 10 a.m. Noon 2 p.m. 4 p.m. 6 p.m.

0-2, Low 3-5, Moderate 6-7, High; 8-10, Very High; 11+, Extreme

The higher the AccuWeather.com UV Index™ number, the greater the need for eye and skin protection.

Forecasts and graphics provided by AccuWeather, Inc. © 2015

### NATIONAL WEATHER TODAY

Shown are noon positions of weather systems and precipitation. Temperature bands are highs for the day.

### NATIONAL SUMMARY

Snow will extend from the Great Lakes to part of the mid-Atlantic today. Rain showers will affect parts of the Upper Midwest, South Central states and the Northwest. Heat will hold in the Southwest.

### Yesterday's National Extremes:

(for the 48 contiguous states)  
High 97° in Thermal, Calif. Low 17° in Bodie State Park, Calif.

### NATIONAL CITIES

	Today			Wed.		
	Hi	Lo	W	Hi	Lo	W
Albuquerque	76	49	s	77	44	pc
Atlanta	72	56	pc	78	58	s
Atlanta City	48	34	r	46	37	s
Baltimore	61	35	sh	55	34	s
Billings	78	42	pc	55	34	pc
Birmingham	71	55	t	77	60	t
Boise	64	34	pc	54	31	s
Boston	48	29	s	42	30	s
Charleston, SC	76	58	pc	77	55	pc
Charleston, WV	70	38	pc	63	42	s
Chicago	54	36	pc	63	52	s
Cleveland	46	29	sh	48	39	s
Dallas	80	63	t	77	64	t
Denver	77	47	s	71	35	t
Detroit	49	32	sn	51	38	t
El Paso	79	57	c	82	59	s
Fairbanks	42	19	c	41	18	c
Fargo	62	44	s	71	41	pc
Honolulu	84	70	sh	84	71	pc
Houston	83	64	c	78	66	t
Indianapolis	61	38	s	64	49	sh
Jacksonville	79	58	t	79	58	t
Kansas City	75	50	s	80	56	pc
Las Vegas	89	61	s	81	56	s
Little Rock	78	60	t	78	62	t
Los Angeles	75	56	pc	75	56	pc
Louisville	73	43	s	69	51	s
Memphis	76	56	t	76	63	t
Miami	81	64	s	84	68	t
Millwaukee	51	35	pc	59	48	pc
Minneapolis	60	41	s	69	45	t
Nashville	77	45	pc	75	56	pc
New Orleans	81	63	c	81	68	t
New York City	46	33	r	47	37	s
Oklahoma City	83	61	t	82	63	s
Omaha	75	49	s	80	47	t
Philadelphia	52	34	r	52	36	s
Phoenix	94	66	s	90	63	s
Portland, ME	46	25	s	41	24	s
Providence	4					