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Raleigh Convention Center Expansion Project Poised to Break Ground

With the construction and design team now in place, the estimated completion date is 2028

Raleigh, NC – The Raleigh Convention Center (RCC) today announced two additional partnerships to complete the team working on the expansion project.

Clancy & Theys, Skanska, D.A. Everett Joint Venture acting as construction manager joins international architecture firm TVS and local partner RATIO Design to design and build the project. In addition, the team of Cumming Group and their MWBE partner Cate Services will act as owner's representative.

The Center's footprint will grow by another city block, with sister venue Red Hat Amphitheater shifting slightly southward and an installation of pedestrian bridges spanning S. McDowell St. The RCC expansion is slated to add 80,000 square feet of flexible space and 30 additional breakout rooms. Additionally, in 2027, Omni Hotels & Resorts is set to open a 550-room hotel nearby, enhancing the support for RCC visitors.

Red Hat Amphitheater's move is expected to be complete in 2026; the RCC expansion should be concluded in 2028.

"Our vision for this expansion is to create a space that can be something for everyone – welcoming, accessible, smart, and convenient. The Clancy & Theys Skanska D.A. Everett Joint Venture team, with their experience in convention center facilities and music venues, will no doubt provide us with the oversight and management we need to see this vision to completion. To say we're excited to get started is an understatement!" said Kerry Painter, Executive Manager of The Complex, Raleigh's group of convention and entertainment venues which includes the RCC, Red Hat Amphitheater, Martin Marietta Center for the Performing Arts and the Coastal Credit Union Music Park at Walnut Creek.

"The Clancy & Theys Skanska D.A. Everett Joint Venture team is thrilled to be involved on this transformative project for downtown Raleigh. With the expansion of the convention center and the relocation of our Red Hat Amphitheater, these projects will truly enhance the offerings of our thriving downtown for area residents and the many visitors who choose Raleigh time and time again," said Baker Glasgow, president of Clancy & Theys Construction. "This project will enhance the vitality of downtown Raleigh and will allow the City of Raleigh to continue to offer premium spaces to assemble and elevate events and visitor experiences," added Donovan Everett, president & CEO of D.A. Everett Construction.









"We [RATIO Design 7 TVS] have the unique privilege and responsibility to shape the physical landscape of communities and enhance vibrant downtown cores. In designing Raleigh's new convention center expansion, our vision extends beyond mere structures; it embodies the aspirations, culture, and dynamism of this vibrant city," said Hal Bowen, AIA LEED AP, RATIO Design Principal.

"Cumming Group is honored to provide project management and cost management services for the Raleigh Convention Center expansion – helping to elevate Raleigh as a leading entertainment and meeting destination. This expansion will address the growing demand from our community for larger, more versatile event spaces, and will ensure that the Convention Center continues to serve as a cornerstone of our city's cultural and economic growth," said Chris Whitley Jr., vice president, Cumming Group.

About the Raleigh Convention Center

In the heart of vibrant downtown Raleigh, Raleigh Convention Center is highly sought after by meeting and event planners seeking hospitality and venue expertise supported by modern tech, gourmet catering and savvy customer service. Winner of the EXHIBITOR Magazine Centers of Excellence Award for four consecutive years, RCC is known for its innovative operations prioritizing sustainability, accessibility and education. The 500,000-square-foot space is LEED Silver-certified, GBAC STAR-certified and KultureCity Sensory Inclusive certified. It received the IAVM Education and Service Award and the VenuesNow Excellence in Concessions Award.

As part of Raleigh's Complex of entertainment venues, it helps welcome over 1.3 million visitors every year and sits across from sister venues Red Hat Amphitheater and Martin Marietta Center for the Performing Arts. Explore more at raleighconvention.com.

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