MAY 2019

5 THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT THE SODO ARENA

1 ZERO RISK FOR SEATTLE

Approval of the conditional street vacation would not expose the city to any risk or cost because the SoDo Arena will not be built, and the one block section of Occidental Avenue South will not be vacated, until and unless an NBA team has been secured.

2 100% PRIVATE FINANCING

The arena proposal is privately funded and requires no public financing or subsidies. If constructed, the SoDo Arena would pay many millions of dollars annually in property and other taxes. This incremental tax revenue would be unencumbered, so that the City of Seattle will have full discretion on the allocation of its tax receipts.

3 IMPROVED FREIGHT MOBILITY

This proposal includes an additional $1.3 million for SDOT Freight Master Plan projects. Since the Seattle City Council considered our original proposal, the Lander Street overpass project has been approved and is now being built. This new overpass will improve freight mobility through SoDo, plus it dead-ends Occidental Avenue just south of the proposed arena site. Additionally, the Port of Seattle recently announced plans to convert Terminal 46 from container operations into a cruise ship terminal.

4 COMMUNITY BENEFIT AGREEMENT

The investment group has committed to a Community Benefit Agreement designed to foster equity, social justice, and provide meaningful benefits to local communities. The CBA includes economic development, targeted local hiring and contracting, family wage employment opportunities, job training and apprenticeships, partnerships with organizations that serve youth and underserved communities, and a strong mechanism for ongoing dialogue and partnerships.

5 JOINT SCHEDULING CONDITIONS

Scheduling conditions will minimize the potential for multiple events on the same day and ensure a coordinated approach to traffic and other transportation issues in the Stadium District. With only one team (NBA) playing at the SoDo arena, scheduling is relatively benign and is easily managed in other professional sports cities.

PROJECT BACKGROUND

In early 2017, the Sonics Arena Investment Group submitted a revised application for a conditional vacation for a one-block section of Occidental Avenue South in SoDo — an application that was recommended for approval by the Seattle Design Commission.

Approval of this application is the last piece of the puzzle our investment group needs to begin working in earnest to purchase an NBA team for Seattle.

If and when a team is secured, we will build a world-class arena designed specifically for the NBA and located in the Pacific Northwest's number one transportation hub.

Most importantly, an approved conditional street vacation will send a clear message to the NBA that Seattle is ready to bring back our Sonics.

SONICS ARENA INVESTMENT GROUP

Chris Hansen
Founder, Valiant Capital Management
Seattle Native

Wally Walker
Founder and Partner, Hana Road Capital;
Former Player, General Manager, CEO and President of the Seattle Sonics

