



NEWS RELEASE

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TUCSON CONVENTION CENTER ARENA IMPROVEMENTS TO BEGIN MONDAY

Renovations to the Tucson Convention Center (TCC) Arena are scheduled to begin on Monday, March 10, 2014. The \$7.8 million remodel is funded through the Rio Nuevo Multipurpose Facilities District and was approved by the Rio Nuevo Board on June 25, 2013. The renovations are scheduled to be complete in December 2014. The project management team has worked closely with TCC staff to ensure that scheduled events will not be interrupted by this work.

The project will enhance the fan experience by improving the comfort, functionality, and appearance of the arena. Some of the renovations include upgrading the restrooms, revamping concession stands, developing a new entryway, and improving the lighting and sound systems. Seating capacity will not change, but both fixed and floor seats will be replaced. The new seats will be more comfortable and have cup holders.

"I look forward to the improvements at the TCC, which will make it more accessible and attractive to Tucsonans and visitors alike," said Mayor Jonathan Rothschild.

The project team consists of Rio Nuevo Board members, City of Tucson staff, Concord General Contracting, and Swaim Associates as the Architects.

"Breaking ground on these improvements is a perfect metaphor for our having broken ground on a new and positive relationship with the Rio Nuevo Board. Having both groups working cooperatively together is good for the region, good for the taxpayers and the results of the TCC upgrades will be good for the people who use the facility. We've got a quality project team in place and I'm proud to be a part of this step forward for the City and the surrounding community in general," said Council Member Steve Kozachik.

On February 4, 2014, the Mayor and Council approved an additional \$544,000 for infrastructure improvements which includes ductwork, drain lines, and bathroom fixtures to be made in coordination with the above renovations. In addition, the City has spent \$17.5 million for repairs to carpets, sidewalks, and to modernize elevators and escalators at the TCC over the last year.

Said Rio Nuevo Board Chairman Fletcher McCusker: "We are excited to get this project started and committed to a revitalized arena the city can be proud of."

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The Rio Nuevo Multipurpose Facilities District is a voter authorized special taxing district which receives an incremental portion of State-shared funds derived from transaction privilege taxes or Tax Increment Financing (TIF) Funds. The TIF Funds are to be strategically invested in public and public/private projects in downtown Tucson.

Project updates, including photos and financial information, can be found at <http://rionuevo.org/rio-nuevo-tucson-convention-center/>

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