



CITY OF DURHAM | NORTH CAROLINA

Date: July 11, 2017

To: Thomas J. Bonfield, City Manager
Through: W. Bowman Ferguson, Deputy City Manager
From: Steven W. Hicks, Director, General Services Department
Subject: Donation of Excess Seating at the Durham Performing Arts Center

Executive Summary

In accordance with the Durham Performing Arts Center (DPAC) capital expenditure plan, DPAC is in the process of replacing 2,712 theater seats. As part of the disposal of the existing seating, General Services requests that the seats be donated to local entities for reuse. 1,041 seats are proposed to be donated to Durham County Schools for use in the Jordan High School Auditorium, replacing seats at the end of their useful life; 330 seats are proposed to be donated to the Town of Fuquay-Varina for use in their Arts Center, currently under construction; and to the Town of Carrboro 180 seats donated for use in their Arts Center. The State of North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources has requested 600 seats to replace old, damaged seating in two separate museum theaters. This accounts for 2,151 of the existing seating, leaving approximately 561 seats as surplus.

Recommendation

The General Services Department recommends City Council approval of the following motions:

To adopt a Resolution Approving Conveyance of Property to Durham County Schools, the Town of Fuquay-Varina, the State of North Carolina, and the Town of Carrboro, Pursuant to NC General Statutes 160A-274 and 280; and

To authorize the City Manager to donate surplus seating from the Durham Performing Arts Center to qualifying entities.

Background

The Durham Performing Arts Center began replacement of the current theater seating in 2016 with the selection and purchase of new seats from the Irwin Seating Company. At that time, General Services began planning the removal and disposal of the existing seating (2,712 installed seating and approximately 100 extra seats). As the seats are in fair condition, it was recommended to explore donating the seating, in-whole or in-part, to another City/County entity where they could be repurposed. If none were identified, the seating would either be donated to an outside entity or disposed of per City guidelines.

General Services has investigated re-selling the seating; contacted the Carolina Theatre and looked at other City Departments for possible uses.

Several entities approached Staff requesting the surplus seating. Durham County Schools has requested replacement seating for Jordan High School's Auditorium. The Towns of Fuquay-Varina and Carrboro have requested seating for their Arts Centers, and the North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources requested seating for two of their Museum Theaters. The State is reviewing the logistics of accepting the seating, and if they are unable to accept the donation within the required timeframe the City will dispose of the seats by other means.

Issues and Analysis

The replacement of the seating is in accordance with the DPAC capital expenditure plan, and will provide a higher standard of seating, in compliance with the standards set by Nederlander, the theater operator. City Staff is working closely with the replacement seating contractor and proposed donees for a seamless process to eliminate the need for storage of surplus seating and associated costs.

Alternatives

As City property the seating can be surplused and sold through a competitive bid process through www.Gov.Deals in accordance with City guidelines. However, there is no guarantee the seating will be sold in a reasonable time period, or that an acceptable Bid will be received. During such time the City would need to expend funds to collect, move and store the seating until properly disposed. Surplus seating estimated value is between \$50.00 and \$100.00 per seat based upon an initial cost of \$236.00 per seat.

This alternative would be pursued should the donation recommendation not be accepted.

Financial Impact

There is no Financial Impact to the City for the donation of the seating.

Funds would need to be provided from the DPAC Fund to cover these costs if incurred:

FUNDING SOURCES	
DPAC Fund	\$ 11,600.00
Total:	\$ 11,600.00

PROJECT COSTS	
Item 1 Contract with Moving & Storage Company to collect and move seating	\$ 4,800.00
Item 2 Contract for storage of seating (\$800/month)	\$ 4,800.00

Contingency

\$ 2,000.00

Total: \$ 11,600.00

Attachments:

Attachment A – DPAC Plan showing seating for DPS: Jordan High School

Attachment B – DPAC Plan showing seating for Fuquay-Varina Arts Center

Attachment C – DPAC Seating Resolution – 160A-280