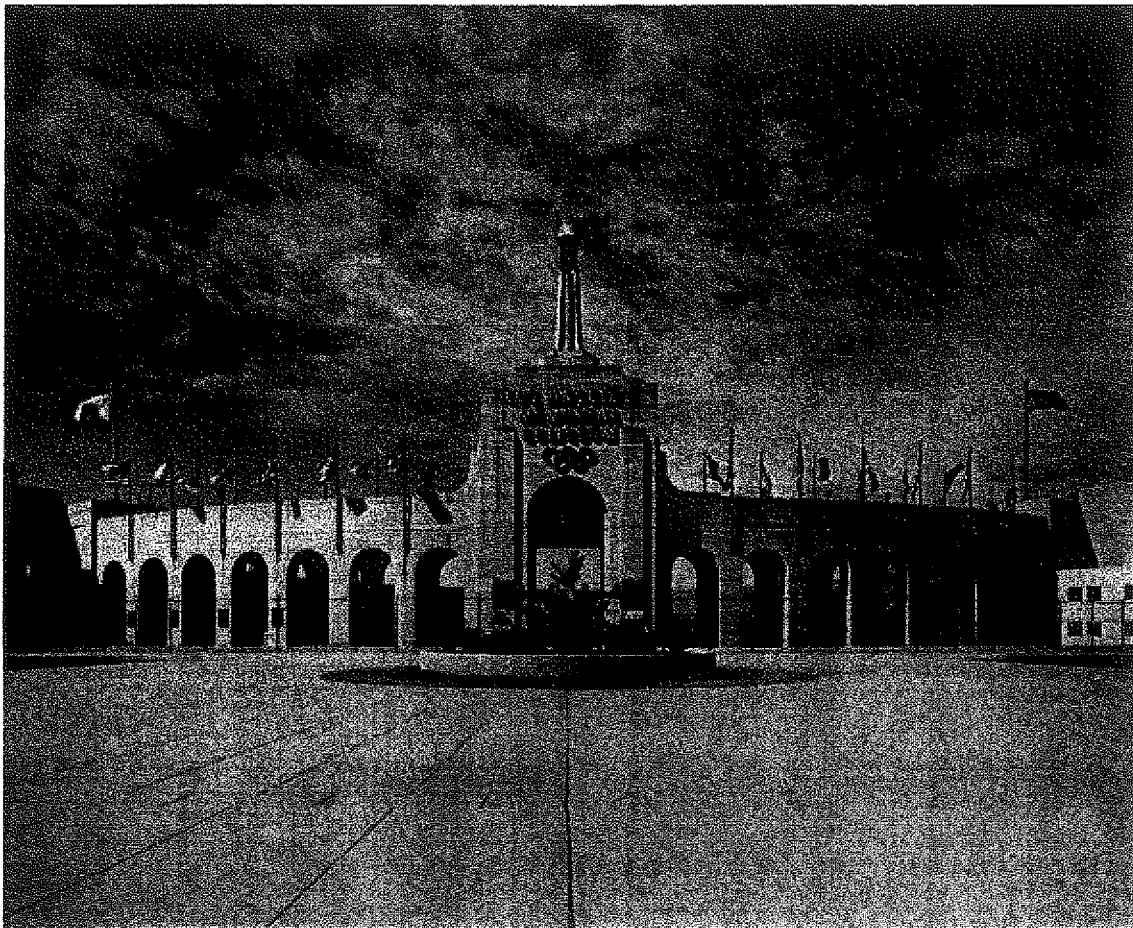


The Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum Renovation



Summary Report for the Cultural Heritage Commission

September 21, 2005

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II. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This EIR has been prepared under the supervision and direction of the Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum Commission ("Coliseum Commission") in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)¹ and the Guidelines for Implementation of CEQA (State CEQA Guidelines)², as amended. The Coliseum Commission is the Lead Agency for the EIR pursuant to CEQA.

This Executive Summary provides a brief description of the Proposed Project, a summary of the potential environmental impacts, mitigation measures, and levels of impact after mitigation.

PROJECT LOCATION

The Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum ("Coliseum") occupies a 27.4-acre parcel of land within the boundaries of the Exposition Park Master Plan Area. Exposition Park is located approximately two miles southwest of the downtown Los Angeles area and encompasses a total of 160 acres. Exposition Park is bounded by Exposition Boulevard to the north, Figueroa Street on the east, Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard on the south, and Vermont Avenue on the west. The Coliseum is generally situated in the center of Exposition Park. The 27.4-acre parcel of land that includes the Coliseum and the areas immediately surrounding the Coliseum define the "Project Site."

Other land uses immediately adjacent to the Project Site include grass-covered athletic fields and surface parking for Exposition Park facilities across Menlo Avenue to the west, the Los Angeles Memorial Sports Arena and adjacent surface parking across South Coliseum Drive to the southeast, and the California Science Center and the Los Angeles County Museum of Natural History across North Coliseum Drive to the north. All of these adjacent facilities are also within Exposition Park. All of Exposition Park, including the Coliseum, is located within the City of Los Angeles in the City's South Central Los Angeles District Plan area.

PROJECT CHARACTERISTICS

The Proposed Project would reduce the Coliseum's existing maximum seating capacity from 92,500 persons for all events to approximately 78,000 persons. The renovation includes the addition of approximately 200 luxury suites and two approximately 20,000-square-foot structures outside of the stadium for ancillary retail or office use. The NFL and USC Trojans football teams would be the primary tenants of the Coliseum, holding all of their home games in the stadium. Other events that would be held

¹ State of California Public Resources Code Section 21000 et. seq.

² California Code of Regulations (CCR), Title 14, Sections 15000 et seq.

at the renovated Coliseum would include those already occurring such as international soccer matches, off-road vehicle events, public speaking events, political rallies, and concert performances.

The existing exterior wall of the Coliseum would remain virtually intact and existing ancillary structures would be removed. The Peristyle end of the Coliseum would remain intact, along with the adjacent Coliseum Commission offices. New press facilities would be integrated into the upper suite level, eliminating the press box that currently extends above the exterior wall of the seating bowl. The interior of the renovated Coliseum would continue to feature the Peristyle as the dominant architectural element in the east end of the bowl. The color video board, black and white matrix boards and sound clusters that are currently attached to the top of the Peristyle would be removed and relocated to other areas of the stadium. Pedestrian access to the Project Site would continue to remain substantially as at present from the outlying parking areas off-site. The existing perimeter fence bordering the Peristyle area of the Coliseum would be removed, providing increased general public open space areas immediately surrounding the Coliseum. No major alterations to the existing parking arrangement(s) at the Coliseum are contemplated as part of the Proposed Project.

The Proposed Project would be constructed over an approximate 18 to 20-month period. Current plans call for the commencement of construction activities in 2004 with completion of the renovations to be achieved by 2006.

SUMMARY OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

Unavoidable Significant Environmental Impacts

The Proposed Project would result in significant unavoidable environmental impacts for the following environmental issue areas:

- Air Quality (construction and operational),
- Cultural and Historic Resources, and
- Traffic

Refer to Section VI.A, Unavoidable Significant Environmental Impacts, in the Draft EIR for a detailed discussion on each of these impact areas. A summary of the findings of the analysis and mitigation measures to reduce the potential impacts to the maximum extent feasible as are summarized below.

Air Quality

Construction

Construction of the Project would generate pollution emissions from the following activities: (1) demolition activities; (2) grading operations; (3) travel by construction workers to and from the Project Site; (4) delivery and hauling of construction materials and supplies to and from the Project Site; (5)

fuel combustion from on-site construction equipment; and (6) the application of architectural coatings and other building materials that release reactive organic compounds (ROC). Based on the above fugitive dust generation factors, and assuming earthwork activities include disturbance to the entire Project Site, such activities would generate approximately 279.48 lbs/day of fugitive dust with the use of BACMs. This is above the SCAQMD's threshold criteria of 150 lbs/day; thus the project's fugitive dust emissions would result in a significant impact. Various forms of tractors and diesel equipment will be used during the demolition, excavation and site preparation phase of the project. Emissions associated with these phases of project construction would not exceed SCAQMD thresholds for ROG or SOx criteria pollutants; however the thresholds would be exceeded for NOx CO, and PM₁₀. These exceedances would be considered significant.

Operations

Future operational emissions are estimated based on the maximum seating capacity of 78,000. Future attendance under both scenarios would be below the maximum attendance capacity of the existing Coliseum, thus vehicle trips and associated air emissions would be reduced as compared to a sold out event at the existing Coliseum. Mobile source emissions would exceed SCAQMD thresholds for ROG, NOx, CO and PM₁₀ emissions. The threshold would not be exceeded for SOx emissions.

Localized carbon monoxide emissions and/or concentrations from Coliseum events would continue to exceed these thresholds and the one-hour standard and would be considered significant impacts. To provide a context for the assessment of the impact, it should be noted that this is and would continue to be an infrequent occurrence -- concentrated in the hour preceding and following a Coliseum event. On an annual basis, this would mean that carbon monoxide hot spots would be generated at least 78 hours out of a total of 8,760 hours during the year, or less than one percent of the time. Regardless of the frequency, however, the California Ambient Air Quality Standards dictate that any exceedance of a standard for any amount of time must be considered significant. Therefore, the operational impacts of the Proposed Project would result in a significant impact.

AQMP Consistency

The renovation of the Coliseum would continue the current and historic use of the Coliseum and would reduce the maximum seating capacity on an event-by-event basis. As such, the Project would be consistent with growth forecasts adopted by the City and therefore consistent with the local City of Los Angeles General Plan. The Project is therefore consistent with the AQMP.

Mitigation Measures

The following measures are recommended to reduce short-term impacts related to construction activities. Mitigation measures shall be included in all contracts between the applicant and Project contractors to assure compliance with the following:

1. Haul trucks shall be staged on-site in the vacant parking areas within Exposition Park. Haul truck staging plan shall be subject to review by the City of Los Angeles Department of Building and Safety and the Department of Transportation. Trucks shall be called to the site by radio dispatch.
2. Diesel-powered equipment shall be located as far away as possible from sensitive land uses and areas. Specifically, diesel compressors, pumps and other stationary machinery shall be located to the extent feasible on the south side of the Coliseum or within the interior of Coliseum to avoid air pollution impacts on passive recreational spaces in Exposition Park (such as the area north of the Coliseum and south of the museum complex).
3. Grading activities shall be restricted on exceedingly windy days (winds in excess of 25 MPH) when fugitive dust emissions are likely to be carried off-site. All truck loads of export debris shall be covered or shall provide at least 2 feet of freeboard.
4. Ground wetting shall be required in accordance with SCAQMD Rule 403 for dust control during grading and construction.
5. Contractors shall cover any stockpiles of soil, sand and similar materials.
6. Equipment engines shall be maintained in proper tune.
7. Construction equipment shall be shut off to reduce idling when not in direct use for extended periods of time.
8. Contractors shall discontinue construction activities during second-stage smog alerts.

The following measures are recommended to reduce emissions from long-term mobile sources:

9. To reduce the traffic-related air quality impact on the affected intersections, the Project shall implement the required traffic management measures described in Section IV.C.6 of this report, Traffic, Parking, and Access.

Level of Impact After Mitigation

With the implementation of the mitigation measures described above, daily construction emissions would still exceed threshold criteria established by the SCAQMD for ROG, CO, SO_x and NO_x emissions. PM₁₀ emissions would be reduced to below the significance thresholds and would therefore be less than significant.

Implementation of the mitigation measures described above would reduce the Project's operational air quality emissions. However, for maximum-attendance Coliseum events, the amount of reduction achieved by the mitigation measures would not be sufficient to reduce impacts to acceptable levels.

Cultural and Historic Resources

The Coliseum is designated as a National Historic Landmark, a State Historical Landmark, and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places (National Register). It should also be noted that the Coliseum is listed as a National Historic Landmark because of the events that have occurred there and that the stadium itself has been a backdrop to these events. Most of the alterations of the Proposed Project preserve the historic character-defining features of the Coliseum. The Proposed Project retains and enhances the character-defining features of the Coliseum. A few elements will be covered over by new construction, and an even smaller number of features will be removed.

The Proposed Project will update the Coliseum and make it economically viable while keeping consistent its use as a sports facility, thus there will be no impact on its historic designations. Its historic use is largely why it has been designated a National and State landmark, and this rehabilitation will guarantee that historic use can continue in the future. The proposed rehabilitation meets all of The Secretary of Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation and Guidelines for Rehabilitating Historic Structures (The Standards) except for the removal of the seating at some locations. The removal of some of the existing seating, considered to be part of the historic fabric of the Coliseum, is a significant impact and cannot be feasibly mitigated. The exterior of the Coliseum will be returned to its former appearance, and the Peristyle will be restored and enhanced with the removal of the large electronic scoreboards.

Mitigation Measures

The following mitigation measures are recommended to reduce the Proposed Project's impact upon historic resources. Mitigation measures shall be included in all contracts between the applicant and Project contractors to assure compliance with the following:

1. Recordation. Demolition of any historic fabric shall be documented in a report consistent with Historic American Buildings Survey (HABS) standards. The report shall document the significance and physical condition of the historic resources proposed for demolition, both historic and current, photographs, written data, and text. The documentation shall include:
 - a. A brief written historic and descriptive report shall be completed in narrative format, including an architectural data form.
 - b. A site plan on 8" x 11" paper showing the location of the buildings should be included. This site plan shall include a photo-key.
 - c. A sketch floor plan on 8" x 11" paper shall accompany each architectural data form.
 - d. Large format (4" x 5" or larger negative size) photographs in accordance with HABS guidelines. Views shall include several contextual views, all exterior elevations, detailed views of significant exterior architectural features, and interior views of

significant historical architectural features or spaces.

- e. Field photographs (35mm) based on HABS guidelines. Views as detailed in large format photographs.
 - f. The report shall include copies or prints of any available original plans and historic photographs.
 - g. Archival stable reproductions of any available significant historic construction drawings and photographs.
 - h. Archival copies of the documentation shall be submitted to the Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum Commission.
2. In accordance with Standard 7 of the *Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties with Guidelines for Preserving, Rehabilitating, Restoring and Reconstructing Historic Buildings*, the surface cleaning of structures shall be undertaken with the gentlest means possible. Sandblasting and other cleaning materials that will damage the historic building materials shall not be undertaken.
3. The Proposed Project shall be constructed in substantial compliance with the Conceptual Historic Fabric Retention Plan, as depicted in Figure III-3 of this EIR.

Level of Impact After Mitigation

As a result of the Proposed Project, there is no specific mitigation for the loss of historic materials, primarily the removal of portions of the seating. Other alterations to the Coliseum either improve the character-defining features or could be reversed in the future. Therefore, an unavoidable adverse impact is created through the removal of some original seating.

