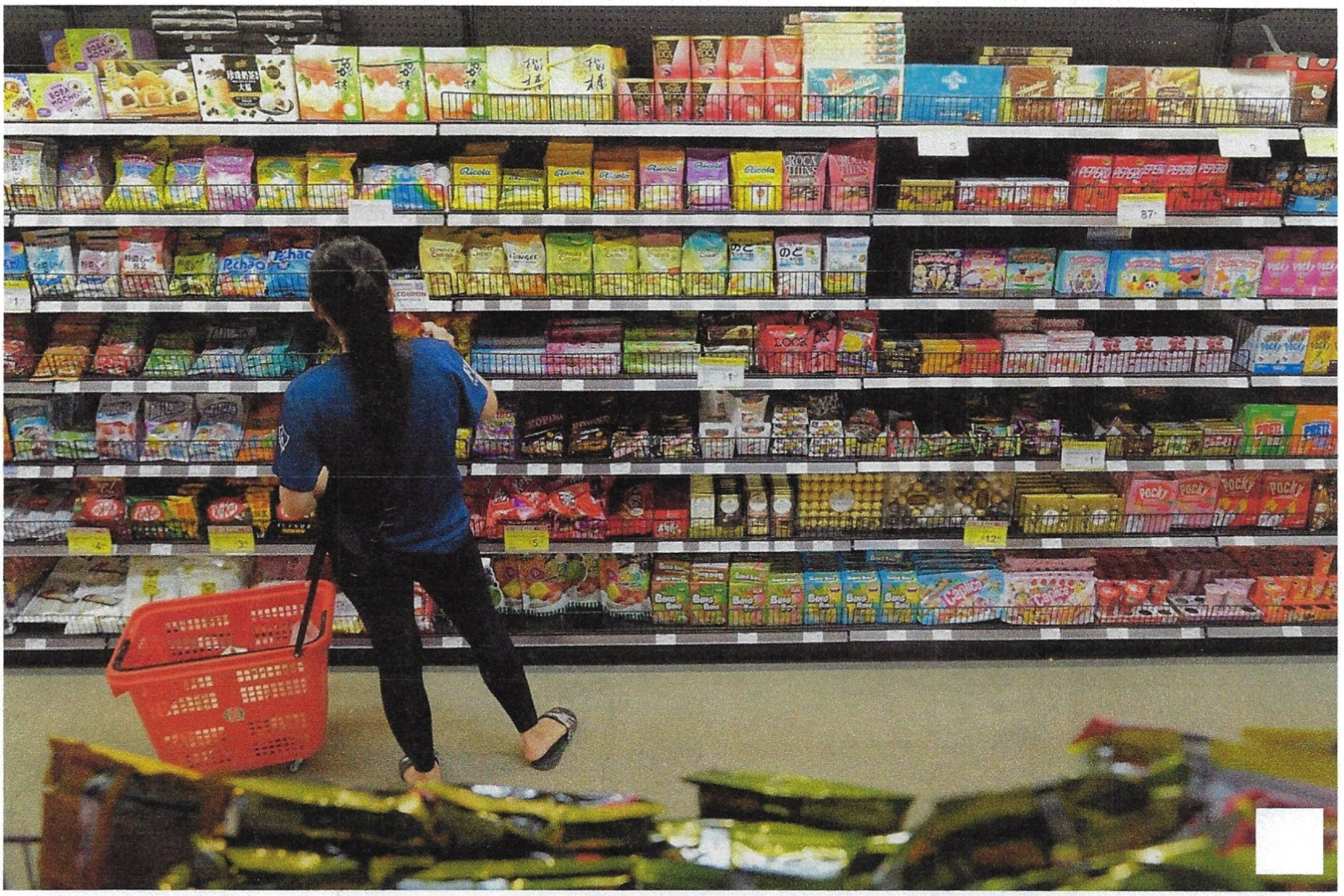
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RETAIL

Japanese grocery store plans Aurora location

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A customer buys Chinese-made ginger candy at 99 Ranch Market, an Asian grocery store in Los Angeles in 2025. Damian Dovarganes — associated press File

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A new Japanese-focused grocery store is headed to Aurora, joining a host of retailers offering Asian products popping up across the metro area.

New York-based Hashi Market plans to open at 12200 E. Mississippi Ave., taking over a former Safeway store that closed last fall as part of 10 closures across the state. An opening date for the Aurora location has not been announced, but the store's Colorado debut was confirmed on the company's website.

The grocer describes itself as a one-stop shop that combines a fresh-food supermarket, a mini department store and a catering service, according to its website.

Its offerings include fresh produce, international products, Japanese snacks and beverages, sushi, seafood and meat counters, party platters, beauty supplies and household essentials.

"We prioritize authenticity, craftsmanship, and innovation, sourcing both well-known labels and hidden gems. Our selection celebrates the best of both Japan as well as Asia while evolving with the seasons, trends, and customer needs," the company said on its website.

Hashi Market recently opened a store on Oct. 9 in Cupertino, Calif., in a former Sprouts Farmers Market location. The opening drew large crowds, with customers lining up outside the store. Alongside Colorado, Hashi Market also plans to open two locations in Massachusetts and another two in New York, according to its website.

Representatives from Hashi Market did not respond to requests for comment.

Colorado is home to several Asian grocery stores, including H Mart, M Mart and Pacific Mercantile Co.

G.W. Supermarket, a New York-based Asian American supermarket chain, is across the street from the proposed Hashi Market at 12303 E. Mississippi Ave.Nearby, TESO Life opened its first Colorado department store this month, joining other Asian-focused businesses in the area, including Taiwanese bakery chain 85°C Bakery Cafe, Chaton Bakery and Japanese retailer Daiso.

"One Plus One," an Asian supermarket, is also planned near Denver International Airport at East 64th Avenue and North Yampa Street. Renderings of the store were submitted to the city last week as it is part of a long-awaited development dubbed "Tower Plaza Marketplace."

The project aims to create a 53,000-square-foot "mixed-use marketplace" anchored by the Asian grocery store, offering a variety of fresh produce, live and fresh seafood, butchered meats and specialty Asian foods not typically found at big-box retailers, according to the project's plans.

The proposed project plans to feature two specialty Asian restaurants, a boutique hotel with a third restaurant, and additional retail space.