

The evolution of Oklahoma City since the arrival of the Thunder in 2008 is nothing short of amazing. Our city has been transformed; we are a city worth paying attention to.

A new arena will keep the Thunder in Oklahoma City for another generation, and beyond 2050—but it's not just about basketball. A new arena will secure Oklahoma City's status as a destination for premier concerts, national sporting events, and more—all things that drive economic growth and quality of life in our city and <u>without raising taxes</u>.

## Factsheet

- The normal lifespan of an arena is 30 years. By NBA standards Oklahoma City's arena is soon to be one of the oldest. Compared to all the other NBA arenas, ours is the smallest by square footage.
- There are 18 metro areas with a larger population than central Oklahoma that do NOT have an NBA team, many of which aspire to have one. In fact, there are multiple cities either building, planning to build, or already have a high-quality arena hoping to get an NBA franchise, notably Las Vegas, Seattle, and Kansas City.
- A new arena is necessary to secure a long-term home for the Oklahoma City Thunder. The original 15-year lease between the team and the city to use the Paycom Center has expired, and the team is staying in OKC on a temporary three-year lease.
- Concerts and other events often bypass Oklahoma City, choosing Tulsa due to our inability to meet the needs of premier events.
- It is important for the arena to be downtown so we can take advantage of the synergy with the new convention center, Scissortail Park, and the more than 20 hotels that have opened in the area since the Thunder came to OKC.
- When building the last three downtown arenas in our city's past (Municipal Auditorium, The Myriad, and Paycom Center) it took between nine and ten years from voter approval to opening. While we hope to open a new arena sooner than that, it will certainly take a number of years for it to open, meaning the Paycom Center still has years of use left.

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