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Report: Sacramento arena would create 4,095 jobs; 375 permanent positions

Sacramento Business Journal - by [Kelly Johnson](#) Staff writer

A new sports and entertainment center in Sacramento could create new jobs even after construction and could spur additional development, depending on where it would be located, according to a report released Thursday.

Development of a \$300 million complex would create 4,095 jobs, according to the report Cathleen Dominico prepared for the arena task force. That total consists of 2,130 direct and 1,590 indirect jobs during construction, and 375 additional jobs for ongoing operations. Of those, 217 would be direct and 158 would be indirect and induced, the report found.

Construction would generate \$556 million in total spending — of which would be \$300 million in direct spending — and \$11.3 million in tax revenue, the study found. Once operating, the complex would generate \$25 million in total spending each year — including \$13.6 million in annual direct spending — and would boost tax revenue by about \$775,000 a year, the research shows.

The Sacramento First Task Force, which was established by Sacramento Mayor Kevin Johnson, released the report at a hearing Thursday on job creation and economic development.

Further analysis would be needed when a site is identified and more information is known about the type of complex that would be built, the report noted.

The Sacramento Metro Chamber said the findings confirm the organization's position that a properly located arena would create thousands of jobs and pump millions of dollars into the economy.

"The Metro Chamber has long-held that a new entertainment and sports facility will be a huge job generator for our region," Matt Mahood, chamber president and chief executive officer, said in a prepared statement. "The Sacramento First Task Force's 'Threshold' report shows how — at a time when unemployment is so high — building and running the complex will create 4,095 new jobs. I say let's get it started!"

Cities similar in size to Sacramento have seen the benefits of sports and entertainment complexes, he said.

Over the years, experts nationally have debated the economic benefits of developing professional sports stadiums and arenas.

The Sacramento First Task Force is reviewing the seven proposals it received by its late December deadline as well as the existing Cal Expo proposal and the option of renovating Arco Arena. Of the new proposals, two would make use of the Sacramento railyards and two propose using the site of Westfield Downtown Plaza. The other new proposals would locate an arena at Cal Expo, on city-owned land next to Arco Arena and at the docks area in downtown Sacramento.

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