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SONICS ARENA

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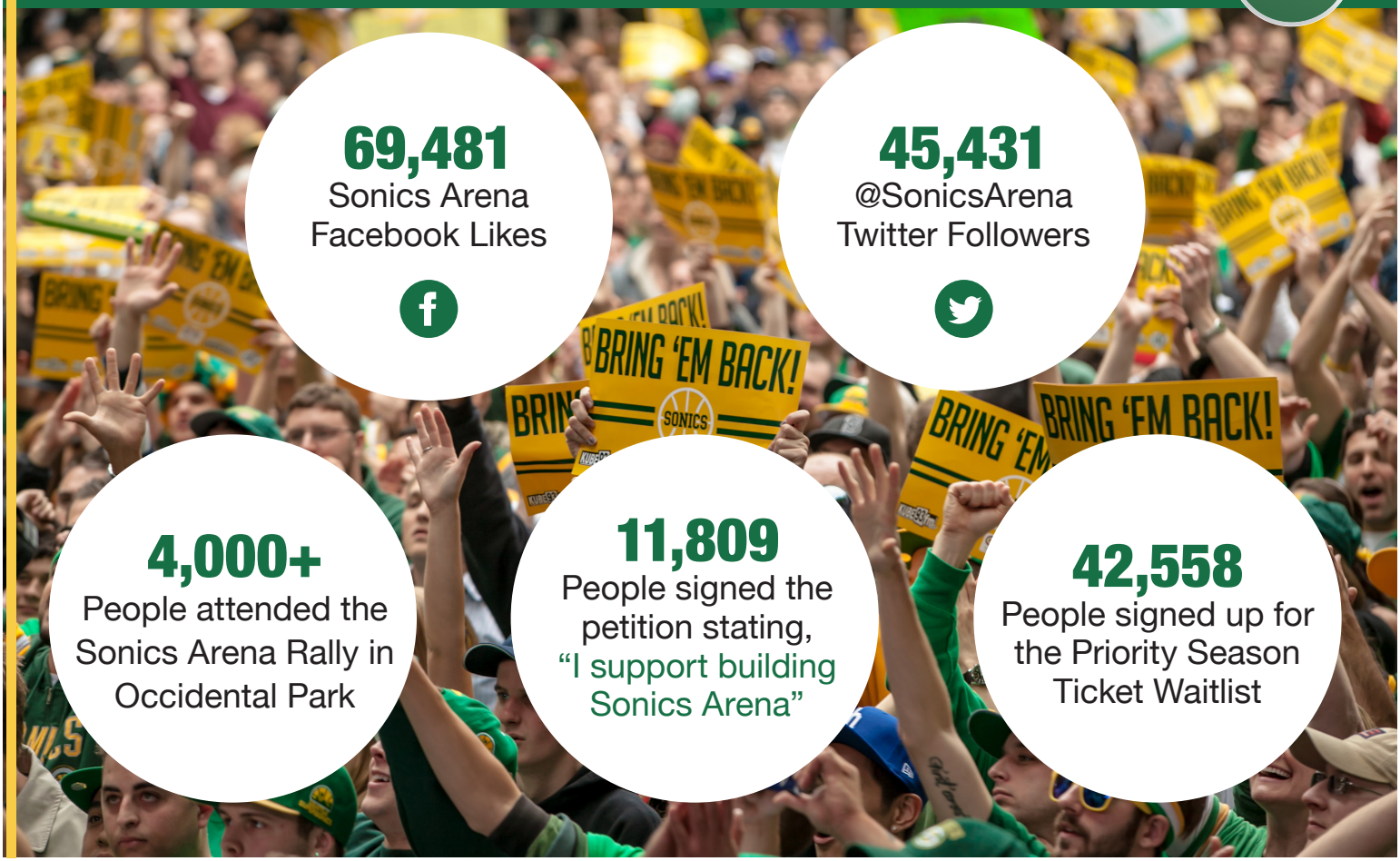
Please contact Lynnclaudon@outlook.com to answer any questions or to schedule a briefing about this project. We stand ready to partner with you on this exciting work!

THE SONICS ARENA COMMUNITY



69,481
Sonics Arena Facebook Likes

45,431
@SonicsArena Twitter Followers

4,000+
People attended the Sonics Arena Rally in Occidental Park

11,809
People signed the petition stating, "I support building Sonics Arena"

42,558
People signed up for the Priority Season Ticket Waitlist

WHAT'S THE FUTURE OF THE NBA IN SEATTLE?

ESPN recently featured an article on the changing landscape of NBA team ownership in the league. The article described the challenges facing the New Arena at Seattle Center and the benefits of having a second NBA-first arena option if Seattle wants to outbid other markets for an NBA team.

Read the full article at www.espn.com/nba/story/_/id/24824194.

"...the complexities of the so-called New Arena at Seattle Center, the building's working title, may make it challenging for Seattle to compete for a team if and when the time comes. The situation could even require Seattle to have a second new arena with the NBA team as the main tenant if the city wants to outbid other markets to attract a team, multiple ownership sources told ESPN."

"NBA teams in deep-pocket markets are looking to control their own buildings to capture new revenue. The Warriors' privately-financed new arena set to open next year in San Francisco is a game-changer: It will open a fountain of new revenue that will make other big markets jealous. Clippers owner Steve Ballmer is in the process of trying to build his own arena in large part because he earns tens of millions less per season than the Lakers in the same building."

"With others in line to get lion's share of profits, an NBA team would be arriving last to the party. That could dim the NBA's desire to move into the market when more lucrative options may be available elsewhere, league sources said. In essence, it's possible Seattle might finally have an arena – but the wrong arena for the NBA."