



NEWS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release:

Lead Donor Secured for OKC Fairgrounds Coliseum The MAPS 3 and MAPS 4 OKC Fairgrounds Coliseum Gets a New Name

Oklahoma City, OK – City leaders gathered today for the Topping-Out Ceremony of the MAPS 3 and 4 OKC Fairgrounds Coliseum. Prior to the ceremony, attendees were invited to sign a large banner that will hang from the rafters of the new coliseum.

PLEASE NOTE: Due to inclement weather, the final truss will be lifted into place on Thursday, March 28 at 8 a.m.

The 216,164-square-foot coliseum will be operated by Oklahoma State Fair, Inc. at the OKC Fairgrounds. The coliseum is scheduled to be completed in mid-2025. The Jim Norick Arena will continue to host events, just as it has since 1965, until the new coliseum opens.



At the ceremony, Ron Norick, Chairman of the Oklahoma State Fair, Inc. Board of Directors, announced that OG&E has become a Lead Donor Partner for the project. In such, going forward, the building will officially be known as the OG&E Coliseum. “It has been known from the very beginning that the coliseum portion of the MAPS 4 budget was not sufficient to cover the entire cost of the \$126 million project,” stated Chairman Norick. “Multiple funding sources needed to come together to bridge the gap. We are extremely thankful that the OGE Energy Corp. Foundation stepped up with their generous donation. Without them, we would not have been able to build the coliseum we are building today.” The Foundation’s resources received a boost in 2022 when OGE Energy Corp. sold its interest in Enable Midstream Partners with the intent to increase charitable contributions in the community. The term of the coliseum naming agreement is 10 years.

The mission of the Foundation is to support programs, organizations and institutions that enhance quality of life and economic well-being in the communities they serve. “What better way to give back to the many communities served by OG&E, both local and statewide, than to join with the City of Oklahoma City and the OKC Fairgrounds in helping to finance this new coliseum,” commented Norick. “The current Jim Norick Arena has a tremendous financial impact on the economic engine that drives Oklahoma City, and the OG&E Coliseum will continue that tradition.”

“We are delighted to serve as lead donor for the new coliseum at the OKC Fairgrounds,” said Sean Trauschke, Chairman, President and CEO for OGE Energy Corp. and OG&E. “The OKC Fairgrounds is a high-performance economic engine whose programs reach every county we serve in Oklahoma and Arkansas, and beyond. Joining with the City and Oklahoma State Fair to enhance and finish the MAPS 4 coliseum is an opportunity that makes sense for us and we can’t wait to experience the memory-making sporting events, horse shows, and concerts headed our way.”

The \$126-million project is funded through MAPS 3, MAPS 4, hotel tax revenue and other funding sources.

Learn more about the MAPS 3 and 4 Fairgrounds coliseum at okc.gov/government/maps-4/fairgrounds-coliseum.

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About MAPS 4

[MAPS 4](#) is a debt-free public improvement program funded by a temporary penny sales tax that will raise a projected \$1.07 billion over eight years. Oklahoma City voters approved the sales tax to fund MAPS 4 in a special election on Dec. 10, 2019, moving forward with a unique and ambitious plan to transform our community. The temporary penny sales tax funding MAPS 4 began April 1, 2020, and ends in 2028. More than 70 percent of MAPS 4 funding is dedicated to neighborhood and human needs. The rest is for quality of life and job-creating initiatives. The MAPS 4 Citizens Advisory Board and its six subcommittees will guide MAPS 4 planning and implementation, making recommendations to the City Council. The Council has final authority on MAPS 4. The MAPS Investment and Operating Trust developed a strategic investment plan to support long-term sustainable funding for MAPS 4 projects' operational expenses and maintenance. Visit okc.gov/maps4 for more.

About MAPS 3

[MAPS 3](#) is a \$777 million, voter-approved capital improvement program to improve the quality of life in Oklahoma City. It is funded by a temporary 1-cent sales tax that began in April 2010 and ended in December 2017. MAPS 3 funds eight projects: [Downtown Convention Center](#), [Downtown Public Park](#), [Modern Streetcar/Transit](#), [Oklahoma River Improvements](#), [Oklahoma State Fairgrounds Improvements](#), [Senior Health and Wellness Centers](#), [Trails](#) and [Sidewalks](#).

MAPS 3 was succeeded by the [temporary sales tax portion](#) of the [Better Streets, Safer City](#) program, which ended in 2020. Get details at okc.gov/BetterSafer.

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