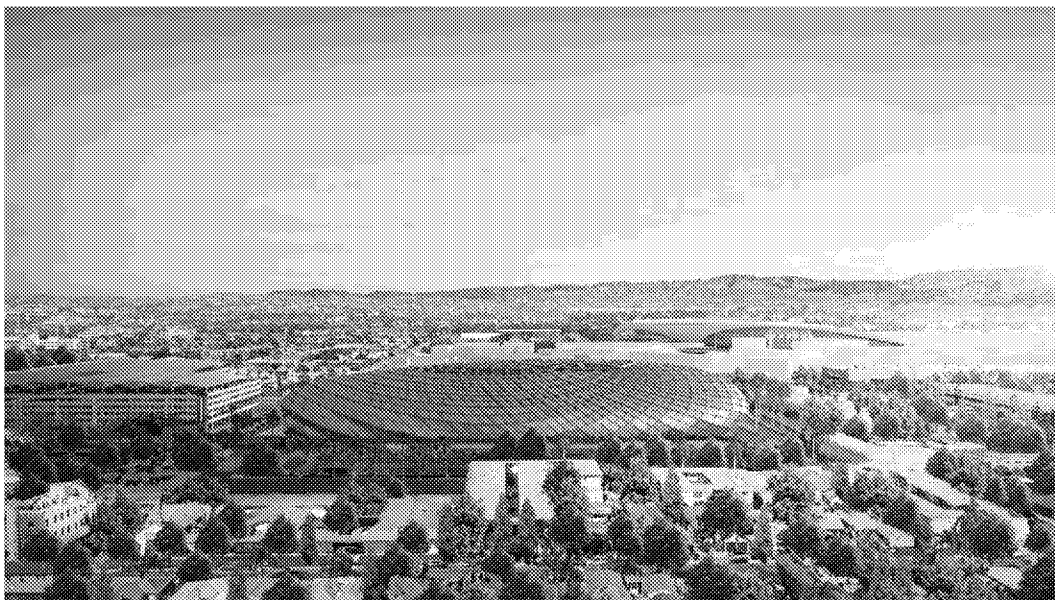


NEWS • News

100 million reasons why Inglewood approved a development pact for a new LA Clippers arena

The \$1.2 billion arena also will provide 7,000 construction jobs and 1,500 permanent positions once it opens in 2024



A rendering looking south at the Clippers' proposed 18,500-seat arena in Inglewood. (Image courtesy of the L.A. Clippers)

By JASON HENRY | jhenry@scng.com | Pasadena Star News



PUBLISHED: July 28, 2020 at 5:18 p.m. | UPDATED: July 29, 2020 at 5:52 a.m.

The Inglewood City Council approved a development agreement for the \$1.2 billion Los Angeles Clippers arena this week, carving out special zoning requirements and finalizing the terms of a \$100 million public benefit package.

Council members unanimously supported the agreement with the Clippers' developer, Murphy's Bowl, at a meeting Tuesday, July 28. While the agreement spells out the conditions the project must meet, the city has yet to officially sell the publicly owned land needed for the project to the Clippers. The sale, one of the last hurdles before construction can begin, is expected to occur within the next two months.

The Clippers hope to break ground by next summer at Century Boulevard and Prairie Avenue, with the goal of opening when their lease expires with Staples Center in 2024.

What the city gets

The public benefits finalized in the agreement Tuesday include:

- \$75 million to provide low-interest loans for the purchase, preservation and development of affordable housing.
- \$6 million to rehabilitate the city's public library and to create a community center.
- \$8.5 million for college scholarships and after-school tutoring for Inglewood students.
- \$3 million to assist Inglewood renters and to provide services to fight evictions.
- \$2.5 million to assist first-time homeowners.
- \$2.75 million to keep students from dropping out.
- \$1 million for counseling and services for students seeking a post-secondary education.

Other benefits include funding for senior center programs, workforce investment programs, the renovation of public basketball courts and 100 tickets for community groups to attend home games. The project will have a goal to hire 35 percent of its event staff locally and to award 35 percent of its contracts to minority-owned businesses, with half of those contracts earmarked for businesses within Inglewood.

Jobs, tax revenues



The Clippers say the project will create 7,000 full- and part-time jobs during construction and up to 1,500 permanent positions once the arena opens.

Inglewood estimates it will collect up to \$4.3 million annually in tax revenues from the 18,500-seat arena, including from admissions and hotel stays, according to a fiscal impact study. However, if a proposed hotel near the site does not come to fruition, the revenues could drop by nearly \$1 million, a staff report noted.

The Los Angeles Clippers' bid to move to Inglewood — just south of the new SoFi Stadium that will be home to the Los Angeles Rams and Chargers — has been a bumpy ride. Madison Square Garden, the previous owners of The Forum, waged an all-out war to stop the project and slowed down the California governor's approval of the project. However, the opposition melted away once multibillionaire Steve Ballmer, the Clippers' owner, agreed to buy The Forum from MSG for \$400 million.

The project is expected to create "significant and unavoidable" increases in traffic, noise and pollutants, according to its environmental impact report. The dual ownership of the Forum and the arena will help alleviate traffic issues by allowing the two venues to more easily coordinate programming, officials have previously said.

[Newsroom Guidelines](#)

[News Tips](#)

[Contact Us](#)

[Report an Error](#)

 **The Trust Project**

Stay up to date on the latest Coronavirus coverage in your area.

Coronavirus Update

Enter your email to sign up

SIGN UP

Tags: [clippers](#),
[Inglewood City Hall](#),
[Inglewood issues](#),
[los-angeles-clippers](#),
[South Bay](#),
[Top Stories Breeze](#)



Jason Henry | Reporter

Jason Henry is an investigative reporter with the Southern California News Group. Raised in Ohio, Jason began his career at a suburban daily near Cleveland before moving to California in 2013. He is a self-identified technophile, data nerd and wannabe drone pilot.

jhenry@scng.com Follow Jason
Henry @JasonMHenry

Join the conversation!

Login with your
dailybreeze.com subscription
to post or view comments.

Already a subscriber? Login
here.

Subscribe today

