



City of Mobile Partners with Oak View Group to Manage New Civic Arena

Mobile, Ala. (February 4, 2025) — The City of Mobile has approved a long-term agreement with Oak View Group (OVG) to operate and manage its new, state-of-the-art entertainment arena in downtown Mobile.

As the demolition of the outdated Mobile Civic Center enters its final phases, the City of Mobile is teaming up with OVG to build and operate a brand new, world-class entertainment venue on the same property. The Mobile City Council approved a 22-year contract OVG at its meeting today, enlisting OVG's expertise to manage the arena and bring top-tier events to the City of Mobile.

The City of Mobile previously engaged OVG to manage two other downtown venues: the Arthur Outlaw Convention Center and the historic Saenger Theater.

“This arena will be a generational investment in our city that will enhance the quality of life for Mobilians and attract visitors from across the region,” said Mobile Mayor Sandy Stimpson. “Oak View Group is an industry leader with the experience and partnerships to turn this new venue into a hub for entertainment, culture, and community on the Gulf Coast. Together, we’re building something that will serve Mobile for decades to come, and we couldn’t be more excited for what’s ahead.”

In addition to concerts and live performances, the new civic arena will be built to host professional hockey, ice skating performances and many other youth, collegiate and professional sporting events. It will also be uniquely designed to accommodate Mardi Gras balls and other longstanding local events.

As part of the new agreement, OVG will contribute to the construction of the new arena and establish a dedicated capital improvement fund for ongoing maintenance at the facility.

“We're thrilled to take the next step in our partnership with the City of Mobile as we move forward with plans for the new Mobile Arena,” said Peter Luukko, Co-Chairman, OVG360. “Together, we're setting the stage for unforgettable live experiences including music, sports and family shows. The possibilities are endless for this deserving community.”

OVG owns and operates a wide range of venues worldwide, including stadiums, arenas, theaters, convention centers, and cultural attractions. Through its partnership with the City of Mobile, OVG will bring in quality performances, sporting events and conventions, positioning Mobile to become as a premier entertainment destination in the Southeast.

With demolition of the current Mobile Civic Center well underway, construction of the new arena is planned to begin in March. The project is scheduled to be completed in early 2027. More information about the City of Mobile’s New Arena is available at cityofmobile.org/mobile-new-arena/.