Traffic, Access, and Parking

Traffic and Access

In consultation with the City of Los Angeles Department of Transportation, the Project Traffic Study evaluated 26 intersections in the vicinity of the Coliseum. The study evaluated the Proposed Project's traffic impacts using the City's established significance criteria and applied to three separate scenarios (1) Weekend Pre-Event Peak Hour, (2) Weekend Post-Event Peak Hour, and (3) weeknight Pre-Event Week Hour. The weekend traffic scenarios were based on actual traffic counts taken at a weekend Coliseum event with an attendance of approximately 87,944 persons. The Proposed Project will reduce the maximum seating capacity of the Coliseum to approximately 78,000 persons, thus the impacts projected in this analysis represent a worst-case scenario. The results of the Traffic Impact Study are

summarized as follows concluded that during the Weekend Pre-Event Peak Hour, eight of the 26 study intersections would be significantly impacted. These intersections include:

- Figueroa Street and Adams Boulevard
- I-110 NB Ramps/Hill Street and Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard
- Vermont Avenue and Jefferson Boulevard
- Normandie Avenue and Jefferson Boulevard
- Vermont Avenue and Adams Boulevard
- Normandie Avenue and Adams Boulevard
- Normandie Avenue and I-10 EB ramps
- Vermont Avenue and I-10 WB ramps

During the Weekend Post-Event Peak Hour, 6 of the 26 intersections would suffer significant impacts. These intersections include:

- I-110 NB Ramps/Hill Street and Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard
- Vermont Avenue and Jefferson Boulevard
- Normandie Avenue and Jefferson Boulevard
- Vermont Avenue and Adams Boulevard
- Normandie Avenue and Adams Boulevard
- Vermont Avenue and I-10 WB ramps

The weeknight Coliseum event scenario was evaluated to consider the occurrence of a Monday or Thursday night NFL game. It should be prefaced, however, that the occurrence of a weeknight NFL game would occur at most only once in any given season. A weekday game would not likely occur each and every season. The Traffic Impact Study concluded that the weeknight event scenario would result in significant traffic impacts at 23 of the 26 study intersections, including:

- Figueroa Street and Adams Boulevard
- Figueroa Street and Jefferson Boulevard
- Flower Street and Exposition Boulevard
- Figueroa Street and Exposition Boulevard & 37th Street
- Figueroa Street and 38th Place/Flower Street
- I-110 HOV Ramps and 39th Street
- Figueroa Street and 39th Street/Coliseum Drive
- I-110 Northbound Ramps/Hill Street and Martin Luther King Junior Boulevard
- Figueroa Street and Martin Luther King Junior Boulevard
- Hoover Street and Martin Luther King Junior Boulevard
- Vermont Avenue and Martin Luther King Junior Boulevard

- Vermont Avenue and 39th Street
- Vermont Avenue and Exposition Boulevard
- Normandie Avenue and Martin Luther King Junior Boulevard
- Normandie Avenue and Exposition Boulevard
- Vermont Avenue and Jefferson Boulevard
- Normandie Avenue and Jefferson Boulevard
- Vermont Avenue and Adams Boulevard
- Normandie Avenue and Adams Boulevard
- Vermont Avenue and I-10 eastbound ramps
- Normandie Avenue and I-10 eastbound ramps
- Vermont Avenue and I-10 westbound ramps
- Normandie Avenue and I-10 westbound ramps

Congestion Management Program

Based on the threshold criteria of the CMP, it was determined that the Proposed Project would impact both of the CMP monitoring stations: the I-10 freeway monitoring station at Budlong Avenue and the I-110 freeway monitoring station at Slauson Avenue.

Mitigation Measures

In order to mitigate the traffic and access impacts created by the Proposed Project, the Project Applicant will collaborate with LADOT, LAPD, California Department of Transportation, and California Highway Patrol on implementation of a traffic management plan. The following are mitigation measures that shall be implemented in order to reduce potentially significant impacts to less than significant levels:

1. To facilitate movement of vehicles, the LAPD and LADOT staff shall have the authority to implement turn restrictions, parking prohibitions, lane closures, barriers/cones, and flexible signage. There shall be a temporary command post available on the site to control and monitor traffic conditions. The area shall be split up into zones, with an engineer assigned to each zone. These engineers would have the authority to react to situations and change restrictions if necessary.
2. Electronic ticketing shall replace parking guards at problem area lots and traffic signs on adjacent Coliseum streets to minimize parking lot back-up. In addition, season and regular ticket holders could be issued speed passes and assigned parking at specific lots.
3. Real time radio alerts and broadcasts via Highway Advisory Radio (HAR) shall be located where LADOT deems appropriate.

4. In conjunction with the aforementioned measures, Changeable Message Signs (CMS) shall be used to direct vehicles from the freeways and surface streets to the Coliseum/USC parking lots. At least eight or more signs would be needed for results to be noticeable and coordinated.
5. Project implementation shall include the development of a carpool incentive system to reduce the number of overall vehicle trips.
6. Alternate parking sites located away from the Coliseum shall be made available, as well as transportation to and from these parking areas and the Coliseum.
7. Existing turn prohibitions, as illustrated in Figure V.I.1-13 of the Draft EIR, shall remain in place on game days.

CMP Mitigation Measures

As mentioned in the previous chapter, the NFL football games at the Coliseum are projected to happen occasionally during the weekday p.m. peak hour. It would again be more appropriate to utilize an incident management plan that incorporates the I-10 and the I-110. The proposed management plans are incorporated in the above mitigation measures. The aim is to facilitate the movement of game day traffic and to relieve as much pressure as is feasible on the street network approaching the Coliseum.

Level of Impact After Mitigation

Intersections

It should be noted that, while the proposed mitigation measures reduce the project's impacts to less than significant levels and improve forecast future traffic operations at both intersections, they are short-term measures designed to address current needs. The implementation of the above mentioned mitigation measures will reduce project impacts to less than significant levels.

CMP

The CMP monitoring stations affected by the Proposed Project are currently operating at LOS F during the weekday pre-event hour. With the development of the Proposed Project and the LOS at the two freeway monitoring stations would remain at LOS F. However, the mitigation measures above, as coordinated into an incident management, plan will reduce the project's design to capacity (D/C) ratio, thus reducing the level of impact to less than significant.

Effects Found Not to be Significant

The following environmental impact or issue areas were determined to have less than significant impacts and would not require analysis or mitigation: Agricultural Resources, Biological Resources, Hazards and Hazardous Materials, Mineral Resources, and Population and Housing. Refer to Section

VI.C, Effects Found Not to be Significant, in the Draft EIR for discussion on each of these impact areas.

The EIR included a detailed discussion of the following environmental issue areas and concluded that Project impacts to these issue areas would be less than significant and therefore warranted no mitigation measures: Aesthetics, Land Use, Public Services (Fire Protection), Public Utilities (Electricity and Natural Gas), Public Utilities (Sanitary Sewers and Solid Waste), and Parking. A summary of each of these issues is provided below.

Aesthetics

Impact on the Visual Character of the Site and Locale

The Proposed Project would renovate the interior of the Coliseum, altering its existing interior appearance but keeping the historically significant exterior fabric intact. The separation of the stadium's seating into three main sections would effectively change the perception of the existing stadium as a homogeneous symmetrical, elliptical bowl. The addition of a new upper seating deck above the new suite levels and horizontally positioned closer to the field could create the general effect of a smaller, less expansive stadium. The overall alteration of the interior of the Coliseum would be considered a significant visual change. From an aesthetic point of view, this change could be considered either adverse or beneficial. In keeping the exterior facade intact and retaining as much of the original seating fabric as possible, the existing portions of the seating areas would remain visible behind the new seating areas from the main concourse and club level areas. As a result, the Coliseum would retain its historic image and feel within a modern state-of-the art sports venue.

Alterations to Viewsheds

Impacts to views of the Project Site from north to south, from south to north, from west to east, and from east to west would not be considered adverse or significant. Views of the Coliseum from west to east would be opened by the removal of ancillary structures and the surrounding gate. The Coliseum's existing facade would continue to be prominent in the foreground and virtually unchanged. Impacts to viewsheds from surrounding areas are expected to be neither adverse nor significant.

Light and Glare

A detailed lighting system has not yet been designed for the Proposed Project. However, the Proposed Project includes the incorporation of a tensile fabric roof canopy facing inward along the north and south sides of the stadium with floodlights attached to the roof to illuminate the field. As the floodlight design of the Proposed Project directs lighting more accurately than the existing lighting system, a significant beneficial reduction in the amount of light projected onto adjacent properties would result as compared to existing conditions. Thus, the *magnitude* of direct light and glare from the field lighting will be reduced significantly with implementation of the Proposed Project.

Land Use

Development of the Proposed Project would modify various aspects of the Coliseum, but would continue the site's existing character of use. As a result, the Project would facilitate the continuance of existing uses, which are considered to be physically compatible with the surrounding environment with respect to traffic, access and parking, noise and demands on public services (i.e., Police and Fire). Implementation of the project would maintain the existing physically compatible aspects of the Coliseum resulting from its location in Exposition Park. It is anticipated that the Proposed Project would secure the continued long-term utilization of the Coliseum at or near historic levels, and facilitate the land use objectives of the Exposition Park Master Plan, the South Los Angeles Community Plan, and the Hoover Redevelopment Plan with respect to promoting revitalization of the Park and preserving cultural monuments. Therefore, land use compatibility impacts would be less than significant.

Public Services - Fire Protection

Development of the Proposed Project would not be expected to alter the existing administrative fire protection procedures currently in place at the Coliseum and in the immediately surrounding area. According to the LAFD, the Proposed Project would not require any changes to the existing fire-flow conditions. Since the Coliseum is an existing use, the required fire flow is currently maintained at an acceptable level. Impacts to fire protection services are therefore considered less than significant.

Public Utilities -Energy Conservation

Electricity

Electricity consumed by the Proposed Project would be approximately 63,323 kilowatt hours (kWh) per event, and 1,317 kWh per day on non-event days. On event and non-event days the Proposed ancillary uses are expected to consume approximately 1,419 kWh per day. Annually, the Proposed Project will consume approximately 3.4 million kWh (based on 46 events per year and ancillary use daily throughout the year). This represents an increase of approximately 1.2 million kWh per year over existing conditions. The ability of the DWP's regional infrastructure to deliver the peak electrical requirement to the site would not be expected to be severely affected by implementation of the Proposed Project. However, additional power facilities could be required in order to serve the load growth associated with the Proposed Project. Such improvements could be made with minimal impact upon the surrounding land uses. Impacts to electricity infrastructure and supply are therefore expected to be less than significant.

Natural Gas

Natural gas consumption by the Proposed Project was estimated using the amount of electricity currently consumed on the Project Site and projecting an increase in up to 12 additional football games per year. Natural gas consumed by the Proposed Project would be approximately 33,835 cf per event. The proposed ancillary uses would consume approximately 2,630 cf of natural gas per day. Annually, the Proposed Project would be anticipated to consume approximately 2.3 million cf (based on stadium

consumption during 46 events per year and ancillary use daily throughout the year). This represents an increase of approximately 1.3 million cf of natural gas per year over existing conditions. The ability of the Southern California Gas Company's regional infrastructure to deliver the peak natural gas requirement to the site would not be expected to be severely affected by implementation of the Proposed Project. Project impacts to natural gas services are expected to be less than significant.

No significant impacts upon electricity or natural gas resources or infrastructure systems have been identified, thus no mitigation measures are required. Nevertheless, the LADWP recommends the following measures be incorporated into the final design as feasible, to reduce the Project's demands for energy resources.

1. During the design process, the applicant should consult with the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power, Efficiency Solutions Business Group, regarding possible energy efficiency measures. The applicant shall incorporate measures to meet or, if possible, exceed minimum efficiency standards for Title XXIV of the California Code of Regulations.

Public Utilities - Sanitary Sewers

The Proposed Project would be estimated to generate approximately 390,000 gallons of sewage per event, assuming maximum attendance at all Coliseum events. Ancillary structures will generate approximately 6,000 gallons of wastewater per day. It should be noted that the maximum possible sewage consumption from the site experienced during any Coliseum event could be reduced from projected levels upon implementation of the Proposed Project. This reduction would be accomplished through the installation of a more water-efficient infrastructure and fixtures which could result in a reduction in the average per-person per-event sewage generation. Sewage generated by the project would continue to flow to the Hyperion Treatment Plant, which will have adequate capacity to accommodate the increase in wastewater flows. The City of Los Angeles Department of Public Works, Bureau of Sanitation has determined that impacts on City of Los Angeles sewer services by the Proposed Project will be less than significant, assuming maximum capacity conditions.³

Public Utilities - Solid Waste

The Proposed Project is anticipated to generate approximately 1,860,671 pounds (or approximately 930 tons) of solid waste per year. Existing uses on the site generate approximately 837,071 pounds (or approximately 419 tons) of solid waste per year. Therefore, implementation of the Proposed Project would generate a net increase of approximately 1,023,600 pounds (or approximately 512 tons) per event. Development of the Proposed Project could potentially result in an approximate 23 % increase in the volume of solid waste generated by the Coliseum. Since the Proposed Project represents a relatively low increase in annual solid waste generation at the Project Site as compared to existing

³ City of Los Angeles, Department of Public Works, Bureau of Sanitation, July 29, 2003.

conditions, and regional landfill capacity is currently adequate to accommodate the regional solid waste demands for the City of Los Angeles, impacts associated with the Proposed Project would be considered less than significant.

Parking

The Proposed Project does not include any major changes to existing parking facilities at the Coliseum, Exposition Park, or the USC Campus, which are all currently available to meet the parking demand of existing Coliseum events. Reduced seating capacity at the Coliseum for NFL games would result in a reduction in the demand for off-site parking, on-street parking in residential areas or in off-street small private lots, as well as a reduction in the amount of congestion associated with people searching for parking. In addition to all the existing parking around the Coliseum, a subterranean parking structure is being constructed adjacent to the California Science Center. Utilization of this structure would further reduce impacts upon parking demand. Currently, the Coliseum has the potential to generate parking demands on the order of 27,407 spaces. This is currently met by a cumulative parking availability of 19,820 parking spaces at the Coliseum, within Exposition Park and on the USC Campus. The remaining cars generally park off-site in the neighborhoods to the west and south of the Coliseum. The Proposed Project will decrease the demand for parking spaces by approximately 2,207 spaces and will be served by additional 2,160 spaces. As such the Project will experience a net increase in parking availability by approximately 4,367 spaces or 15% percent as compared to the existing conditions. Thus, impacts associated with parking availability are expected to be less than significant. Mitigation measures to address parking, access and traffic impacts are included under the traffic discussion presented below under the subheading "Impacts Determined to Result in Unavoidable Significant Environmental Impacts."

Impacts Determined to be Potentially Significant, but Can be Mitigated to Less Than Significant Levels

Based upon the environmental characteristics of the Proposed Project Site and surrounding areas, and the characteristics of the Proposed Project, implementation of the Proposed Project could create significant environmental impacts in the following areas: Geology/Seismic Hazards, Noise, Public Services (Police Protection), and Public Utilities (Water Conservation). These issues were examined in detail in the EIR and the findings of the analysis are summarized below for each issue.

Geology/Seismic Hazards

Implementation of the Proposed Project would result in the excavation and removal from the site of approximately 250,000 cubic yards of soil and demolition debris material.

Geology

Impacts associated with implementation of the Proposed Project on the site's geologic formations, inclusive of the near surface alluvial deposits, are expected to be minimal. Laboratory testing indicated that the surface soils within the foundation area of the proposed development are not expansive, collapsible, or compressible. Therefore, implementation of the Proposed Project is not expected to produce any adverse impacts relative to non-seismic geotechnical issues.

Grading and Excavation

Dust raised during grading would have an incremental short-term adverse impact on local and regional air quality. In addition, the excavation and hauling of earth materials would temporarily increase noise levels in the immediate area for the expected 18 to 20 month duration of Project construction activities. Discarded building and/or earth materials containing any hazardous materials, primarily asbestos, would be disposed of in accordance with all applicable local, state, and federal regulations.

Groundwater

Groundwater is not expected to be encountered during grading or construction; however, perched groundwater or saturated soil conditions may exist in scattered areas underneath the site. Implementation of the Proposed Project is not expected to produce any adverse impacts relative to groundwater.

Liquefaction

Due to the depth of the groundwater table and the relatively high density of the soils underlying the site area, the potential for soil liquefaction is considered very remote. Therefore, the Proposed Project would not be subject to significant impacts caused by seismically-induced liquefaction.

Seismicity

Since no known or mapped active, potentially active, or inactive faults, if projected, would trend toward or directly through the Project Site area, and the Coliseum does not lie in an Alquist-Priolo Special Study Zone, impacts associated with implementation of the Proposed Project relative to the seismic displacement of structures on the site would be less than significant.

Ground Shaking

Eleven faults were identified that could influence the site relative to earthquake ground shaking. Additional faults outside the local area, such as the San Andreas would also have the potential to create moderately strong ground motion effects in the project area. A significant impact posing an increased threat to public safety or destruction of property by ground shaking is not expected to occur with the development of the Proposed Project. Construction practices in strict compliance with the Uniform Building Code would reduce these inherent risks to acceptable standards. Impacts associated with seismic hazards would be less than significant.

