

Performing Arts Center Development Chronology

An incomplete chronology of efforts to develop a major performing arts center in Downtown Bellevue

| Year | Item | Description |
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| 1973 | Arts Commission Established | One of the Arts Commission's purposes as stated in its enabling ordinance is to "Establish a long-range plan for the development and operation of a cultural center." |
| 1982 | Dykstra Report | City commissioned a study by Economic Research Associates and John Dykstra to "assess community desire for a convention facility and performing arts center." Strong support was identified; recommendation was two theatres, 1,000 seats and 300 seats. |
| 1984 | EPAC: Eastside Performing Arts Center | Bellevue Chamber of Commerce establishes a subcommittee "to review the need for new performing arts facilities." They saw that since the facility or facilities would be regional in scope, they should be regional in funding. Chamber voted to form an independent nonprofit corporation whose purpose would be to carry out the objectives of the community. EPAC Board was formed. |
| 1986 | Theatre Projects Study Phase 1 | EPAC hired Theatre Projects Inc. (Steven Wolff) to conduct a feasibility study. The study presented several alternative facility concepts. The study was completed in June 1986. |
| 1986 - 1987 | City study for a convention center and theatre authorized | Council authorized City Manager to hire Theatre Projects to do Phase 2, taking one recommended concept and developing it further. In the discussion draft, the recommendation called for a Lyric Theater of approximately 1,600 seats with movable elements to accommodate various elements, a 200 seat Studio Theatre, a Creativity Center for the community, and optional administrative space for resident companies. Observations by Council included: 1) this idea came from the private sector, ergo its creation should be either a) a public/private partnership, or b) paid wholly by the private sector since the public should not be taxed for entertainment purposes; and 2) the Creativity Center should be scrapped because the Parks Department already provides the hands-on programs it would provide. The Council voted to refer the matter to the Arena/Convention Center Ad Hoc Committee for further development. |
| 1988 | Public Hearing on Convention Center | Fifty speakers commented on the proposed convention center. Many commented on a performing arts center being included. |
| 1988 | PARC: Performing Arts Regional Committee | Council appointed 25 people to serve on PARC from a list recommended by Council's Ad Hoc Civic Center Committee. Members included Bellevue leaders as well as leaders from surrounding communities. |
| 1989, July | PARC Recommendations | PARC recommendations presented to Council. |

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| 1989, September | Kemper Freeman Proposal to PARC | Kemper Freeman gave PARC a proposal to site the PAC at Bellevue Place. |
| 1989 December | PARC Final Recommendations | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Encouraged but did not endorse the Kemper Freeman proposal; 2. Retain option on convention center property 3. Continue developing plans for the PAC at the convention center site since that's the preferred location. Council voted not to develop parallel plans until Freeman's fundraising deadline, July. |
| 1990 - 1992 | BCCA (Bellevue Convention Center Authority recommendation | At Council's request, BCCA continued planning for a PAC in downtown Bellevue. BCCA confirmed size at 1800 seats, reconsidered market data in light of demographic changes, established a siting preference for the Special Opportunity Area (now location of Meydenbauer Center, City Hall, and the vacant Metro site), and re-studied capital and operating costs. |
| 1992 | Council Resolution 5585 | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. declared City's intention to take a leadership role in developing a PAC 2. stated that it be completed no later than 2005, 3. stated that the BCCA recommendations on site, size and function be adopted 4. directed the city conduct feasibility analysis of potential site acquisitions within the Special Opportunity Area 5. confirmed the need for a public/private partnership to accomplish the PAC |
| 1995 | Performing Arts Steering Committee | Council appointed a Performing Arts Steering Committee |
| 1995 - 1997 | AMS Feasibility Study | Purpose was to analyze the functional, physical, operational and financial requirements for a performing arts center in Downtown Bellevue. Study components included Community Context, Market Analysis, Public Survey, User forecast, an economic impact estimate and other information |
| 1999 | Environmental Scan for Comprehensive Plan update/arts facilities | The dearth of arts facilities was cited as a significant issue in an environmental scan conducted as part of the Comprehensive Plan Update preparation. |
| 2000 | Council Audacious Goals | Council adopted a series of "Audacious Goals" which included partnering with the community to build a performing arts center. |
| 2001 - 2002 | Performing Arts Citizens Committee | Council appointed the PACC to evaluate 3 proposals for development of a PAC. 1. The City; 2. A sports arena with PAC from Michael Tuckman; 3 Kemper Freeman offering to build a PAC at Bellevue Place. |
| 2001 | Arts Commission Endorsement | The Commission endorsed a PAC and provided its views on various aspects of the PAC, such as size, site, programming, weaving in consideration of the needs of the local arts community. |

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| 2002 | PACC's recommendations | PACC gave Council a conditional endorsement of the PACE proposal, contingent on several conditions to ensure that the board truly represented key stakeholders in the community, that development would achieve set milestones of progress, and in return the City would not run a competing project and instead pursue a smaller educational facility. The Committee also recommended providing additional operating support to local arts groups through a different process than the PACC committee recommendation. |
| 2002 | Arts Commission Endorses PACE | The Commission encouraged Council to adopt the PACC recommendations. |
| 2002 | Council Resolution 6670 | Council adopted PACC's recommendations in this resolution. |
| 2002 | PACE Established | Richard Collins was appointed executive director. Design development and fundraising initiated. |
| 2004 - 2005 | Cultural Compass | The Cultural Compass examined facility needs and activity in the community. In it, PACE is mentioned. |
| 2006 | John Haynes hired | Design completed and fundraising kicked into high gear. |
| 2006 | City Funding Principles adopted | City Council adopted 4 principles to guide city investments in cultural facilities. |
| 2008 - ? | Recession | Fundraising virtually halted as donors took a hiatus. |
| 2009 | City contributes \$2 million | Council approved and City signed an agreement with PACE to provide \$2 million towards the design and construction of the PAC. |
| 2010 | Tateuchi Foundation Contribution | The Tateuchi Foundation contributed \$25 million, changing the PAC name from PACE to the Tateuchi Center. |
| 2013 | Public Funding Sought | PACE Board turned its attention to the City of Bellevue and King County for major funding support. |
| 2014 | City adopts Resolution No. 8695 | City adopted Resolution No. 8695 "setting out a framework for a process between the City of Bellevue and Performing Arts Center Eastside (PACE) to advance public and private efforts to secure a major performing arts facility, the Tateuchi Center, in Bellevue for the benefit of the community and the entire Eastside." |
| 2014 | City & PACE sign MOU | The MOU was adopted by both PACE and the City. A committee of PACE and city representatives began a collaborative effort to carry out the terms of the MOU. |
| 2015 | Feasibility and Economic Impact Studies completed. | Conclusions of a feasibility study commissioned by the City included that \$138.4M remained to be raised at the time of the study, the updated operations budget was feasible, and sufficient audience and product were available for Tateuchi Center to be successful once opened. An Economic Impact study concluded that based on data available the construction and operation of Tateuchi Center would benefit city tax revenue and local and regional businesses. |