

For all of the people who have supported the proposal that Century 21 include a modern Sports Arena in its planning, here is a brief progress report:

1. Century 21 officials have endorsed the idea and have taken preliminary steps to make it a reality. Our proposal is outlined in the resolution of the Sports Advisory Committee. A copy is attached.

2. Looking beyond the 1961 Exposition, the Century 21 planners recommend that the City of Seattle acquire from the State certain properties and buildings, including the proposed Sports Arena, so that the entire Civic Center will have unified ownership and management after the Exposition is over.

3. This proposal has been made to the Seattle City Council and a public hearing by the Council, sitting as a whole, has been scheduled for 3:00 p.m. Monday, January 12th. It is hoped that supporters of the Sports Arena proposal will help to impress the members of the Council with the importance of action NOW so that our Sports Arena can be included in the Century 21 Exposition plans.

There is little doubt that Seattle will eventually have a modern Sports Arena similar to those already completed, under construction, or in the planning stage by nearly every major city on the Pacific Coast. It is merely a question of when and how. With the development of our marvelous new Civic Center by the Century 21 Exposition this is the ideal location for the sports building. However, the whole area will be used by the Exposition and, if the Arena is not in the original planning, it will be extremely difficult, if not impossible, to locate a Sports Arena there afterwards. Certainly, it would be much more costly. That is why we think the Sports Arena should be built as part of the Century 21 Exposition.

Our proposal has had wonderful support from both daily newspapers, from Radio and Television, and from numerous organizations. This universal approval from everywhere is convincing proof that Seattle needs and wants this Sports Arena and is willing to pay for it. We hope the City Council can point the way to the best way to finance the program. We feel certain the people of Seattle will approve.

The Century 21 Exposition is going to be of tremendous importance to the whole state, as well as to the Seattle area. It will be a real milestone in our development and its effects will be felt for many years to come. Of great importance, too, are the benefits accruing to Seattle when the Exposition is over. We will have:

1. A wonderful Civic Center, about seventy (70) acres in area, right near the heart of the city.

2. A concert hall, seating about three thousand (3,000) to three thousand five hundred (3,500), which will be one of the finest on the Pacific Coast.

3. A modern Sports Arena seating around fifteen thousand (15,000). We will have facilities to attract major league Ice Hockey, top flight amateur or professional Basketball and proper setting for major sports attractions of all types.

4. Convention and Trade Show facilities so that Seattle will not have to take a back seat to any other city in the West.

Copy of Resolution for Sports Advisory Committee, World's Fair Commission, as drafted by Jack Gordon and Joe Caraher for Gene Walby, Chairman.

WHEREAS, almost every city in the United States is now planning or constructing new and larger auditoriums and arenas or enlarging and improving existing facilities; and

WHEREAS, on the Pacific Coast, Portland, Oregon, is constructing an eight million dollar, 13,500 seat, exposition and recreation building to be completed in 1960; Vancouver, B.C., is constructing a six million dollar new civic auditorium; Los Angeles is opening a seven and one-half million dollar Sports Arena seating 19,000 in Exposition Part in February, 1959, and Spokane, Washington is operating an 8,500-seat multi-purpose Coliseum and San Francisco is improving its 17,000 seat Cow Palace, and,

WHEREAS, these projects point up the fact that Seattle must keep pace with these projects to compete for major conventions, exhibits, expositions and sports events, and,

WHEREAS, the existing public facilities in Seattle are either inadequate or are being remodeled which will prohibit their use for the aforementioned activities, or for community use,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Sports Committee of the Century 21 Exposition recommend to the Board of Trustees of the Century 21 Corporation, to the Governor of the State of Washington, to the Senate and House of the Legislature, and to the Mayor and City Council of the City of Seattle that immediate study be made to earmark the combined state and city monies, now appropriated for the construction of a state building on the Civic Century 21 Fair site, for the construction of a multi-purpose building which can be converted, with a minimum of expense, to a combination recreation-exposition building which will provide up to 60,000 square feet of exhibit space in the recreation area building plus an additional 50,000 square feet in the exposition area; and can seat upwards of 14,000 for boxing, 13,000 for basketball, 15,000 for convention sessions, 11,000 for ice hockey, and 9,000 for concerts and shows, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of Century 21 and all other interested parties study the cost, construction and facilities available in the Portland exposition and recreation building and recreation building which embodies the basic requirements which this committee deems necessary for the City of Seattle to serve the growing Pacific Northwest.