Mitigation Measures

The following mitigation measures are required in order to effect a reduction in the severity of potential on-site impacts:

1. All structures to be constructed or renovated as part of the Proposed Project shall be designed as required by either the Uniform Building Code for structures within Seismic Zone 4, or other pertinent State and/or City building codes (such as Division 23, Section 91.2305 of the City of Los Angeles Building Code), to withstand the expected ground motions.
2. A comprehensive geotechnical investigation shall be prepared to the satisfaction of the responsible State and/or City reviewing agencies. The investigation shall verify the soil conditions under the proposed structures and derive the pile capacities.
3. All grading activities shall be in compliance with specific recommendations and requirements provided in the geotechnical report prepared for the Proposed Project, subject to review and approval by the appropriate State and/or City responsible agencies.
4. A copy of the foundation report and/or supplements and approval letter shall be attached to the State and/or City office and field sets of plans, with one copy of the foundation report and/or supplements submitted to the State and/or City plan checker prior to the issuance of the permit.
5. During construction, all grading shall be carefully observed, mapped, and tested by the project engineer. All grading shall be performed under the supervision of a certified engineering geologist and/or soils engineer in accordance with the applicable provisions of the State and/or City Building Codes to the satisfaction of the State and/or City building and safety authorities. The responsible engineer shall review and approve the foundation plan and/or the excavation/shoring plan prior to the issuance of any permits.
6. Artificial fills in the existing 35-foot earth berm shall not be considered suitable for the support of foundations unless excavated, recompact, and tested to be in compliance with the applicable State and/or City Grading Codes.
7. The geologist or the soils engineer shall inspect and approve all fill and subdrain placement areas prior to placing fill.
8. Haul route approval for the transport of graded and excavated earth materials and removed building materials to receptor sites and/or local landfills shall be obtained from the City of Los Angeles Department of Building and Safety and/or other responsible City agencies. Haul routes for the transport of such materials shall be established, where possible, through non-residential areas so as to minimize the effects of noise, and shall maximize, where possible, the distance traveled on major arterials.

9. Discarded building and/or earth materials containing any hazardous materials, primarily asbestos, shall be disposed of in accordance with all applicable local, state, and federal regulations.
10. To the maximum extent feasible, uncontaminated graded materials shall be transported off-site to a receptor site needing imported fill material. Landfills shall only be considered as a last resort disposal option for materials from the site.
11. Prior to the issuance of building permits, if the soils and/or perched groundwater beneath the site are found to be contaminated, the City of Los Angeles Fire Department shall be notified and provided with a summary of all local, state, county, and federally required remediation activities and submit evidence of compliance.
12. Where encountered on the site, perched groundwater or saturated soils should be removed to the extent feasible or necessary.
13. During the construction plan and haul route approval process, the project contractor shall consult with the LAUSD Transportation Branch (tel: (323) 342-1400), to address potential impacts upon existing pedestrian and school bus routes. Contractors must guarantee that safe and convenient pedestrian routes to school are maintained. The project contractor shall install appropriate traffic controls (signs and signals) as needed to ensure pedestrian and vehicular safety. The project contractor shall fund crossing guards for safety of students, as needed, during construction activities at impacted crossings.

Level of Impact After Mitigation

Implementation of the recommended mitigation measures would reduce, but not eliminate, impacts to local landfills from the disposal of earth and building materials. With implementation of the foregoing mitigation measures, project construction and operation impacts would be mitigated to less than significant levels.

Noise

Construction-Related Noise

Construction noise levels inside the Coliseum would be reduced by the Coliseum wall to approximately 79 dBA at a distance of 50 feet from the source. Noise generated by the demolition of the outbuildings and other landscaping improvements outside the Coliseum would not be attenuated, as there are no intervening structures or obstacles separating the Coliseum grounds from the rest of Exposition Park. Some of the sensitive receptors located within Exposition Park are within 100 feet of the proposed active construction areas and will experience significant noise levels (above 75 dBA). Off-site construction noise will likely result from the ingress and egress of haul trucks used to transport

excavated materials. This would result in a relatively short-term and temporary noise impact for some sensitive receptors.

Coliseum Event Noise

The design for the stadium would include a distributed sound system including hundreds of small sound speakers throughout the stadium and concourse areas. As the project involves the renovation of an existing recreational facility that already creates significant noise impacts, and the project would not increase the intensity of crowds or number of events per year, the project's operational noise impacts would be less than significant.

Noise from Event Traffic

It is anticipated that the average attendance at Coliseum events would decrease as a result of the renovation. The decrease in attendance would, in all likelihood, result in a corresponding decrease in vehicle traffic. It is not expected that the reduced level of traffic would have a significant noise reduction impact because the decrease in traffic volume is not great enough to produce discernible noise reduction. However, as stated above, since the project involves the renovation of an existing recreational facility that already creates significant noise impacts, and the project would not increase the intensity of crowds or number of events per year, the project's operational noise impacts from event traffic would be less than significant.

Mitigation Measures

1. The Applicant shall comply with the construction hours as specified by the City LAMC Noise Ordinance, Chapter IV, Section 41.40., which prohibits construction before 7:00 a.m. or after 6:00 p.m. Monday through Friday, before 8:00 a.m. or after 6:00 p.m. on Saturday or any national holiday, and at anytime on Sunday.
2. The Applicant shall prepare a construction-related traffic plan detailing proposed haul routes and staging areas for the transportation of materials and equipment, with consideration for sensitive uses in the neighborhood. A traffic and parking plan for the construction phase will be submitted for approval by LADOT and the Department of Building and Safety prior to the issuance of any permits.
3. Adjacent museums and residents shall be given regular notification of major construction activities and their durations. A visible and readable sign (at a distance of 50 feet) shall be posted on the construction site identifying a telephone number where residents can inquire about the construction process and register complaints.
4. During construction, the project contractors shall muffle and shield intakes and exhaust, shroud and shield impact tools, and use electric-powered rather than diesel-powered construction equipment, as feasible.

5. The perimeter of the Project Site (including the ancillary outbuildings proposed to be demolished) shall be enclosed with a temporary barrier wall for security and noise protection purposes. This barrier wall shall consist of a solid, heavy vinyl material or ¾-inch plywood positioned to block direct line of sight from the active construction areas and other open space areas and sensitive uses within Exposition Park.

Level of Impact After Mitigation

Based on the analysis above, significant construction noise impacts would result from construction activities in close proximity to two sensitive land uses within Exposition Park. Implementation of the noise reduction measures listed above and compliance with the City of Los Angeles Noise Ordinance would reduce noise impact to less than significant levels.

No significant new operational noise impacts would occur as a result of the proposed renovation of the Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum. Nevertheless, the recommended operational mitigation measures listed above would act to further reduce the operational noise impacts that already occur during major Coliseum events.

Public Services - Police Protection

The number and type of events to be held in the Coliseum following project implementation are anticipated to remain similar to existing levels of use, with the addition of the NFL as a permanent tenant. Therefore, development of the Proposed Project is not expected to place an increased burden on police services in the Southwest Area. Similarly, the Proposed Project is not anticipated to have any adverse impact on the ability of officers to respond to calls at the Coliseum. The current level of service will continue to be adequate assuming continued use of off-duty police officers and private civilian security personnel. Overall, the Proposed Project is not expected to result in the alteration of the existing police protection personnel arrangement in place at the Coliseum. However, the LAPD has indicated that a project of this size would have a significant impact upon police services in the Southwest Area.

Mitigation Measures

The following mitigation measures are recommended to ensure that an adequate level of police protection continues to be provided on the Project Site during Coliseum events:

1. Plot plans for the proposed renovation shall be submitted to the Los Angeles Police Department's Crime Prevention Section for review and comment. Security features subsequently recommended by the LAPD shall be implemented to the extent feasible.
2. Building plans shall be filed with the LAPD Southwest Area Commanding Officer. Plans shall include access routes, floor plans, evacuation routes, and any additional information that might facilitate prompt and efficient police response.

3. Security features shall be provided on the construction site(s), such as guards, fencing, and locked entrances.
4. Landscaping shall not be planted in a way that could provide cover for persons tampering with doors or windows of commercial facilities, or for persons lying in wait for pedestrians or parking lot users.
5. Additional lighting shall be installed where appropriate as determined in consultation with the LAPD.
6. Safety features shall be incorporated into the Proposed Project to assure pedestrian safety, assist in controlling pedestrian traffic flows, and avoid pedestrian/vehicular conflicts on-site. Safety measures may include provision of security and traffic control personnel; clearly designated, well-lighted pedestrian walkways on-site; special street and pedestrian-level lighting; physical barriers (e.g., low walls, landscaping), particularly around the perimeter of the Coliseum, to direct pedestrians to specific exit locations that correspond to designated crosswalk locations on adjacent streets.
7. A Security Plan shall be developed and implemented by the Applicant, in consultation with the LAPD, outlining the security services and features to be provided in conjunction with the Proposed Project. Security features may include but are not limited to the provision of a private on-site security force, implementation of a surveillance system, installation of locks and alarms on entryways where appropriate, security and parking lot lighting, "spotters" to survey parking lots, and maximum accessibility for emergency service personnel. The plan shall be reviewed by the LAPD, and any provisions pertaining to access shall be subject to review by the LADOT. A copy of the Plan shall be provided to the LAPD Southwest Area Commanding Officer.
8. An Emergency Procedures Plan shall be established and implemented by the Applicant outlining guidelines and procedures in the event of civil disturbance, evacuation, and other types of emergencies. The plan shall be subject to review by the LAPD, and any provisions pertaining to access shall be subject to review by the LADOT. A copy of the Plan shall be provided to the LAPD Southwest Area Commanding Officer.
9. Traffic control personnel may be provided on adjacent roadways and in parking areas during Coliseum events and immediately preceding and following events to help prevent vehicles and pedestrians from obstructing emergency access.

In addition to the foregoing recommendations and requirements, measures recommended and/or required under Section V.I, Traffic, Access, and Parking shall be implemented as appropriate.

Level of Impact After Mitigation

The LAPD has indicated that the Proposed Project would significantly impact the services rendered by the Los Angeles Police Department. However, it is expected that supplemental police personnel would continue to be requested and funded by the Coliseum or the NFL, as needed during Coliseum events. With implementation of the required mitigation measures identified above, including the implementation of the proposed Security Plan, and continued deployment of supplemental police personnel during Coliseum events, impacts to LAPD services would be reduced to less than significant levels.

Public Utilities - Water Conservation

Water consumption on the site is estimated to be approximately 468,000 gallons per event with the development of the Proposed Project, assuming maximum levels of attendance at all events, and 7,200 gallons of water per day on non-event days. This results in a total of approximately 24 million gallons of water consumed by the Project per year, based on a rate of 46 events per year and daily use of the ancillary structures. Water service for the Coliseum would continue to be provided by the City of Los Angeles Department of Water and Power from the existing infrastructure. Consequently, impacts to water service to the Proposed Project are considered less than significant.

Mitigation Measures

To reduce impacts to less than significant levels, the following mitigation measures are required:

1. The Project Applicant shall be required to comply with any improvements necessary to meet Los Angeles Fire Department fire-flow requirements for the Proposed Project.
2. The Proposed Project shall incorporate water saving techniques as required by the City of Los Angeles' mandatory water conservation program (Ordinance Nos. 166,080 and 163,532). Water conservation measures described in the ordinance include, but are not limited to, the following:
 - As necessary, the Project Site shall be landscaped with drought-tolerant/indigenous species (xeriscape).
 - Low flow flush valves and shower head water-conservation devices shall be installed in all restroom and/or locker room facilities.

In addition, the City of Los Angeles Department of Water and Power recommends the following water conservation measures:

3. Automatic sprinkler systems should be set to irrigate landscaping during early morning hours or during the evening to reduce water losses from evaporation. However, care must be taken to reset sprinklers to water less often in cooler months and during the rainfall season so that water is not wasted by excessive landscape irrigation.

4. Reclaimed water should be investigated as a source to irrigate large landscaped areas, including the grass playing field.
5. On-site recycling of drainage from water used for playing field irrigation should be investigated.
6. Recirculating hot water systems which can reduce water waste in long piping systems where water must be run for considerable periods before hot water is received at the outlet should be investigated.
7. Plumbing fixtures should be selected which reduce potential water loss from leakage due to excessive wear of washers.

Level of Impact After Mitigation

The Proposed Project's impacts to water service are expected to be less than significant after the implementation of the above mitigation measures.

V. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ANALYSIS

C. CULTURAL AND HISTORIC RESOURCES

ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING

The Coliseum is located in Exposition Park, a 145-acre site established in 1908 under joint administration by the State, City, and County as an area for cultural and recreational activities. Its boundaries include Exposition Boulevard to the north, Figueroa Street to the east, Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard to the south and Vermont Avenue to the west. Three buildings, the Armory and the Exposition Building, now part of the California Museum of Science and Industry, and the California Museum of History, Science and Art, now the County Museum of Natural History, as well as the Rose Gardens remain from the first group of improvements to the site in the 1910s. The Coliseum was added in 1923 and the Los Angeles Swim Stadium to the south dates from the 1932 Olympic Games.

Other buildings from the 1920s in Exposition Park include the small brick power station to the south of the Coliseum, and the Exposition Club House, now the Menlo Recreation Center, built in 1928 by the City of Los Angeles Playground Department to the south of the Los Angeles Swim Stadium. The Los Angeles Memorial Sports Arena, built in 1959, lies to the southeast of the Coliseum. In the 1980s, a number of buildings were added in the northeast section of the Park as part of the Museum of Science and Industry, including the Frank Gehry-designed Aerospace Museum, the California African American Museum, the IMAX Theater, the Space Museum, the Space Garden, a Multi-Cultural Center, and the Mark Taper Hall of Economics and Finance.

Architectural Description

The Coliseum, an elliptical reinforced concrete bowl oriented east and west, is 1,038 feet long by 738 feet wide. It rises 74 feet above ground, and the playing field lies 32 feet below grade. The rows of seats rise in a continuous smooth line in three tiers. The construction and layout of the seats was determined by its location in an abandoned gravel pit. The first tier, consisting of 29 rows, was cast in place on the banks of the pit and the second tier, of 25 rows of seats, was cast on a compacted earth berm built up around the excavated pit. The third tier, also of 25 rows of seats, is a built-up reinforced concrete frame system supported on a continuous pilaster and panel wall system. The top four rows are cantilevered beyond the wall and are supported by concrete fin brackets. Seats are theater-type with the exception of those at the east end, which are wooden benches dating from 1932. The seats of these wooden benches have been covered with fiberglass.

The Peristyle, the dominant feature located at the eastern end of the Coliseum, consists of a large central arch, the Propylaeum, with seven smaller arches on either side. The Propylaeum is topped by a 107-foot flame holder of concrete with a brass bowl. Four-story towers, or pylons, which house accounting offices in the north building and Coliseum Commission-related functions in the south

building, serve as buffers between the tiers of seats and the arches. A series of reinforced concrete walls step outwards and upwards from these towers; they are designed to hide the additional seating added on the third uppermost tier. Two overscale arches, in a wall with pierced decoration, contain steps leading from the east elevation to the upper level. Two one-story office building additions, a ticket office on the north and the Coliseum Commission offices on the south, extend from the intersection of the Peristyle and the concrete walls.

The Peristyle is clad in a travertine veneer, and has a mural of an Aztec sun painted by German-born Heinz Rosien, an Alhambra muralist and art teacher, on the ceiling of the Propylaeum. A matrix scoreboard and a video board as well as two speakers are attached to the top of the Peristyle. Below the flame is a matrix clock. There is also a large clock on the upper wall of the north tower and a thermometer on the south tower wall. Bronze plaques forming the Memorial Court of Honor decorate the pillars of the Peristyle. The front facade of the Peristyle is decorated with a neon sign, reading "Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum" with the five interlinked rings symbolizing the Olympics underneath. Two large pieces of rock, from the Colosseum in Rome and Altis Olympia, Greece, sit on the bases flanking the main arch.

