It's Game On for Memorial Stadium Redevelopment Project Following SPS Board & Seattle City Council Approval of Development & Interlocal Agreements

Memorial Stadium to Open Doors for a Final Public Farewell Event, June 26th

SEATTLE (June 4, 2025) – The long-awaited redevelopment of <u>Seattle Public Schools'</u> Memorial Stadium at Seattle Center took a big step forward this week with approval of the project's development and interlocal agreements by the Seattle City Council and SPS Board clearing the way for construction to begin this summer.

The final legal agreements – pertaining to the joint funding, design, construction, and operation as a not-for-profit with private partner One Roof Stadium Partnership (a consortium of <u>Seattle Kraken</u>, <u>Climate Pledge Arena</u>, and <u>One Roof Foundation</u>) – for the unique public-private partnership received unanimous approval by the City Council yesterday and by the SPS Board this evening.

The landmark \$140 million transformation – seamlessly integrated into the <u>Seattle Center</u> campus – will create a state-of-the-art multi-purpose stadium for student athletics, education, arts, culture, entertainment, and community events. The new 6,500-seat stadium, with a total capacity of 8,000, will ensure the critical public asset's legacy for decades to come.

The new stadium is being designed by <u>Generator Studio</u> – an architecture firm nationally recognized for its work on community-centered sports and entertainment venues. Seattle-based <u>Sellen Construction</u> will lead the two-year construction slated for completion by fall 2027.

Prior to construction, the stadium doors will be opened to the public for a final opportunity to visit the stadium from 4 – 7 p.m. on Thursday, June 26. *The Lights Out . . . For Now: Memorial Stadium Open House & Preview Event* provides an opportunity for the community to say a fond farewell and learn about the exciting plans for Memorial Stadium's future.

Memorial Stadium, although owned by SPS, has always been an integral part of Seattle Center. The shared vision for a new stadium supports the Seattle Center's Century 21 Master Plan, integrating it into the Seattle Center campus, by expanding public space, removing walls, and opening views as never before.

"Replacing Memorial Stadium with a new state-of-the-art facility is a win for Seattle students, families, and our entire community. This is our *One Seattle* approach in action – a public-private partnership between the City of Seattle, Seattle Public Schools, One Roof Stadium Partnership, and philanthropic partners working toward our shared goal: A new space that is more than just an athletic field – a place for education, engagement, and opportunity. We are thrilled that our

philanthropic community shares this vision and is stepping up as part of this partnership," said Seattle Mayor Bruce Harrell.

"Extraordinary projects like this are the result of collaborative resources, knowledge, and passion," said SPS Chief Operations Officer Fred Podesta. "An enhanced stadium will allow the District to provide a modern student-centered facility for cultural performances, athletic events, commencement ceremonies, and social and educational opportunities for future generations."

"It's an honor to partner with Seattle Public Schools and the City of Seattle, and to have meaningful impact in our community," added Tod Leiweke, CEO of the Seattle Kraken. "This is a once in a lifetime opportunity to secure the future of the stadium for decades to come."

Funding for the new stadium comes from the voter-approved 2022 SPS Buildings, Technology, and Academics/Athletics Capital Levy (BTA V), which provides \$66.5 million toward the total cost. The project is also supported by significant public investment including nearly \$4 million in state funding, \$40 million from the City, and approximately \$30 million in philanthropic support.

As the project's private partner, One Roof Stadium Partnership will invest in, design, build, operate, and maintain the new stadium, with SPS continuing to own the stadium and maintain priority use.

Lights Out . . . For Now: Memorial Stadium Open House & Preview Event, June 26th While it will soon be light's out for Memorial Stadium, the community is being invited to the Lights Out . . . For Now: Memorial Stadium Open House & Preview Event to relive their memories, say a fond farewell, and learn about the exciting plans for Memorial Stadium's future.

The stadium doors will be open for the public to purchase a bite to eat from one of the onsite food trucks and to picnic on the stadium turf while enjoying live music and snapping keepsake photos.

The free event is scheduled for 4-7 p.m. on Thursday, June 26 at Memorial Stadium (401 5th Ave. North) on the Seattle Center campus.

Share Your Memorial Stadium Memories

With preparations underway for the next chapter in the stadium's rich history the public is being invited to share their Memorial Stadium memories. Stories and photos are sought for posting on the Memorial Stadium project website, social media channels, and for projecting on the stadium's giant screen at an upcoming open house and preview event.

LEARN MORE: For additional information about the open house and preview event – and to submit your favorite Memorial Stadium memories and photos for display online and on the stadium screen – visit <u>SeattleCenter.com/Memorial-Stadium</u>.