



## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

*Please also reference the plan document; page numbers are provided below for additional detail*

### **How was the Executive Leadership Team formed? What was their process?**

*See also page 21*

The Executive Leadership Team (ELT) was appointed by Mayor Hancock in October 2014. Over the course of a year, the ELT worked with consultants, met with arts patrons and presenters, and convened an extensive public outreach process including hosting dozens of meetings, study groups and surveys. H3 Hardy Collaboration Architecture and its consultants provided technical and planning expertise, compiled results and provided renderings of the vision plan. The ELT presented its final report to Mayor Hancock in March 2016.

### **How did you engage residents of Denver to identify the changes they would want to see in a new arts complex?**

*See also pages 66-73*

The Mayor's executive leadership team, in conjunction with Denver Arts & Venues, oversaw a process that invited public participation through intercept surveys, public meetings, and online and social media outreach. Nearly 5,000 Denver residents offered their ideas for what an arts complex of the future might encompass.

### **Love the design, but how much will it cost and how will it be funded?**

*See also pages 138 and 168*

The Executive Leadership Team (ELT) was given the charge to develop a vision for the Arts Complex that addresses the many challenges that face the 12-acre campus. As a conceptual plan, it first answers what's the right mix of uses on the site before addressing the costs or how it will be funded. The current renderings and site layout are conceptual, they are not the final design and all is subject to change as we go through additional due diligence.

With the Vision Plan in place, a working group of city agency leadership and key stakeholders will convene to explore cost estimating, sources and uses of funds needed to execute The Next Stage Vision Plan and conduct additional due diligence such as completing a real estate market scan and high level financial feasibility analysis for office, residential and retail uses.

Ultimately, maximizing city land value will provide the greatest opportunity for transforming the Arts Complex as a neighborhood powered by arts and culture. Increase land value and partnering with Denver's public and private sectors will be pivotal in providing necessary resources to improve existing patron experience and pave the way for new audiences.

**What are the next steps? When will construction start?**

*See also page 168*

In 2016, the city will undertake additional due diligence and next steps to realize the full potential of this transformative vision plan, including:

- Funding & Governance (FunGov) Committee
- Entitlements
- Pre-design & technical survey

These initial steps will take 12-18 months. At that conclusion, the City will be better positioned to issue Request for Qualifications/Proposals for elements like initial design or public-private partnerships. Construction may not begin for another 4-5 years.

**What will happen to the Symphony and all the resident companies when construction begins?**

*See also page 150*

The Next Stage plan for repositioning DPAC may be executed in discrete development packages phased over time. The Arts Complex is to remain operational throughout the construction process with resident organizations continuing to entertain their patrons.

The Colorado Symphony Orchestra (CSO) will be directly impacted with the eventual removal of Boettcher Concert Hall. It is envisioned that Boettcher Concert Hall will remain operational until after completion of the Music Hall to be the centerpiece of parcel A at 14<sup>th</sup> and Arapahoe. Construction of the new Music Hall prior will allow the CSO to continue performing at DPAC with minimal interruption.

**Did you explore renovating Boettcher? Does the Boettcher Foundation know that the plan for Boettcher Concert Hall calls for its demolition?**

*See also pages 84-85*

The impetus for The Next Stage vision plan was a study of what might be accomplished by renovating Boettcher Concert Hall. Less than \$20 million was available from an earlier bond project to renovate Boettcher Concert Hall. Studies showed that amount would be insufficient to meet the needs of a 21st century venue for the Colorado Symphony Orchestra and others. Instead of partially renovating Boettcher Concert Hall, the mayor's ELT was given a directive to look at a new vision for Boettcher Concert Hall and the entire Denver Performing Arts Complex.

The Boettcher Foundation is aware of the plan to replace the current hall and has endorsed The Next Stage as a comprehensive and thoughtful vision for the future of the complex.

**What is the benefit to having a campus for the DPS School of the Arts?**

There are many benefits to an educational component at the Arts Complex, particularly an arts magnet school:

- Onsite daytime users – students and faculty – who will bring arts-related daytime activity to DPAC and support new onsite retail
- Opportunity to share new spaces and better utilize current spaces at DPAC
- Ability for students and faculty to interact – internships, mentorships, etc. – with resident company professionals who work on- and off-stage

- Opportunity to develop future audiences at DPAC

**Can I book an event in Sculpture Park or other venues at DPAC in 2017?**

Yes! There are many, many steps to complete before construction can begin at the Arts Complex. Once the Funding & Governance committee has completed its work over the next 12-18 months, Arts & Venues will have a better idea of a multi-year timeline.