A series of 28 reinforced tunnels at yard level lead through the earth berm to the interior of the stadium. Between each pair of tunnels is a flight of concrete steps with pipe railing leading to the concourse level, which contains bathrooms, concession stands, elevators, and storage. A series of passages lead from this concourse to the interior of the stadium.

On the exterior of the Coliseum, between stairs 4 and 5, 10 and 11, and 20 and 21, are escalators. A press box elevator tower and entry way, on the south facade of the Coliseum, lead to the three-level (two level plus roof deck) 354-seat press box which juts above the south rim of the Coliseum. Tunnel 30, entering from Menlo Avenue at the southwest side of the Coliseum, provides vehicular access to the playing field. An underground dressing room and locker facility is reached from this ramp and tunnel.

A three-story reinforced concrete structure, used as a concession storage building and Los Angeles Police Department substation, extends from the west facade at the yard level. A number of ancillary buildings ring the Coliseum at the yard level, including eleven permanent concession stands and four restroom buildings inside the 10-foot chain link and steel bar fence, four permanent ticket booths, a maintenance and equipment storage facility adjacent to Tunnel 30 at the southwest edge of the site, and a souvenir shop at the southeast edge of the Coliseum outside the fence. A memorial statue of two sculpted torsos is located at the Peristyle entrance approach to the east end of the Coliseum. The mature landscaping consists of eucalyptus, deodar, yucca, agave, and palms covering the berm, and vines which virtually cover the south and west elevations. The interior of the concourse level has bathrooms and concession stands, elevators, storage rooms, and first aid stations in the 1930 additions to the towers, or pylons, at each end of the Peristyle.

History

The Coliseum was built in Exposition Park in 1923. In order for such a stadium to be realized, three separate individuals or groups, each concerned with civic pride and the beautification of Los Angeles, came together. The first was Judge William M. Bowen, the second was the executive committee of the California Fiestas Association, and the third was the architectural firm of John Parkinson and Donald B. Parkinson.

Exposition Park had been established as early as the 1870s as an Agricultural Park, owned by the Southern District Agricultural Society, and it contained a racetrack and fair grounds with covered stalls for exhibiting produce. Apparently its use degenerated into bull-fighting, horse racing, greyhound racing and gambling. Under the new owners, the Sixth District Agricultural Association of the State of California, the gambling continued. The surrounding neighborhood, including the Methodist-founded USC, led by William M. Bowen, a judge, law professor at USC, and Sunday school teacher, spent a decade attempting to shut down the racetrack and have the Park declared public property, a goal reached in 1908. That year the City, County, and State joined to develop Exposition Park. The northern half of it was laid out in 1911 in a formal Beaux Arts style by landscape architect Wilbur D. Cook, Jr. with a sunken rose garden with central fountain flanked by square formal gardens. By 1914, three civic buildings, the Exposition building, the California Museum of History, Science and Art, and the Armory, were erected in a "C" shape around the rose garden.

In 1919, a group of well-to-do Los Angeles citizens were appointed by the publishers of the daily newspapers to a committee, the "California Fiestas Association", to revive the old Spanish fiestas in Los Angeles. The committee realized that without a stadium in town, such fiestas could not be produced. An executive committee drawn from the larger Fiestas Association, headed by William May Garland, a real estate developer, and including Harry Chandler of the Los Angeles Times and former U.S. Senator Frank P. Flint, decided that a stadium should be built. They chose Exposition Park as its location and suggested a joint Association/City/County venture to create such a stadium, which was to be named the "Los Angeles Memorial Colosseum" (changed in 1920 to Coliseum) as a memorial to World War I dead.

Simultaneous with the suggestion to build the Coliseum came the idea that Los Angeles be the site of the 1924 Olympics. To this end, William Garland presented an invitation from the City and County of Los Angeles and the Association, plus plans for the stadium, to the International Olympics Committee at the summer games in Antwerp in 1920. He was advised that Paris had already been chosen for 1924 and Amsterdam tentatively for 1928, but was appointed to the International Olympic Committee. In Rome in 1923 he again formally asked that Los Angeles be the city chosen for the 1932 games, a suggestion which was accepted.

The architect, John Parkinson, donated his profit for the design of the Coliseum as a "citizen's contribution", being reimbursed solely for his costs. He began sketching plans in 1919, well before the

stadium was a definite project, in order for Garland to present the designs to the Olympics Committee. He was no stranger to participation in civic beautification. Moving to Los Angeles from Seattle in 1894, he became a charter member of the Los Angeles Municipal Art Commission, established to improve and beautify the city by cleaning streets and planting trees. When this committee brought the noted planner Charles Mulford Robinson to draw up plans for Los Angeles, Parkinson assisted him.

Between the years 1905 and 1915, Parkinson, with his partner G. Edwin Bergstrom, designed many ornate high-rise office and civic buildings, in the Beaux Arts style combining a symmetrical formality with classical ornamentation. Nineteen of these buildings on Spring Street are now listed as a Historic District on the National Register of Historic Places. Additionally, with his son Donald, also an architect who joined him in the firm in 1921, John Parkinson designed such other notable Los Angeles buildings as the City Hall, Bullock's Wilshire, and Union Station, as well as numerous buildings for the USC campus.

The Fiestas Association chose an abandoned gravel pit south of the formal gardens, Armory, and Museum in Exposition Park as the site of the bowl because excavation would be cheaper. One of Parkinson's early plans showed the Coliseum oriented north and south, rather than east and west, presumably to make use of the configuration of the existing pit. Possibly the east-west orientation was ultimately chosen to be aligned with the old race track which encircled it in an east and west direction.

The Coliseum, begun in December 1921 and finished in June 1923, was created from this pit by excavating 20 feet below grade and compacting the excavated dirt into a large berm which rose in an elliptical shape around the central field. As shown in Figure V.C-1 (See Views 1, 2 and 3), the wooden Coliseum seats were built in three tiers upon this earthen structure: the lowest, on the excavated section, were set on concrete steps poured in place; the middle tier, on the compacted berm, were set on redwood 2" x 4"s placed over 3" x 6" stringers; the upper level of nine rows were set on a raised redwood frame constructed above the berm. This upper tier of seats was reached by flights of wooden stairs built on the exterior of the berm. The Coliseum seated a total of 76,000 people in 53 rows.

As shown in View 2 in Figure V.C-1, a reinforced concrete Peristyle, with flanking pylons, was built at the east end of the Coliseum. Concrete retaining walls above and around the pylons formed the ends of the seats at north and south. The 1921 plan, shown in Figure 108, showed the pylons with hipped red tile roofs, which were omitted in favor of simple flat roofs with parapets. The rectangular pylons, four stories high, radiated outward from a point at the center of the field. A low concrete wall linked the ends of the Coliseum beyond the Peristyle. Pipe flag poles decorated both the interior and the exterior of the Peristyle's arches, and single lights illumined its interior roof. A row of lights along the east side of the Coliseum lit the entrance. Bases for statuary extended from the Propylaeum on both the interior and exterior elevations. Boxes were indicated on the plans in the front rows of both the north and the south sides of the field. Occupants sat on folding wooden chairs.

Figure V.C-1, Historical Views of the Project Site.

A 1923 sketch by the landscape architect indicated that the berms were to be planted with deodar cedar, Spanish broom, acacia, Arizona cypress, eucalyptus, with cotoneaster hedges around the archways and begonia and Boston ivy at the top. A simple rectangular Athletes Building, housing dressing rooms and showers, was built to the south of the Coliseum and was connected to the playing fields by underground Tunnel 29. Four toilet buildings were built, two on the north and two on the south. Tunnel 30, entering from the west, was built to provide vehicular access to the field.

The Coliseum was finished in June of 1923 and the USC Trojans played their first home football game there, against Pomona College, in October, with 12,836 spectators attending. Over the next nine years, USC packed the stadium with its football games against Stanford University, the University of California, and the University of Notre Dame, the latter of which it first played in 1926. Paavo Nurmi of Finland was featured in a track meet and Jack Dempsey held a boxing exhibition in the Coliseum. Additional uses of the Coliseum for non-sporting events in these first years of its existence showed its appeal to a wide variety of audiences. The Los Angeles Philharmonic played there in 1925, the Shrine and the Elks held their conventions and electrical pageants there, Lindbergh was honored at a reception, and Easter Sunrise services and a pontifical mass were celebrated in the Coliseum.

As early as 1923, the Coliseum had been chosen for the 1932 Olympics and, by 1928, a one million-dollar state bond issue was passed to finance the Olympic Games. To handle the expected crowds, the Coliseum's seating of 76,000 was enlarged to 101,573, and various other improvements were made. The enlargement took from February 1930 to May 1931 to complete and cost \$950,293, which was financed by the City and the County. To add approximately 25,000 seats, the Parkinsons removed the third wooden tier, and built up a new third tier of concrete with 25 rows of seats for a total of 79 rows.

The addition of these extra sixteen rows necessitated a major change in the exterior of the Coliseum. A large concrete superstructure was built, consisting of a continuous pilaster and panel wall system which extended over the top of the berm and halfway down the outside. The top four rows were cantilevered beyond the wall and were supported by concrete brackets. The newly created upper concourse included restrooms and concession stands.

Major changes were necessary at the east end of the Coliseum to hide the ends of the new third tiers, which rose well beyond the existing pylons. The retaining walls at the ends of the pylons were incorporated into new units, which formed stepped parapet walls radiating outward from the existing pylons. These walls were decorated with pilasters, pierced wall designs, and cast concrete screens. The ground floor of these units contained staircases beneath overscale arches leading to the concourse level, and the concourse level contained hospital rooms and storage created by the new units. Two lamp standards lit the entrance to each arch. Low concrete walls with large blocks for statues connected the new sections with the old sections. The existing pylons were slightly changed during this expansion: a new concrete slab was poured on the roof and was topped with composition roofing.

Doors and windows were replaced on the Peristyle side and new steps and an opening into the top floor of the pylon were added on the seating side.

The existing wooden stairs leading down the outside of the berm were replaced with double-width concrete steps with pipe railings, firmly set into the berm with footings. The tunnels had new concrete foundation slabs poured. A new poured concrete concession building, with storage rooms, a service elevator, and truck docks, was attached to the exterior wall of the Coliseum at the west end. A police substation was also housed in this building. A series of pole lamps with twin lights lit the rim of the Coliseum, doubling as vents for the restrooms on the upper level. A press stand, centered at the top of the south wall of the Coliseum provided cubicles and desks for reporters on one side of the central staircase and cameras and radio on the other. A scoreboard was built on the stadium side of the propylaeum, consisting of a built-up arched extension three floors high and deep enough for operators to stand in to manipulate the letters and numbers of the winners as needed on the actual board, which measured 22 feet by 44 feet. Additionally, the top deck held the flag loft where Navy men were trained to quickly hoist the flags of the three winners as the results were placed on the scoreboard. To handle the expected record crowds for the Olympics, twelve square ticket booths and six rectangular concession booths were built on the perimeter of the Coliseum.

All Olympic track and field events, gymnastics, field hockey finals, demonstration lacrosse and football, and the equestrian jumping finals, as well as the beginning and end of the marathon, and the opening and closing ceremonies, were held in the Coliseum, with the Armory hosting the fencing and sword competitions and the Swim Stadium hosting the aquatic events. Sixteen world track records were broken, by such athletes as William Carr, Eddie Tolan, and Babe Didrickson.

The Olympic Games in the Coliseum included a number of firsts: the use of a victory podium where flags of the winning nations were raised; the use of a photo-finish camera; the playing of the national anthems of winners during the awards ceremonies; the use of a stadium press box where teletype operators were able to transmit the results of the competition to the wire services; and the full participation of women athletes under international track and field competition according to Olympic Games' standards. Additionally, the creation of an Olympic Village to house the men enabled many countries, impoverished by the Depression, to send athletes who otherwise would have been unable to attend. This village, consisting of 500 pre-fabricated residences, an administration building, amphitheater, post office, hospital, bank, and telegraph offices, was built in Baldwin Hills on 331 acres of land loaned by the heirs of the Baldwin estate. After the Games, the buildings were removed, but the idea of such a Village became a requirement for subsequent Olympic Games.

Over the years, other changes have been made to the Coliseum. By 1937, some settling in the floors of the tunnels and some water damage had occurred, which caused the reinforcing bar inside the concrete tunnel walls to rust. As a result, extensive repairs of the tunnels were called for in 1937. All hollow spaces in the walls were dug out, the reinforcing bar cleaned, and the areas patched with gunite. The

floors of all the tunnels except 13, 29, and 30 were to be dug up to the depth of two feet or to the existing subfloor, backfilled and compacted, and new floors poured.

The Olympic scoreboard was replaced in 1936-7 by an electric board, "the first all-electric, all-purpose announcing tableau of its kind in the world", courtesy of the Tide Water Associated Oil Company. The Coliseum continued to be used by the USC football team and for such other sporting events as the 1934 National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) track meet, the 1936 Olympic final trials, as well as a ski jump, tennis match, and a golf clinic and exhibition. In addition, the Coliseum hosted two appearances by then-President Franklin D. Roosevelt, a campaign rally in 1932 and a eulogy of Will Rogers in 1935, Shrine and American Legion conventions, the Sonja Henie Ice Show, and various rodeos.

A cluster of post-war additions, from 1946 to 1955, caused the next major visible changes to the appearance of the Coliseum. In 1945, a new Coliseum Commission was formed, and a new contract authorized surplus revenues to be given to the Coliseum alone, without payments to the City and County. A new manager, William Nicholas from the Pasadena Parks Department, was hired; he used the surplus money for a number of necessary repairs and renovations. The Pasadena architectural firm of Bennett and Bennett was retained for this work. Robert Bennett chose to design the additions in the 1930's Moderne style, defined by smooth simplified exteriors combining rounded and flat surfaces with a minimum of decoration, in order to link the Coliseum visually to the neighboring Los Angeles Swim Stadium which had been built for the Olympics, also in the Moderne style.

The first improvement was the addition of six curved banks of floodlights in 1946, an innovation which allowed for night football games. A Moderne six-story elevator tower to the press box, reached through a special press entrance, was built in 1947, followed by a new three-level press box in 1948. This press box was honored in 1949 by the National Sports Writers Association as the "outstanding press box in the country." The USC football team continued to use the Coliseum as its home stadium, and in 1949 the Cleveland Rams relocated to Los Angeles, giving both the City and the Coliseum its first professional football team.

The same year, the present one-story Moderne addition, housing general offices and the Coliseum Commission boardroom, was built onto the walls of the south pylon addition of 1931, somewhat obscuring the 1930-31 design. A new rounded ticket booth was built southeast of the Peristyle entrance. In 1950, a 13,000 square foot underground dressing room complex was built adjacent to Tunnel 30, on the southwest side of the stadium. At this time, no doubt as a result of the construction of these state-of-the-art facilities for athletes, the 1922 Athletes Building on the south side was torn down.

Three additional rounded ticket booths were added to the perimeter of the Coliseum by 1951. A one-story office for event staff was added to the north pylon in 1953. In 1955, escalators were built, necessitating a change in the angle of stairs 4 and 20. The same year, additions such as concession

booths, restrooms, and the souvenir shop were constructed around the perimeter of the Coliseum. The neon sign was added to the exterior of the Propylaeum. The Memorial Court of Honor, consisting of brass plaques honoring athletes, coaches, or contributors to the world of sports who have been affiliated with the Coliseum, was instituted in 1955, and now consists of 38 plaques on the Peristyle walls. Plaques honoring athletes who played in the Coliseum or events which occurred there are placed on the inside wall of the Peristyle, while plaques for coaches or other contributors are placed on the exterior wall.

