

THINK BIG SACRAMENTO

A Regional Initiative to Create Jobs and Economic Growth through a New Entertainment and Sports Complex

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'Think BIG' to Unveil Funding Plan at Sacramento Press Club *Committee announces plans to reveal menu of financing options in coming weeks*

SACRAMENTO, CA – Yesterday, *Think BIG Sacramento* announced plans to unveil financing options for the proposed entertainment and sports complex in the downtown Railyards, at the Sacramento Press Club early next month. The announcement was made by Rich Ehsen, President of the Sacramento Press Club, at the group's luncheon yesterday that featured Los Angeles Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa.

The Committee, which was formed by Sacramento Mayor Kevin Johnson and chaired by Senate Pro Tem Darrell Steinberg and Senator Ted Gaines, has committed to revealing a 'menu of financing options' at the culmination of its self-imposed 100 day deadline. The unveiling will take place Thursday, September 8th at the Sacramento Press Club's monthly luncheon.

"As the summer work days grow longer in preparation for meeting its 100 day deadline to make public a public-private financing proposal to develop a downtown arena that will create more than 4,000 jobs and over \$7 billion in new economic development for the region, Think BIG's work gets stronger," said Think BIG Executive Director Chris Lehane. "Think BIG, under the leadership of Senators Darrell Steinberg and Ted Gaines, looks forward to the opportunity to formally release its report at the Sacramento Press Club, which will provide a great forum for the public release of the findings on how to finance a world class entertainment and sports complex that will be publicly owned and paid for through contributions from both the public and private sectors, including the Kings ownership group, arena developers and operators."

The Sacramento Press Club's monthly meetings have become a forum for leading politicians and other news makers to meet with the print and electronic media journalists who cover their activities. Previous speakers include governors, U.S. senators, presidential candidates and influential policy makers.

"The Sacramento Press Club is excited for the opportunity to host the Committee on such a momentous occasion for the Sacramento region," said Rich Ehsen, Sacramento Press Club President. "There is a lot of anticipation in the community over the funding plans for this facility and we are very proud to be part of getting this vital information out to the public."

Following the announcement, the report will be presented to the City Council for consideration. The Committee will engage in a more detailed analysis of the viable funding options from September to December, with an eye on finalizing the plan by the March 1, 2012 deadline.

In recent weeks, the Committee has released reports outlining various sources of revenue such as parking, digital signs, cell towers, and public land that are directly tied to the facility itself.

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Think BIG is a regional initiative launched by Sacramento Mayor Kevin Johnson to facilitate construction of a new entertainment and sports complex ("ESC") that promotes job creation, economic growth, cultural development and civic pride across the greater Sacramento metropolitan area.

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