



Summary of Competitive Convention Center Activity

Las Vegas is far from the only city considering a convention center expansion. A list of major ongoing or recently completed projects is included below, along with details of the project and costs. Added space figures consist of new exhibit, meeting, and ballroom square footage and do not include additional spaces that are be part of the project. In addition to these listed projects that entail additions of exhibit and/or meeting space, other efforts to enhance amenities and infrastructure within “convention center districts” are underway in and around Chicago’s McCormick Place¹, Orlando’s Orange County Convention Center² and Houston’s George R. Brown Convention Center³.

Project details were collected from publicly available sources, including convention authorities, public agencies, and news reports.

Planned and In-Progress Convention Center Expansion Projects

Facility	Status	Project Cost	Added Space
Jacob K. Javits Convention Center , New York, NY ⁴ Announced by New York Governor Andrew Cuomo in January 2016, the project would expand the convention center by 1.2 million square feet, increasing its overall size from 2.1 million square feet to 3.3 million square feet.	Proposed 2016	\$1 billion	722,000 SF
Music City Center , Nashville, TN ⁵ Opened in 2013, the Music City Center was three times larger than existing convention centers in the region. Construction of the facility was funded by a combination of tourism-related taxes and fees.	Completed 2013	\$623 million	518,600 SF
Boston Convention & Exhibition Center , Boston, MA ⁶ The expansion would add 1.2 million square feet to the 2 million-square-foot center. The state legislature approved project bonds in 2014, however, Massachusetts Governor Charlie Baker halted the project in 2015, citing concerns over costs.	Proposed 2014	\$1 billion	510,000 SF
Washington State Convention Center , Seattle, WA ⁷ Proposed in July 2015, the expansion project would add 1.2 million square feet in overall space to the convention center. The project includes co-development of residential units and commercial space.	Proposed 2015	\$1.4 billion	435,000 SF
Los Angeles Convention Center , Los Angeles, CA ⁸ The planned expansion would increase available space to 1.2 million square feet. The city’s economic development committee recently recommended pursuing both the publicly-funded expansion as well as a public-private partnership plan to create a mixed-use development around the convention center campus.	Proposed 2015	\$470 million	373,200 SF
San Diego Convention Center , San Diego, CA ⁹ The expansion has been stalled due to legal challenges over site location and a hotel tax funding mechanism. In February 2016, a competing convention expansion was announced as part of a proposal to build a new downtown football stadium.	Proposed 2010	\$549 million	371,600 SF
Austin Convention Center , Austin, TX ¹⁰ The city is currently weighing the proposal that would nearly double the amount of function space from 366,700 square feet to more than 688,000 square feet. A \$400 million bond proposal could go to voters for approval in late 2016.	Proposed 2015	\$405 million	321,700 SF
Henry B. Gonzalez Convention Center , San Antonio, TX ¹¹ Under construction since February 2013, the expansion is on schedule for completion in late 2016. The project will increase the convention center’s size and features a wraparound balcony overlooking the city’s famous River Walk.	Completion 2016	\$325 million	314,000 SF
Moscone Center , San Francisco, CA ¹² Construction on the expansion project began in May 2015 and is scheduled for completion in late 2018. When finished, the expanded convention center will have more than 1 million square feet of available exhibit space.	Completion 2018	\$500 million	305,000 SF
Aria Convention Center , Las Vegas, NV ¹³ Announced in December 2015, the project will increase the center’s meeting space to more than 500,000 square feet. Construction is scheduled to begin in May 2016 with completion anticipated in February 2018.	Planned 2016	\$154 million	200,000 SF
Anaheim Convention Center , Anaheim, CA ¹⁴ Construction began in April 2015 to add a two-level convention expansion that will push total convention space to more than 1 million square feet. The project includes a 1,350-space parking garage. Completion is expected in summer 2017.	Completion 2017	\$190 million	200,000 SF



Convention Center Project Sources

¹ Chicago

<http://chicago.suntimes.com/politics/7/71/153714/contract-approved-to-build-arenahotel-near-mccormick-place>

² Orlando

<http://www.bizjournals.com/orlando/blog/2015/09/convention-center-reveals-details-on-20-year.html>

³ Houston

<http://www.houstonconventionctr.com/HomePage/PressRoom/TheNewHoustonConventionDistrict.aspx>

⁴ New York

<https://www.governor.ny.gov/news/7th-proposal-governor-cuomos-2016-agenda-dramatic-expansion-jacob-k-javits-center-attract-more>

⁵ Nashville

<http://www.nashvillemusiccitycenter.com/planners>

<http://nashvillecitypaper.com/content/city-news/council-approves-funding-convention-center>

⁶ Boston

<https://www.bostonglobe.com/business/2015/04/29/baker-administration-halts-convention-center-expansion/2VShiTSm1WWiYdTeSOR3xJ/story.html>

http://visitsandiego.com/sites/default/files/Expansion%20Market%20Feasibility%20Analysis%20San%20Diego%20%209_2_2015%20-REVISED.pdf

⁷ Seattle

<http://www.wscaddition.com/facility-details/floor-plans>

<http://www.seattletimes.com/business/real-estate/washington-state-convention-center-plans-to-expand/>

⁸ <http://www.lacclink.com/assets/doc/Expansion-Modernization-FAQ.pdf>

<http://www.latimes.com/opinion/editorials/la-ed-convention-center-20160221-story.html>

<http://la.curbed.com/2016/2/16/11028502/los-angeles-convention-center-redesign-public-private-partnership>

⁹ San Diego

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<http://www.voiceofsandiego.org/topics/land-use/everything-you-need-to-know-about-where-the-convention-center-expansion-stands/>

¹⁰ Austin

<http://www.austintexas.gov/edims/document.cfm?id=242405>

<http://www.austinchronicle.com/news/2015-10-23/pushing-for-expansion/>

¹¹ San Antonio

<http://populous.com/project/henry-b-gonzalez-convention-center/>

<http://www.expressnews.com/business/local/article/Convention-Center-costs-remain-under-budget-6827797.php>

¹² San Francisco

http://visitsandiego.com/sites/default/files/Expansion%20Market%20Feasibility%20Analysis%20San%20Diego%20%209_2_2015%20-REVISED.pdf

<http://www.ktvu.com/news/4669886-story>

¹³ Aria

<http://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/aria-resort--casino-announces-major-convention-center-expansion-to-deliver-unrivaled-meetings--events-experience-300194084.html>

¹⁴ Anaheim

<http://www.venuestoday.com/news/detail/anaheim-convention-center-undergoes-expansion-42815>

<http://www.tsnn.com/news-blogs/anaheim-convention-center-kicks-7th-expansion-project>