In 1943, the University of California at Los Angeles (UCLA) Bruins football team became tenants of the Coliseum, playing there until 1982. In 1958, the Brooklyn Dodgers relocated to Los Angeles, and from that year until 1962 when they moved to their new stadium in Chavez Ravine, they played at the Coliseum, necessitating temporary changes to the field, which were reversible for football games. National League champions in 1959, the Dodgers played three World Series games against the Chicago White Sox in the Coliseum.

During the 1940s and 1950s, the Coliseum was also host to such varied activities as political rallies for Wendell Wilkie, Thomas Dewey, and Dwight Eisenhower, religious occasions including a pontifical mass, the annual Mary's hour, war rallies such as the "I am an American" Day, the Army and Navy War Show, the reception for Generals Patton and Doolittle, and the Victory celebration, the Shrine Convention, as well as midget automobile races, rodeos, circuses, and fireworks shows.

By the 1960s, water damage had stained the concrete walls of the Peristyle. In 1969, with the hope that the 1976 Olympics would be held in Los Angeles, the Peristyle was given a cosmetic facelift with the addition of marble veneer, and the ceiling of the Propylaeum was painted by Alhambra artist Heinz Rosien. The track was replaced in 1962. At some time between 1960 and 1962 an aluminum window was added in the third floor of the south pylon. Folding and removable grandstands, with a 3,000 seat capacity, were used at the east end of the Coliseum for the first time in 1964, to bring the spectators closer to the field. These grandstands reduced the seating capacity by blocking off the end zone wooden seats, and were used primarily for Rams games, and occasionally for USC games which were not sold out. They were last used in 1978. Many of the old wooden end zone seats were replaced with theater type seats over a ten-year period from 1964 to 1974, resulting in an overall reduction in seating capacity from 101,573 to 92,800. A computer scoreboard replaced the old electric board in 1971. More concession stands were built in 1973. The press box and elevator were remodeled in 1976.

During these years, two National Football League (NFL) Super Bowls were played at the Coliseum, Super Bowl I in 1967 in which the Green Bay Packers defeated the Kansas City Chiefs, and Super Bowl VII in 1973 when the Miami Dolphins beat the Washington Redskins. Professional soccer teams such as the Los Angeles Aztecs and the Cosmos played at the Coliseum. Additionally, such events as the Royal Lippizan Stallions, the Super Bowl of Motocross, and Evel Knievel's jumping exhibition were

staged at the Coliseum. John F. Kennedy accepted the Democratic Party's Presidential nomination there in 1960, and Billy Graham held his "Crusade for Christ" there in 1963.

A number of changes were made for the 1984 Olympic Games. The scoreboard was replaced in 1983 by the present color video board, measuring 36 feet by 48 feet, the largest in the world, which was added to the top of the Peristyle, necessitating the placement of steel I-beams in the arches to support it. A black and white matrix board, 30 feet by 50 feet, was also added to the Peristyle, as was the current matrix clock board. A new track was installed with the front wall moved back to accommodate it, resulting in the removal of approximately 300 seats, bringing the Coliseum's total seating capacity to the current level of 92,500.

For the XXIIIrd Olympiad, all track and field events, the beginning and the end of the marathon, the medal awards, and the opening and closing ceremonies were held in the Coliseum. Eighteen Olympic records were set by such athletes as Valerie Brisco-Hooks, who received three gold medals, Evelyn Ashford, and Carl Lewis, who received four gold medals. The 1984 Olympic Games included such firsts as the introduction of seventeen new sports, thirteen of them for women, such as the marathon, 3,000 meter race, and 400 meter hurdles; and funding entirely through the private sector, through such methods as sponsorships, television rights, and ticket sales. The number of nations participating in the 1984 Games, 139, was also the largest ever.

Historical Designations

The Coliseum is designated as a National Historic Landmark, a State Historical Landmark, and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places (National Register) in Washington, D.C. The Coliseum is significant as the site of numerous historical sporting events, and for its "association with important personages" rather than for its architectural design. As noted above, numerous structural alterations and additions have been made to the historic fabric of the Coliseum over the years. The Coliseum has been the site for many events including two Olympic Games, held in 1932 and 1984, Major League Baseball including the 1959 World Series, numerous track meets, collegiate and professional football, including two Super Bowls, and political rallies, rock concerts and political gatherings. The Coliseum is located within Exposition Park.

All three of the above designations were undertaken in 1984 for the fiftieth anniversary of the Historic American Building Survey (HABS) and for the Olympic Games to be held in 1984, for the second time at the Coliseum.

In addition, Exposition Park was determined eligible for listing on the National Register in 1993 as an Historic District. To date it has not been a formally listed on the National Register. The Exposition Park Historic District includes all of Exposition Park and a number of buildings located within it are listed as contributing structures to the District. The Exposition Building, the Natural History Museum, the California State Armory, the Rose Garden, the Memorial Coliseum, the Los Angeles Swimming

Stadium and the Park Clubhouse were all determined to be contributing elements to the District. The California Science Center, the Los Angeles Memorial Sports Arena, the California Aerospace Museum and the California Afro-American Museum were identified as non-contributing elements of the District. The historic Exposition Building was effectively demolished in 1995 for the Science Center and the Swimming Stadium substantially altered.

National Historic Landmark (NHL)

The United States Congress charged the Department of the Interior with the responsibility for designating nationally significant historic sites, buildings, and objects and promoting their preservation in 1935. The National Historic Landmarks program was established to identify and protect places possessing exceptional value in illustrating the nation's heritage. Only 3% of properties listed in the National Register of Historic Places are designated as National Historic Landmarks. An NHL is the highest level of significance designated by the Secretary of the Interior for historic properties. Today, fewer than 2,500 historic places bear this national distinction. Below are a few facts associated with the NHL designation:

- National Historic Landmark designation recognizes properties that are important to the entire nation.
- NHLs are listed in the National Register of Historic Places.
- Owners of National Historic Landmarks are free to manage their property as they choose, provided no federal license, permit, or funding is involved.
- Federal agencies whose projects affect a NHL must give the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP) an opportunity to comment on the project and its effects on the property.
- Owners of National Historic Landmarks may be able to obtain federal historic preservation funding, when funds are available. Federal investment tax credits for rehabilitation and other provisions may apply.
- A bronze plaque bearing the name of the NHL and attesting to its national significance is presented to the owner upon request.

Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum National Historic Landmark Information

Los Angeles, California

County of Los Angeles.

3911 S. Figueroa Street

National Register Number: 84003866 Resource type: Structure.

Property type: Recreation & Culture - sports facility.

Congressional District: CA-32 Certified Local Government: NO
This NHL offers public access.
Current use/information: Sports facility.

Statement of Significance (as of designation - July 27, 1984):

One of the premier outdoor sports facilities in the world, this giant elliptical, reinforced concrete, cast-in-place structure was constructed in 1921-23 and later enlarged. It has served as the focal site for the 1932 and 1984 Olympic Games. The Xth Olympiad witnessed a number of innovations, including the Olympic Village, which was introduced at Los Angeles, and use of the victory podium.

The federal National Historic Landmark designation notes that the Coliseum is significant as a site of historical athletic and sports events and for its association with important personages. Architectural and engineering elements were mentioned for informational purposes only.

The Proposed Project continues the historic use of the Coliseum as a sports venue for future generations and enhances or maintains most of the historic elements that contribute to its architectural character.

National Register of Historic Places

The National Register is the nation's master inventory of known historic resources. The National Register is administered by the National Park Service (NPS) and includes listings of buildings, structures, sites, objects, and districts that possess historic, architectural, engineering, archaeological, or cultural significance at the national, state or local level. The National Register criteria and associated definitions are outlined in National Register Bulletin Number 15: How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation. The following is a summary of Bulletin 15:

Resources (structures, sites, buildings, districts, and objects) over 50 years of age can be listed on the National Register. However, properties under 50 years of age that are of exceptional importance or are contributors to a district can also be included on the National Register. The following list of definitions is relevant to any discussion of the National Register:

- A structure is a work made up of interdependent and interrelated parts in a definite pattern of organization. Generally constructed by humans, it is often an engineering object large in scale.
- A site is defined as the location of a significant event, a prehistoric or historic occupation or activity, or a building or structure, whether standing, ruined, or vanished, where the location itself maintains historical or archaeological value regardless of the value of any existing structure.

- Buildings are defined as structures created to shelter human activity.
- A district is a geographically definable area -- urban or rural, small or large -- possessing a significant concentration, linkage, or continuity of sites, buildings, structures, and/or objects united by past events or aesthetically by plan or physical development. A district may also comprise individual elements separated geographically but linked by association or history.
- An object is a material thing of functional, aesthetic, cultural, historical, or scientific value that may be, by nature or design, moveable yet related to a specific setting or environment such as an historic vessel.

There are basically four criteria under which a structure, site, building, district, or object can be considered significant for listing on the National Register. These include resources that:

- A) are associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of history (such as a Civil War battlefield or a Naval Ship building Center);
- B) are associated with the lives of persons significant in our past (such as Thomas Jefferson's Monticello or the Susan B. Anthony birthplace);
- C) embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or that represent the work of a master, or that possess high artistic values, or that represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction (such as Frank Lloyd Wright's Taliesin or the Midwestern Native American Indian Mounds) or;
- D) have yielded or may likely yield information important in prehistory or history (such as prehistoric ruins in Arizona or the archaeological sites of the first European settlements in St. Augustine, Florida or at the Presidio of San Francisco).

A resource can be considered significant in American history, architecture, archaeology, engineering, and culture. When nominating a resource to the National Register, one must evaluate and clearly state the significance of that resource. A resource can be individually eligible for listing on the National Register for any of the above four reasons. A resource can also be listed as contributing to a group of resources that are listed on the National Register. In other words, the resource is part of a historic district as defined above.

Districts are comprised of resources that are identified as contributing and non-contributing. Some resources within the boundaries of the district may not meet the criteria for contributing to the historic character of the district; however, the resource is within the district boundaries.

Contributing resources add to the historic association, historic architectural qualities, or archaeological values for which the district is significant because the resource was present during the period of significance, relates to the documented significant contexts, and possesses integrity.

Non-contributing resources do not add to the historic associations, historic architectural qualities, or archaeological values for which the district is significant because the resource was not present during the period of significance, does not relate to the documented significant contexts, or does not possess integrity.

Resources that meet the above criteria and have been determined eligible for the National Register are protected under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act when an undertaking utilizing federal involvement is proposed. The National Register affords no protection to resources where private funding is used to alter or change those resources.

California Register of Historical Resources

The California Register of Historical Resources (California Register) is a listing of State of California resources that are significant within the context of California's history. The California Register criteria are modeled after National Register criteria. However, the California Register focuses more closely on resources that have contributed to the development of California.

All resources listed in or formally determined eligible for the National Register are eligible for the California Register. In addition, properties designated under municipal or county ordinances are also eligible for listing in the California Register. The primary difference between the National Register and the California Register is that the latter allows a lower level of integrity. The property must be significant at the local, state, or national level under one or more of the following criteria:

1. It is associated with events or patterns of events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of local or regional history and cultural heritage of California or the United States.
2. It is associated with the lives of persons important to the nation or to California's past.
3. It embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, region, or method of construction, or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values.
4. It has yielded, or has the potential to yield, information important to the prehistory or history of the state or the nation.

The California Register criteria are linked to CEQA. Under CEQA resources are considered historically significant "if the resource meets the criteria for listing on the California Register" (Title 14 California Code of Regulations 15064.5 (3)).

Resource Integrity

To be eligible for either the National or California Register, a resource must not only be historically or architecturally significant, it must also retain integrity or the ability to convey its significance. Integrity is grounded in an understanding of a property's physical features and how they relate to its significance within one or more contexts. Integrity involves seven aspects: location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and association. These aspects closely relate to the resource's significance. For example, if the property is significant for architecture, the setting and association may not be as important as workmanship and materials. In this case, the Coliseum has been listed for its association with events and people rather than for the architecture of the Coliseum. Some level of architectural integrity must remain for the facility to convey its ties to the events and people for which it is listed, but architecture is not the prime reason the facility is historically important.

Integrity, particularly in the aspects important to the area of significance, must be primarily intact for National or California Register eligibility. Resources that have lost a great deal of their integrity are generally not eligible for the National Register. However, the California Register regulations have specific language regarding integrity, which note the following:

It is possible that historical resources may not retain sufficient integrity to meet the criteria for listing in the National Register, but they may still be eligible for listing in the California Register. A resource that has lost its historic character or appearance may still have sufficient integrity for the California Register (California Code of Regulations Title 15, 11.5 (c)).

It is possible to have a resource "delisted" as an NHL or National Register property, but this is very rarely done and generally requires a complete loss of integrity, such as removing all of the character-defining features or demolition due to fire or other event.

Local Criteria

Because the Coliseum itself is located on state land, it is not eligible for review at the local level, the City of Los Angeles Cultural Heritage Commission. The County of Los Angeles does not have an independent designation program but relies on the National Register and State Landmark programs for designation.

Exposition Park, which includes the Coliseum and numerous surrounding structures, has been designated as a Cultural and Historical Site by the County of Los Angeles. The Commission cannot designate buildings owned by the State independently. However, they may be recognized as "significant" to the County.

The Armory, at the northwest corner of the Park, is being converted to a Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD) school. The Science Center recently underwent a \$90 million renovation with

historic preservation of the facade. The Los Angeles Swim Stadium underwent a \$32 million renovation and addition, now the Exposition Park Intergenerational Community Center - EPICC. The historic facade was retained and restored and the modern addition is a visible and obvious improvement.

An historical or cultural monument is any site (including significant trees or other plant life located thereon), building or structure of particular historic or cultural significance to the City of Los Angeles, such as historic structures or sites in which the broad cultural, economic or social history of the nation, State or community is reflected or exemplified, or which are identified with historic personages or with important events in the main currents of national, State or local history or which embody the distinguishing characteristics of an architectural type specimen, inherently valuable for a study of a period style or method of construction, or a notable work of a master builder, designer, or architect whose individual genius influenced his or her age.

Effects of Local Designation

Section 5024.f requires that alterations to a State Historical Landmark owned by the State, be reviewed by the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO). Section 5024.5 (a) and (b) require the state agency having jurisdiction over the Landmark give a summary of any proposed changes to the SHPO for review and comment. Because the state only owns the land that the Coliseum sits on and not the Coliseum, section 5024.5 should not apply.

Properties designated at the local level are subject to review by the Cultural Heritage Commission. This review includes evaluation of alterations to designated structures to ensure the alterations are appropriate to the historic character of the building. This type of review occurs only for individually designated properties based on the following factors:

- Eligibility to enter into the City of Los Angeles Property Contract Program (the Mills Act - See Appendix Seven);
- Local Building Official must grant code alternatives under the State Historical Building Code;
- Limited Protection: Environmental review may be required under CEQA if the property faces potential impacts as defined in the CEQA Guidelines.
- Locally designated resources or qualifying surveys can be listed in the California Register of Historical Resources.
- Designated resources proposed for demolition will be reviewed by the Commission. The Commission can object for 180 days with the option for extending another 180 days with Commission and Council approval, to allow alternative preservation solutions to be developed.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

Thresholds of Significance

Pursuant to Section 15064.5 of the CEQA Guidelines, an historical resource is presumed significant if it is listed on the CRHR or has been determined to be eligible for listing by the SHRC. An historical resource may also be considered significant if the lead agency determines, based on substantial evidence, that the resource meets the criteria for inclusion in the CRHR. CEQA also contains the following additional guidelines for defining an historical resource:

- California properties formally determined eligible for, or listed in the NRHP (Section 5024.1.d.1);
- those resources included in a local register of historical resources, as defined in Section 5020.1(k) of the Public Resources Code, or identified as significant in an historical resources survey meeting the requirements of Section 5024.1(g) of the Public Resources Code;
- those resources that a lead agency determines to be historically significant (generally, if it meets criteria for listing on the CRHC), provided the determination is supported by substantial evidence; or
- those resources a local agency believes are historical for more broadly defined reasons than identified in the preceding criteria.

Section 15065 of the CEQA Guidelines mandates a finding of significance if a project would eliminate important examples of major periods of California history or prehistory. In addition, pursuant to Section 15064.5 of the CEQA Guidelines, a project could have a significant effect on the environment if it "may cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an historical resource." A "substantial adverse change" means "physical demolition, destruction, relocation, or alteration of the resource or its immediate surroundings such that the significance of an historical resource is impaired." Material impairment means altering "in an adverse manner those characteristics of an historical resource that convey its historical significance and its eligibility for inclusion in the California Register of Historical Resources."

Impacts to historical resources not determined to be significant according to any of the significance criteria described above are not considered significant for the purposes of CEQA. Generally, under CEQA, a project that follows The Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties with Guidelines for Preserving, Rehabilitating, Restoring, and Reconstructing Historic Buildings or The Secretary of Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation and Guidelines for Rehabilitating

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Historic Structures (The Standards) is considered to have mitigated impacts to an historical resource to a less-than-significant level (CEQA Guidelines 15064.5).¹ Section 15126.4 (b)(2) of the CEQA Guidelines notes that in some circumstances, documentation of an historical resource may not mitigate the effects to a less than significant level.

Project Impacts

The Proposed Project is only the latest in an ongoing series of alterations and expansions. Completed in 1923, the Coliseum had wood seats on three tiers of risers, the first being within the excavated bowl and the other two above grade on wood structural supports. Almost immediately after completion, an additional level of wood seats was added. In 1931 the Coliseum was greatly altered by adding another tier of seats with all the seating above the bowl now supported by concrete construction. There were now 25 rows of additional seating totaling 79 rows. The last four rows were cantilevered above the support structure and a series of concrete bracket pilasters and panels supported them, giving the Coliseum its unique form that is familiar today.

The Proposed Project reduces the number of seats in the Coliseum from 92,500 to 78,000 while upgrading the remaining seats to current comfort requirements.

Frequent alterations to the Coliseum have continued to the present day with major changes occurring for the 1932 and 1984 Olympics as well as numerous modifications before and after these events.

The Proposed Project is one more alteration and expansion that will allow the Coliseum to continue to be economically viable and continue on into the future.

In addition, most of the proposed alterations preserve the historic character-defining features of the Coliseum. Wherever possible, new construction has been added to cover over historic features, such as the seating, rather than remove it. Much of the new construction could also be removed at some time in the future, leaving these features again exposed and intact.

Great effort has been made to respect and enhance the historic features of the Coliseum while still meeting functional requirements for the 21st century. Photographs depicting the structural changes to the Coliseum since its original construction are shown in Figures V.C-2 through V.C-5.

¹ "Rehabilitation" is defined in the Standards as "the process of returning a property to a state of utility, through the repair or alteration, which makes possible an efficient contemporary use while preserving those portions or features of the property which are significant to its historic, architectural or cultural values."

Proposed Project

The Proposed Project retains and enhances the character-defining features of the Coliseum. A few elements, described below, will be covered over by new construction; and an even smaller number of features, primarily concrete seating at the upper levels, will be removed.

Treatment of Historic Features

The Peristyle – Retained and enhanced as the major focus of the stadium. Adjacent nearby seating will also be preserved. The large existing, non-historic electronic scoreboards and video boards that sit on top of the Peristyle will be removed, allowing the Peristyle to be seen in its historic form for the first time in many years. The offices and ticket areas adjacent to the Peristyle will also be retained.

Exterior Coliseum Form and Walls – The exterior walls and cantilevered seating at the rim of the Coliseum will be retained, restored, and highlighted. New seating that extends above the historic form will curve in at the east and west ends, away from the exterior Coliseum wall, to enhance and differentiate the new seating from the historic form below. Existing stairs and tunnels on the exterior walls will be retained and used wherever possible. It should be noted that the existing stairs do not meet code requirements. They will be retained to keep the historic fabric, but it is possible they will no longer be used.

Bowl Configuration – The top rows of the bowl will be retained in a continuous band that is connected to the exterior wall. At the west end, a large section of the existing bowl, extending down to the main concourse, will be retained and remain visible. At the east end, portions of the existing bowl connected with the Peristyle will be retained and will remain visible.

Field Level – The field level was lowered 11 feet in 1994 from its historic level. The existing field level will be maintained. Also, due to the current configuration of the field, track and field events are now not possible. The Proposed Project will provide the Coliseum the opportunity to host track and field events in the future, though it will require some modifications to the seating configuration.

Stairs – Many of the existing exterior stairs will be retained. The two existing exterior escalators will be removed and the area where the escalators are will be restored.

Tunnels – All except two of the historic vomitories that connect the interior of the Coliseum with the surrounding circulation areas will be retained and reused. Two of the tunnels will be widened for emergency exiting.

Figure V.C-3, Historic and Present Day Views of the Project Site, Views 6 and 7

Figure V.C-4, Historic and Present Day Views of the Project Site, Views 8 and 9

Figure V.C-5, Historic and Present Day Views of the Project Site, Views 10 and 11

Lower Seating – A new Lower Bowl will be placed over the existing concrete risers, preserving the stepped seating form in place while meeting current codes and providing improved comfort and sight lines. The design of the new seating will integrate the form geometry of the bowl and sideline seating so that the old and new will be integral.

Upper Seating – Between the Main Concourse, or Plaza Level, and the Club Level the historic concrete levels will be removed to accommodate the new Concourse and Suites. The top rows of treads and risers will be retained in a continuous band attached to the existing exterior wall. The rim of seating stops at the Peristyle.

Concourse Level and Floor Elevations – The existing Concourse Level will be retained and expanded as the new Club Level. The primary historic columns and beams that are part of the 1931 addition will directly relate to new structural elements that are part of the Proposed Project.

Lighting – The four existing 1932 standing lamps flanking the arched entrances and the 1932 double light brackets along the upper rim of the Coliseum would be rehabilitated and reused. Existing modern floodlight towers at the north and south rims of the Coliseum will be removed.

Landscaping - Historic plantings surrounding the Coliseum will be retained and enhanced.

Effect of Change in Use

The historic use of the Coliseum will continue and will be enhanced with the Proposed Project. A few specific uses such as holding track events at the Coliseum will not be possible without additional temporary construction, which has already been planned. The ability to hold NFL games at the Coliseum will open the facility up to much greater use and will provide the economic means to allow the facility to be self-sufficient long into the future. Thus, there will be no adverse impact due to a change in use.

Effect on Historic Designations

Because the Coliseum has been designated as an NHL, is listed on National Register of Historic Places, and is a California Historic Landmark based on the events and people associated with the facility, physical alteration to the Coliseum would need to be so severe that the original intent and association with the events and people were completely eradicated. Total demolition or severe changes to the form of the Coliseum would be required to remove these historic designations. The Proposed Project will update the Coliseum and make it economically viable while keeping its use as a sports facility consistent, thus there will be no impact on its historic designations.

Effect on Historic Fabric

As noted above, under CEQA, the level of compliance with the Standards is used to determine the level of environmental impact on historic resources. The following paragraphs first describe each of the ten standards and then describe the level of compliance of the Proposed Project using that standard.

STANDARD 1 "Every reasonable effort shall be made to provide a compatible use for a property which requires minimal alteration of the building, structure, or site and its environment, or to use a property for its originally intended purpose."

The Proposed Project retains its historic use as a sports facility, and as noted below, alterations to accommodate this use have been reduced as much as possible and in many cases are reversible.

Changes made to maintain its use as an economically viable facility include adding suites, club seats, rest rooms, concessions, a shade canopy, elevators and escalators, locker rooms, maintenance and operation areas, and making the stadium more intimate by placing the seats closer to the playing field.

Thus, Standard 1 will be met while bringing the facility up to current functional requirements for maintaining its continued historic use.

STANDARD 2 "The distinguishing original qualities or character of a building, structure, or site and its environment shall not be destroyed. The removal or alteration of any historic material or distinctive architectural features should be avoided when possible."

It is important to note that "Rehabilitation," as defined in the Standards, is "the process of returning a property to a state of utility, through the repair or alteration, which makes possible an efficient contemporary use while preserving those portions or features of the property which are significant to its historic, architectural or cultural values." In this context the alterations and new construction fit in with that definition because they will remove very few of the important character-defining features except in a few local instances. Generally, those aspects of the Coliseum will remain in place and in a few localized areas they will be covered over or removed as noted below.

The Coliseum has three primary character-defining features and many details that contribute to its significance. These include: the overall bowl shape that is perceived from inside the Coliseum; the exterior form of the Bowl with the concrete pilasters, panels and stepped seats at the rim; and the Peristyle which is the major architectural feature of the Coliseum.

The overall bowl form of the Coliseum as seen from the inside of the Coliseum will be retained and clearly evident. The original concrete bleachers will be covered over but the new seating will enhance and reinforce the bowl form. The upper seating areas will be removed and covered over but the new proposed seating will maintain the form and sense of a bowl when inside the facility.

The exterior form of the Coliseum with the walls, structural elements, stairways and entry tunnels, pilasters and cantilevered seating are all retained and enhanced. New seating will be set above and structurally free standing from the historic rim of the Coliseum. Exterior escalators, out buildings and the press box will be removed. New landscaping will be added to enhance and set-off the building.

The Peristyle is architecturally the most significant element of the Coliseum and will be restored and enhanced by the removal of the large electronic scoreboard and video board boxes now currently mounted on it. The concrete and other elements of the Peristyle will be restored.

The entire eastern end of the Plaza level will be enhanced and the Peristyle seen as the focus again when entering the facility. The proposed circulation system will provide new access to the many monuments and markers on the Peristyle and Pylons.

This Standard is met regarding the Exterior form of the building and treatment of the Peristyle. The exterior form of the Coliseum will be restored and be completely visible upon completion of the Proposed Project and the Peristyle will be restored and enhanced with inappropriate elements removed from it. Thus, of the three character-defining features, only the bowl shape and the seating will be altered to some extent. The bowl has already been altered over the years and the field level lowered. The one area where there is removal of character-defining features is the removal of historic concrete and wood seating at the Club level.

STANDARD 3 "All buildings, structures, and sites shall be recognized as products of their own time. Alterations that have no historical basis and which seek to create an earlier appearance shall be discouraged."

Standard 3 does not apply to the Proposed Project as no effort is being made to replicate an earlier appearance. All restoration work is being done using original historic drawings, photographs, and physical evidence found at the Coliseum.

None of the proposed changes will give a false sense of history or seem to create an earlier appearance. New construction is clearly not historic in appearance and has carefully been designed to blend with the historic character-defining features of the Coliseum.

STANDARD 4 "Changes which may have taken place in the course of time are evidence of the history and development of a building, structure, or site and its environment. These changes may have acquired significance in their own right, and this significance shall be recognized and respected."

The Coliseum has continually been altered since its initial construction. Important design elements were added in the 1930s, '40s and '90s that are being retained and enhanced. These include the Art Moderne additions such as the ticket booths and the Coliseum Commission office and other details that will be retained. In 1993 the locker rooms were renovated. Substantial seismic retrofit alterations

occurred in 1994 after the Northridge Earthquake. The changes included new pilasters added to the interior of the exterior walls and extensive beams and connections from the exterior to the concrete seating areas. The interior concrete was excavated, crushed on site and reused to recast new seismically retrofitted seating sections. The seismic retrofit included over \$100 million in improvements.

The changes to the Coliseum that have gained importance over time are being respected and enhanced. As noted above, only some seating at the Club level will be removed as part of the proposed alterations. Therefore, this standard will be met.

STANDARD 5 "Distinctive stylistic features or examples of skilled craftsmanship which characterize a building, structure, or site shall be treated with sensitivity."

Restoration of the Peristyle, the seating at the rim of the bowl and the exterior wall elements all contribute to compliance with this standard. Removal of upper level seating detracts from meeting Standard 5. The Proposed Project will therefore be substantially consistent with this Standard.

STANDARD 6 "Deteriorated architectural features shall be repaired rather than replaced, wherever possible. In the event replacement is necessary, the new material should match the material being replaced in composition, design, color, texture, and other visual qualities. Repair or replacement of missing architectural features should be based on accurate duplication of features, substantiated by historic, physical, or pictorial evidence rather than on conjectural designs or the availability of different architectural elements from other buildings or structures."

The Proposed Project will retain architectural features and wherever possible restore or maintain them. In some instances recreations of elements may be necessary due to deterioration or damage. This may include some elements of the rim seating and the exterior wall elements.

This Standard is being met as deteriorated features of the Coliseum will be repaired when possible and only replaced if repair is not possible. This includes restoration of the Peristyle, the concrete elements of the exterior, the pilasters and the rim and concrete beams and columns.

STANDARD 7 "The surface cleaning of structures shall be undertaken with the gentlest means possible. Sandblasting and other cleaning materials that will damage the historic building materials shall not be undertaken."

Methods and the extent of cleaning have not been determined at this time. All cleaning and repairs will undertaken to meet Standard 7.

STANDARD 8 "Every reasonable effort shall be made to protect and preserve archeological resources affected by, or adjacent to any project."

No archaeological resources have been identified on the site therefore Standard 8 does not apply to the Proposed Project.

STANDARD 9 "Contemporary design for alterations and additions to existing properties shall not be discouraged when such alterations and additions do not destroy significant historical, architectural or cultural material, and such design is compatible with the size, scale, color, material, and character of the property, neighborhood or environment."

The new roof canopies, new seating areas and structural supports, suites and other new elements that are part of the Proposed Project will be clearly different, yet compatible with, the historic character-defining features.

Great care has been used so that elements added to the Coliseum will be compatible with the existing historic features while they are clearly modern. The new stadium seating added above the rim of the Coliseum is supported with new angled columns that are clearly modern.

In addition, the proposed canopies are not supported by numerous columns that interfere with sight lines and would affect historic elements but are cantilevered and supported by a few braces that are separate from the historic stadium. Modern stadiums have many freestanding columns or large superstructures to provide for both lighting and speakers. As a result they frequently overwhelm the stadium below them. This has been avoided with the Proposed Project.

The new Club and Suites Levels will also be designed to be differentiated from the historic elements below them. Therefore, the Proposed Project would be substantially consistent with this Standard.

STANDARD 10 "Whenever possible, new additions or alterations to structures shall be done in such a manner that if such additions or alterations were to be removed in the future, the essential form and integrity of the structure would be unimpaired."

Many new elements of the Proposed Project could be removed at some time in the future if that were desired. These include the roof canopy, the new lower seating areas and the upper seating sections above the new Upper Concourse.

If removed, the historic form of the bowl would continue to be seen from inside the Coliseum, the exterior form of the bowl would also be intact with the cantilevered rim seating in place. Finally, the Peristyle would remain in place in its restored setting. Therefore, the Proposed Project would be substantially consistent with this Standard.

CUMULATIVE IMPACTS

To analyze potential cumulative historical impacts, the list of related projects within the area, presented in Section IV.C, Cumulative Related Projects, were reviewed against a list of designated State Historic

Monuments, Los Angeles Historic-Cultural Monuments, and National Register of Historic Places properties. As stated previously, Exposition Park was determined eligible for listing on the National Register in 1993 as a Historic District. To date it has not been formally listed on the National Register. The Exposition Park Historic District includes all of Exposition Park and a number of buildings located within it are listed as contributing structures to the District. The Exposition Building, the Natural History Museum, the California State Armory, the Rose Garden, the Memorial Coliseum, the Los Angeles Swimming Stadium and the Park Clubhouse were all determined to be contributing elements to the District. The California Science Center, the Los Angeles Memorial Sports Arena, the California Aerospace Museum and the California African American Museum were identified as non-contributing elements of the District. The historic Exposition Building was effectively demolished in 1995 for the Science Center and the Swimming Stadium has been substantially altered. Whether or not these changes would jeopardize the designation status of the Exposition Park Historic District in the judgment of SHPO cannot be determined prior to their evaluation.

MITIGATION MEASURES

The following mitigation measures are recommended to reduce the Proposed Project's impact upon historic resources. Mitigation measures shall be included in all contracts between the applicant and Project contractors to assure compliance with the following:

1. Recordation. Demolition of any historic fabric shall be documented in a report consistent with Historic American Buildings Survey (HABS) standards. The report shall document the significance and physical condition of the historic resources proposed for demolition, both historic and current, photographs, written data, and text. The documentation shall include:
 - a. A brief written historic and descriptive report shall be completed in narrative format, including an architectural data form.
 - b. A site plan on 8" x 11" paper showing the location of the buildings should be included. This site plan shall include a photo-key.
 - c. A sketch floor plan on 8" x 11" paper shall accompany each architectural data form.
 - d. Large format (4" x 5" or larger negative size) photographs in accordance with HABS guidelines. Views shall include several contextual views, all exterior elevations, detailed views of significant exterior architectural features, and interior views of significant historical architectural features or spaces.
 - e. Field photographs (35mm) based on HABS guidelines. Views as detailed in large format photographs.

- f. The report shall include copies or prints of any available original plans and historic photographs.
 - g. Archival stable reproductions of any available significant historic construction drawings and photographs.
 - h. Archival copies of the documentation shall be submitted to the Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum Commission.
2. In accordance with Standard 7 of the *Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties with Guidelines for Preserving, Rehabilitating, Restoring and Reconstructing Historic Buildings*, the surface cleaning of structures shall be undertaken with the gentlest means possible. Sandblasting and other cleaning materials that will damage the historic building materials shall not be undertaken.
3. The Proposed Project shall be constructed in substantial compliance with the Conceptual Historic Fabric Retention Plan, as depicted in Figure III-3 of this EIR.

LEVEL OF IMPACT AFTER MITIGATION

A concerted effort has been made to respect the history and importance of the Coliseum and recognize the many changes that have occurred to the facility during the course of its 80-year history. The conceptual design of the Proposed Project has gone through a number of revisions in response to many comments received during the design process and reflects this in the current form. It has not been possible to retain all elements of the Coliseum in the process of bringing the stadium up to today's requirements for maintaining its historic use as a venue for sporting events, but the few that have been sacrificed have been done so reluctantly.

The Proposed Project meets all of the Standards except for the removal of the seating at some locations. The removal of some of the existing seating, considered to be part of the historic fabric of the Coliseum, is a significant impact on the environment and cannot be feasibly mitigated. Much of the seating, as well as the form of the bowl, will remain and be clearly visible around the entire Coliseum for the interior. The exterior of the Coliseum will be returned to its former appearance and the Peristyle will be restored and enhanced with the removal of the large electronic scoreboards.

It should also be noted that the Coliseum is listed as a National Historic Landmark because of the events that have occurred there and that the stadium itself has been a backdrop to these events. Its historic use is largely why it has been designated a National and State landmark, and this rehabilitation will guarantee that historic use can continue into the future by making the Coliseum an economically viable facility for sporting events.

As a result of the Proposed Project, there is no specific mitigation for the loss of historic materials, primarily the removal of portions of the seating. Other alterations to the Coliseum either improve the character-defining features or could be reversed in the future. Therefore, an unavoidable significant adverse impact would result.

I. Introduction

In response to the request of Chris Joseph and Associates, Architectural Resources Group (ARG) has completed a review of the proposed Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum project being developed as part of an effort to bring a National Football League (NFL) team to the Coliseum. ARG's review is based on the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) to identify the impacts of proposed projects on potential historic and cultural resources. The historic resources were evaluated using the *Secretary of the Interiors Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties* and the criteria of the National Historic Landmarks, Register of Historic Places (NRHP) and California Register of Historic Resources (CRHR) programs were considered.

II. Resource Significance

A. Historical Designations

The Coliseum is designated as a National Historic Landmark, a State Historical Landmark, and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places (National Register) in Washington, D.C. The Coliseum is significant as the site of numerous historical sporting events, and for its "association with important personages" rather than for its architectural design. The Coliseum has been the site for many events including two Olympic Games, held in 1932 and 1984, Major League Baseball including the 1959 World Series, numerous track meets, collegiate and professional football, including two Super Bowls, and political rallies, rock concerts and political gatherings. The Coliseum sits within Exposition Park.

All three of the above designations were undertaken in 1984 for the fiftieth anniversary of the Historic American Building Survey (HABS) and for the Olympic Games to be held in 1984, for the second time at the Coliseum.

In addition, Exposition Park was determined eligible for listing on the National Register in 1993 as an Historic District. To date it has not been formally listed on the National Register. The Exposition Park Historic District includes all of Exposition Park and a number of buildings located within it are listed as contributing structures to the District. The Exposition Building, the Natural History Museum, the California State Armory, the Rose Garden, the Memorial Coliseum, the Los Angeles Swimming Stadium and the Park Clubhouse were all determined to be contributing elements to the District. The California Science Center, the Los Angeles Memorial Sports Arena, the California Aerospace Museum and the California Afro-American Museum were identified as non-contributing elements of the District. The historic Exposition Building was effectively demolished in 1995 for the Science Center and the Swimming Stadium substantially altered.

1. National Historic Landmark (NHL)

The United States Congress charged the Department of the Interior with the responsibility for designating nationally significant historic sites, buildings, and objects and promoting their preservation in 1935. The National Historic Landmarks program was established to

identify and protect places possessing exceptional value in illustrating the nation's heritage. Only 3% of properties listed in the National Register of Historic Places are designated as National Historic Landmarks. An NHL is the highest level of significance designated by the Secretary of the Interior for historic properties. Today, fewer than 2,500 historic places bear this national distinction.

- * National Historic Landmark designation recognizes properties that are important to the entire nation.
- * NHLs are listed in the National Register of Historic Places.
- * Owners of National Historic Landmarks are free to manage their property as they choose, provided no federal license, permit, or funding is involved.
- * Federal agencies whose projects affect a NHL must give the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP) an opportunity to comment on the project and its effects on the property.
- * Owners of National Historic Landmarks may be able to obtain federal historic preservation funding, when funds are available. Federal investment tax credits for rehabilitation and other provisions may apply.
- * A bronze plaque bearing the name of the NHL and attesting to its national significance is presented to the owner upon request.

Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum National Historic Landmark Information

Los Angeles, California

County of Los Angeles.

3911 S. Figueroa Street

National Register Number: 84003866 Resource type: Structure.

Property type: Recreation & Culture - sports facility.

Congressional District: CA-32 Certified Local Government: NO

This NHL offers public access.

Current use/information: Sports facility.

Statement of Significance (as of designation - July 27, 1984):

One of the premier outdoor sports facilities in the world, this giant elliptical, reinforced concrete, cast-in-place structure was constructed in 1921-23 and later enlarged. It has served as the focal site for the 1932 and 1984 Olympic Games. The Xth Olympiad witnessed a number of innovations, including the Olympic Village, which was introduced at Los Angeles, and use of the victory podium.

The National Historic Landmark designation notes that the Coliseum is significant as the site of historical athletic and sports events and for its association with important personages. Architectural and engineering elements were mentioned for informational purposes only.

The proposed project continues the historic use of the Coliseum as a sports venue for future generations and enhances or maintains most of the historic elements that contribute to its architectural character.

2. National Register of Historic Places

The National Register is the nation's master inventory of known historic resources. The National Register is administered by the National Park Service (NPS) and includes listings of buildings, structures, sites, objects, and districts that possess historic, architectural, engineering, archaeological, or cultural significance at the national, state or local level. The National Register criteria and associated definitions are outlined in *National Register Bulletin Number 15: How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation*. The following is a summary of *Bulletin 15*:

Resources (structures, sites, buildings, districts, and objects) over 50 years of age can be listed on the National Register. However, properties under 50 years of age that are of exceptional importance or are contributors to a district can also be included on the National Register. The following list of definitions is relevant to any discussion of the National Register:

- A *structure* is a work made up of interdependent and interrelated parts in a definite pattern of organization. Generally constructed by humans, it is often an engineering object large in scale.
- A *site* is defined as the location of a significant event, a prehistoric or historic occupation or activity, or a building or structure, whether standing, ruined, or vanished, where the location itself maintains historical or archaeological value regardless of the value of any existing structure.
- *Buildings* are defined as structures created to shelter human activity.
- A *district* is a geographically definable area -- urban or rural, small or large -- possessing a significant concentration, linkage, or continuity of sites, buildings, structures, and/or objects united by past events or aesthetically by plan or physical development. A district may also comprise individual elements separated geographically but linked by association or history.
- An *object* is a material thing of functional, aesthetic, cultural, historical, or scientific value that may be, by nature or design, moveable yet related to a specific setting or environment such as an historic vessel.

There are basically four criteria under which a structure, site, building, district, or object can be considered significant for listing on the National Register. These include resources that are one or more of the following:

- A) are associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of history (such as a Civil War battlefield or a Naval Ship building Center);
- B) are associated with the lives of persons significant in our past (such as Thomas Jefferson's Monticello or the Susan B. Anthony birthplace);
- C) embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or that represent the work of a master, or that possess high artistic values, or that represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction (such as Frank Lloyd Wright's Taliesin or the Midwestern Native American Indian Mounds) or;
- D) have yielded or may likely yield information important in prehistory or history (such as prehistoric ruins in Arizona or the archaeological sites of the first European settlements in St. Augustine, Florida or at the Presidio of San Francisco).

A resource can be considered significant in American history, architecture, archaeology, engineering, and culture. When nominating a resource to the National Register, one must evaluate and clearly state the significance of that resource. A resource can be individually eligible for listing on the National Register for any of the above four reasons. A resource can also be listed as contributing to a group of resources that are listed on the National Register. In other words, the resource is part of a historic district as defined above.

Districts are comprised of resources that are identified as contributing and non-contributing. Some resources within the boundaries of the district may not meet the criteria for contributing to the historic character of the district; however, the resource is within the district boundaries.

Contributing resources add to the historic association, historic architectural qualities, or archaeological values for which the district is significant because the resource was present during the period of significance, relates to the documented significant contexts, and possesses integrity.

Non-contributing resources do not add to the historic associations, historic architectural qualities, or archaeological values for which the district is significant because the resource was not present during the period of significance, does not relate to the documented significant contexts, or does not possess integrity.

Resources that meet the above criteria and have been determined eligible for the National Register are protected under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act when an undertaking utilizing federal involvement is proposed. The National Register affords no protection to resources where private funding is used to alter or change those resources.

3. California Register of Historical Resources

The California Register of Historical Resources (California Register) is a listing of State of California resources that are significant within the context of California's history. The California Register criteria are modeled after National Register criteria. However, the California Register focuses more closely on resources that have contributed to the development of California.

All resources listed in or formally determined eligible for the National Register are eligible for the California Register. In addition, properties designated under municipal or county ordinances are also eligible for listing in the California Register. The primary difference between the National Register and the California Register is that the latter allows a lower level of integrity. The property must be significant at the local, state, or national level under one or more of the following criteria:

1. It is associated with events or patterns of events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of local or regional history and cultural heritage of California or the United States.
2. It is associated with the lives of persons important to the nation or to California's past.
3. It embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, region, or method of construction, or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values.
4. It has yielded, or has the potential to yield, information important to the prehistory or history of the state or the nation.

The California Register criteria are linked to CEQA. Under CEQA resources are considered historically significant "if the resource meets the criteria for listing on the California Register" [Title 14 California Code of Regulations 15064.5 (3)].

Resource Integrity

To be eligible for either the National or California Register, a resource must not only be historically or architecturally significant, it must also retain integrity or the ability to convey its significance. Integrity is grounded in an understanding of a property's physical features and how they relate to its significance within one or more contexts. Integrity involves seven aspects: location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and association. These aspects closely relate to the resource's significance. For example, if the property is significant for architecture, the setting and association may not be as important as workmanship and materials. In this case, the Coliseum has been listed

for its association with events and people rather than for the architecture of the Coliseum. Some level of architectural integrity must remain for the facility to convey its ties to the events and people for which it is listed, but architecture is not the prime reason the facility is historically important.

Integrity, particularly in the aspects important to the area of significance, must be primarily intact for National or California Register eligibility. Resources that have lost a great deal of their integrity are generally not eligible for the National Register. However, the California Register regulations have specific language regarding integrity, which note the following:

It is possible that historical resources may not retain sufficient integrity to meet the criteria for listing in the National Register, but they may still be eligible for listing in the California Register. A resource that has lost its historic character or appearance may still have sufficient integrity for the California Register [California Code of Regulations Title 15, 11.5 (c)].

It is possible to have a resource "delisted" as an NHL or National Register property, but this is very rarely done and generally requires a complete loss of integrity, such as removing all of the character-defining features or demolition due to fire or other event.

4. Local Criteria

Because the Coliseum itself is located on state land, it is not eligible for review at the local level, the City of Los Angeles Cultural Heritage Commission. The County of Los Angeles does not have an independent designation program but relies on the National Register and State Landmark programs for designation.

Exposition Park, which includes the Coliseum and numerous surrounding structures, has been designated as a Cultural and Historical Site by the County of Los Angeles. The Commission cannot designate buildings owned by the State independently. However, they may be recognized as "significant" to the County.

The Armory, at the northwest corner of the Park, is being converted to a Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD) school. The Science Center recently underwent a \$90 Million renovation with historic preservation of the facade. The Los Angeles Swim Stadium underwent a \$32 Million renovation and addition, now the Exposition Park Intergenerational Community Center - EPICC. The historic facade was retained and restored and the modern addition is a visible and obvious improvement.

An historical or cultural monument is any site (including significant trees or other plant life located thereon), building or structure of particular historic or cultural significance to the City of Los Angeles, such as historic structures or sites in which the broad cultural, economic or social history of the nation, State or community is reflected or exemplified, or which are identified with historic personages or with important events in the main

currents of national, State or local history or which embody the distinguishing characteristics of an architectural type specimen, inherently valuable for a study of a period style or method of construction, or a notable work of a master builder, designer, or architect whose individual genius influenced his age.

Effects of Local Designation

Section 5024.f requires that alterations to a State Historical Landmark owned by the State, be reviewed by the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO). Section 5024.5 (a) and (b) require the state agency having jurisdiction over the Landmark give a summary of any proposed changes to the SHPO for review and comment. Because the state only owns the land that the Coliseum sits on and not the Coliseum, section 5024.5 should not apply.

- Properties designated at the local level are subject to review by the Cultural Heritage Commission. This review includes evaluation of alterations to designated structures to ensure the alterations are appropriate to the historic character of the building. This type of review occurs only for individually designated properties.
- Eligible to enter into the City of Los Angeles Property Contract Program (the Mills Act - See Appendix Seven)
- Local Building Official must grant code alternatives under the State Historical Building Code.
- Limited Protection: Environmental review may be required under CEQA if the property faces potential impacts as defined in the CEQA Guidelines.
- Locally designated resources or qualifying surveys can be listed in the California Register of Historical Resources.
- Designated resources proposed for demolition will be reviewed by the Commission. The Commission can object for 180 days with the option for extending another 180 days with Commission and Council approval, to allow alternative preservation solutions to be developed.

III. Regulations and Criteria of Evaluation (CEQA)

Pursuant to Section 15064.5 of the CEQA *Guidelines*, an historical resource is presumed significant if it is listed on the CRHR or has been determined to be eligible for listing by the SHRC. An historical resource may also be considered significant if the lead agency determines, based on substantial evidence, that the resource meets the criteria for

inclusion in the CRHR. CEQA also contains the following additional guidelines for defining an historical resource:

- California properties formally determined eligible for, or listed in the NRHP (Section 5024.1.d.1);
- those resources included in a local register of historical resources, as defined in Section 5020.1(k) of the *Public Resources Code*, or identified as significant in an historical resources survey meeting the requirements of Section 5024.1(g) of the *Public Resources Code*;
- those resources that a lead agency determines to be historically significant (generally, if it meets criteria for listing on the CRHC), provided the determination is supported by substantial evidence; or
- those resources a local agency believes are historical for more broadly defined reasons than identified in the preceding criteria.

IV. Project Description

A. Introduction

The proposed project to alter the Coliseum is only the latest in an ongoing series of alterations and expansions. Completed in 1923, the Coliseum had wood seats on three tiers of risers, the first being within the excavated bowl and the other two above grade on wood structural supports. Almost immediately after completion, an additional level of wood seats was added. In 1931 the Coliseum was greatly altered by adding another tier of seats with all the seating above the bowl now supported by concrete construction. There were now 25 rows of additional seating totaling 79 rows. The last four rows were cantilevered above the support structure and a series of concrete bracket pilasters and panels supported them, giving the Coliseum its unique form that is familiar today.

The current plan reduces the number of seats in the Coliseum from 92,500 to 78,000 while upgrading the remaining seats to current comfort requirements.

Frequent alterations to the Coliseum have continued to the present day with major changes occurring for the 1932 and 1984 Olympics as well as numerous modifications before and after these events.

The proposed project is one more alteration and expansion that will allow the Coliseum to continue to be economically viable and continue on into the future.

In addition, most of the proposed alterations preserve the historic character-defining features of the Coliseum. Wherever possible, new construction has been added to cover

over historic features, such as the seating, rather than remove it. Much of the new construction could also be removed at some time in the future, leaving these features again exposed and intact.

Great effort has been made to respect and enhance the historic features of the Coliseum while still meeting functional requirements for the 21st century.

B. Proposed Design

The proposed design retains, and enhances, the character-defining features of the Coliseum. A few elements, described below, will be covered over by new construction; and an even smaller number of features, primarily concrete seating at the upper levels, will be removed.

Treatment of Historic Features

The Peristyle – Retained and enhanced as the major focus of the stadium. Adjacent nearby seating will also be preserved. The large existing, non-historic, electronic scoreboards and video boards that sit on top of the Peristyle will be removed, allowing the Peristyle to be seen in its historic form for the first time in many years. The offices and ticket areas adjacent to the Peristyle will also be retained.

Exterior Coliseum Form and Walls – The exterior walls and cantilevered seating at the rim of the Coliseum will be retained, restored and highlighted. New seating that extends above the historic form will curve in at the east and west ends, away from the exterior Coliseum wall, to enhance and differentiate the new seating from the historic form below. Existing stairs and tunnels on the exterior walls will be retained and used wherever possible.

Bowl Configuration The top rows of the bowl will be retained in a continuous band that is connected to the exterior wall. In most areas of the sidelines, at least 10 rows will be kept. At the west end, a large section of the existing bowl, extending down to the main concourse, will be retained and visible. At the east end, portions of the existing bowl connected with the Peristyle will be retained and visible.

Field Level – The existing field level will be maintained.

Stairs - Almost all of the existing exterior stairs will be retained. The two exterior escalators will be removed and the area where the escalators are will be restored

Tunnels – All except two of the historic vomitories that connect the interior of the Coliseum with the surrounding circulation areas will be retained and reused. Two of the tunnels will be widened for emergency exiting.

Lower Seating – A new Lower Bowl will be placed over the existing concrete risers, preserving the stepped seating form in place while meeting current codes and providing

improved comfort and sight lines. The design of the new seating will integrate the form geometry of the bowl sideline seating so that the old and new will be integral.

Upper Seating – Between the Main Concourse, or Plaza Level, and the Club Level the historic concrete levels will be removed to accommodate the Concourse and new Suites. The top rows of treads and risers will be retained in a continuous band attached to the existing exterior wall. The rim of seating stops at the Peristyle.

Concourse Level and Floor Elevations – The existing Concourse Level will be retained and expanded as the new Club Level. While there are only three levels in the existing Coliseum, the renovation will have eight levels including the three existing levels. The primary historic columns and beams that are part of the 1931 addition will directly relate to new structural elements that are part of the expansion.

Lighting - The four existing 1932 standing lamps flanking the arched entrances and the 1932 double light brackets along the upper rim of the Coliseum would be rehabilitated and reused. Existing modern floodlight towers at the north and south rims of the Coliseum will be removed

Landscaping - Historic plantings surrounding the Coliseum will be retained and enhanced.

V. Impacts of Proposed Project on Historic Resources

A. Analysis of Project Impacts

1. Threshold of Significance

Section 15065 of the CEQA *Guidelines* mandates a finding of significance if a project would eliminate important examples of major periods of California history or prehistory. In addition, pursuant to Section 15064.5 of the CEQA *Guidelines*, a project could have a significant effect on the environment if it “may cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an historical resource.” A “substantial adverse change” means “physical demolition, destruction, relocation, or alteration of the resource or its immediate surroundings such that the significance of an historical resource is impaired.” Material impairment means altering “in an adverse manner those characteristics of an historical resource that convey its historical significance and its eligibility for inclusion in the California Register of Historical Resources.”

Impacts to historical resources not determined to be significant according to any of the significance criteria described above are not considered significant for the purposes of CEQA. Generally, under CEQA, a project that follows *The Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties with Guidelines for Preserving, Rehabilitating, Restoring, and Reconstructing Historic Buildings* or *The Secretary of Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation and Guidelines for Rehabilitating Historic Structures* (*The Standards*) is considered to have mitigated impacts to an historical

resource to a less-than-significant level (CEQA *Guidelines* 15064.5). Section 15126.4 (b)(2) of the CEQA *Guidelines* notes that in some circumstances, documentation of an historical resource may not mitigate the effects to a less-than-significant level.

"Rehabilitation" is defined in the *Standards* as "the process of returning a property to a state of utility, through the repair or alteration, which makes possible an efficient contemporary use while preserving those portions or features of the property which are significant to its historic, architectural or cultural values."

2. Effect of Change in Use

The historic use of the Coliseum will continue and will be enhanced with the proposed alterations. A few specific uses such as holding track events at the Coliseum will not be possible without additional later temporary construction, which has already been planned. The ability to hold NFL games at the Coliseum will open the facility up to much greater use and will provide the economic means to allow the facility to be self-sufficient long into the future. Thus there will be no impact due to an adverse change in use.

3. Effect on Historic Designations

Because the Coliseum has been designated as an NHL, is listed on National Register of Historic Places, and is a California Historic Landmark based on the events and people associated with the facility, physical alteration to the Coliseum would need to be so severe that the original intent and association with the events and people were completely eradicated. Total demolition or severe changes to the form of the Coliseum would be required to remove these historic designations. The alteration will update the Coliseum and make it economically viable while keeping its use as a sports facility consistent, thus there will be no impact on its historic designations.

4. Effect on Historic Fabric

As noted above, under CEQA, the level of compliance with the *Standards* is used to determine the level of environmental impact on historic resources. The following paragraphs first describe each of the ten standards and then describe the level of compliance of the proposed project using that standard.

STANDARD 1 "Every reasonable effort shall be made to provide a compatible use for a property which requires minimal alteration of the building, structure, or site and its environment, or to use a property for its originally intended purpose."

The proposed project retains its historic use as a sports facility, and as noted below, alterations to accommodate this use have been reduced as much as possible and in many cases are reversible.

Changes made to maintain its use as an economically viable facility include adding suites, club seats, clubs, rest rooms, concessions, a shade canopy, elevators and escalators, locker rooms, maintenance and operation areas, and making the stadium more intimate by placing the seats closer to the playing field.

Thus, this Standard will be met while bringing the facility up to current functional requirements for maintaining its continued historic use.

STANDARD 2 "The distinguishing original qualities or character of a building, structure, or site and its environment shall not be destroyed. The removal or alteration of any historic material or distinctive architectural features should be avoided when possible."

It is important to note that "Rehabilitation," as defined in the *Standards*, is "the process of returning a property to a state of utility, through the repair or alteration, which makes possible an efficient contemporary use while preserving those portions or features of the property which are significant to its historic, architectural or cultural values." In this context the alterations and new construction fit in with that definition because they will remove very few of the important character-defining features except in a few local instances. Generally, those aspects of the Coliseum will remain in place and in a few localized areas they will be covered over or removed as noted below.

The Coliseum has three primary character-defining features and many details that contribute to its significance. These include: the overall bowl shape that is perceived from inside the Coliseum; the exterior form of the Bowl with the concrete pilasters, panels and stepped seats at the rim; and the Peristyle which is the major architectural feature of the Coliseum.

The overall bowl form of the Coliseum as seen from the inside of the Coliseum will be retained and clearly evident. The original concrete bleachers will be covered over but the new seating will enhance and reinforce the bowl form. The upper seating areas will be removed and covered over but the new proposed seating will maintain the form and sense of a bowl when inside the facility.

The exterior form of the Coliseum with the walls, structural elements, stairways and entry tunnels, pilasters and cantilevered seating are all retained and enhanced. New seating will be set above and structurally free standing from the historic rim of the Coliseum. Exterior escalators, out buildings and the press box will be removed. New landscaping will be added to enhance and set-off the building.

The Peristyle is architecturally the most significant element of the Coliseum and will be restored and enhanced by the removal of the large scoreboard and video board boxes now

currently mounted on it. The concrete and other elements of the Peristyle will be restored.

The entire eastern end of the Plaza level will be enhanced and the Peristyle seen as the focus again when entering the facility. The proposed circulation system will provide new access to the many monuments and markers on the Peristyle and Pylons.

This Standard is met regarding the Exterior form of the building and treatment of the Peristyle. The exterior form of the Coliseum will be restored and be completely visible upon completion of the project and the Peristyle will be restored and enhanced with inappropriate elements removed from it. Thus, of the three character-defining features, only the bowl shape and the seating will be altered to some extent. The bowl has already been altered over the years and the field level lowered. The one area where there is removal of character-defining features is the removal of historic concrete and wood seating at the Club level.

STANDARD 3 "All buildings, structures, and sites shall be recognized as products of their own time. Alterations that have no historical basis and which seek to create an earlier appearance shall be discouraged."

This standard does not apply to the proposed project as no effort is being made to replicate an earlier appearance. All restoration work is being done using original historic drawings, photographs, and physical evidence found at the Coliseum.

None of the proposed changes will give a false sense of history or seem to create an earlier appearance. New construction is clearly not historic in appearance and has carefully been designed to blend with the historic character-defining features of the Coliseum.

STANDARD 4 "Changes which may have taken place in the course of time are evidence of the history and development of a building, structure, or site and its environment. These changes may have acquired significance in their own right, and this significance shall be recognized and respected."

The Coliseum has continually been altered since its initial construction. Important design elements were added in the 1930s, '40s and '90s that are being retained and enhanced. These include the Art Moderne additions such as the ticket booths and the Commission office and other details that will be retained. In 1993 the locker rooms were renovated. Substantial seismic retrofit alterations occurred in 1994 after the Northridge Earthquake. The changes included new pilasters added to the interior of the exterior walls and extensive beams and connections from the exterior to the concrete seating areas. The interior concrete was excavated, crushed on site and reused to recast new seismically retrofitted seating sections. The seismic retrofit included over \$100 million in improvements.

The changes to the Coliseum that have gained importance over time are being respected and enhanced. As noted above, only some seating at the Club level will be removed as part of the proposed alterations.

STANDARD 5 "Distinctive stylistic features or examples of skilled craftsmanship which characterize a building, structure, or site shall be treated with sensitivity."

Restoration of the Peristyle, the seating at the rim of the bowl and the exterior wall elements all contribute to compliance with this standard.

Removal of upper level seating detracts from meeting this Standard.

STANDARD 6 "Deteriorated architectural features shall be repaired rather than replaced, wherever possible. In the event replacement is necessary, the new material should match the material being replaced in composition, design, color, texture, and other visual qualities. Repair or replacement of missing architectural features should be based on accurate duplication of features, substantiated by historic, physical, or pictorial evidence rather than on conjectural designs or the availability of different architectural elements from other buildings or structures."

The proposed design will retain architectural features and wherever possible restore or maintain them. In some instances recreations of elements may be necessary due to deterioration or damage. This may include some elements of the rim seating and the exterior wall elements.

This Standard is being met as deteriorated features of the Coliseum will be repaired when possible and only replaced if repair is not possible. This includes restoration of the Peristyle, the concrete elements of the exterior, the pilasters and the rim and concrete beams and columns.

STANDARD 7 "The surface cleaning of structures shall be undertaken with the gentlest means possible. Sandblasting and other cleaning materials that will damage the historic building materials shall not be undertaken."

Methods and the extent of cleaning have not been determined at this time. All cleaning and repairs will undertaken to meet this Standard.

STANDARD 8 "Every reasonable effort shall be made to protect and preserve archeological resources affected by, or adjacent to any project."

No archaeological resources have been identified on the site therefore this Standard does not apply to the project.

STANDARD 9 "Contemporary design for alterations and additions to existing properties shall not be discouraged when such alterations and additions do not destroy significant historical, architectural or cultural material, and such design is compatible with the size, scale, color, material, and character of the property, neighborhood or environment."

The new roof canopies, new seating areas and structural supports, suites and other new elements that are part of the proposed project will be clearly different, yet compatible with, the historic character-defining features.

Great care has been used so that elements added to the Coliseum will be compatible with the existing historic features while they are clearly modern. The new stadium seating added above the rim of the Coliseum is supported with new angled columns that are clearly modern.

In addition, the proposed canopies are not supported by numerous columns that interfere with sight lines and would affect historic elements but are cantilevered and supported by a few braces that are separate from the historic stadium. Modern stadiums have many freestanding columns or large superstructures to provide for both lighting and speakers. As a result they frequently overwhelm the stadium below them. This has been avoided with the proposed design.

The new Club and Suites levels will also be designed to be differentiated from the historic elements below them.

STANDARD 10 "Whenever possible, new additions or alterations to structures shall be done in such a manner that if such additions or alterations were to be removed in the future, the essential form and integrity of the structure would be unimpaired."

Many new elements of the proposed design could be removed at some time in the future if that were desired. These include the roof canopy, the new lower seating areas and the upper seating sections above the new Upper Concourse.

If removed, the historic form of the bowl would continue to be seen from inside the Coliseum, the exterior form of the bowl would also be intact with the cantilevered rim seating in place. Finally, the Peristyle would remain in place in its restored setting.

D. Impact Summary

A concerted effort has been made by the entire design team to respect the history and importance of the Coliseum and recognize the many changes that have occurred to the facility during the course of its 80-year history. The design has gone through a number

of revisions in response to many comments received during the design process and reflects this in the current form.

It has not been possible to retain all elements of the Coliseum in the process of bringing the stadium up to today's requirements for maintaining its historic use as a venue for sporting events, but the few that have been sacrificed have been done so reluctantly.

The proposed rehabilitation meets all of the Standards except for the removal of the seating at some locations. The removal of some of the existing seating, considered to be part of the historic fabric of the Coliseum, is a significant impact on the environment and cannot be feasibly mitigated. Much of the seating, as well as the form of the bowl, will remain and be clearly visible around the entire Coliseum for the interior. The exterior of the Coliseum will be returned to its former appearance and the Peristyle will be restored enhanced with the removal of the large electronic scoreboards.

It should also be noted that the Coliseum is listed as a National Historic Landmark because of the events that have occurred there and that the stadium itself has been a backdrop to these events. Its historic use is largely why it has been designated a National and State landmark, and this rehabilitation will guarantee that historic use can continue into the future by making the Coliseum an economically viable facility for sporting events.

As a result of the proposed project, there is no specific mitigation for the loss of historic materials, primarily the removal of portions of the seating. Other alterations to the Coliseum either improve the character-defining features or could be reversed in the future. Therefore, an unavoidable adverse impact is created.

Photographs that Would Be Useful to Include From the Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum Book

Photographs from Pages: 9, 13 top, 22 bottom, 116 both, 117 both, 118 both, 123 both.

Bibliography

Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum (Images of America)
By Chris Epting
Arcadia; September 2002

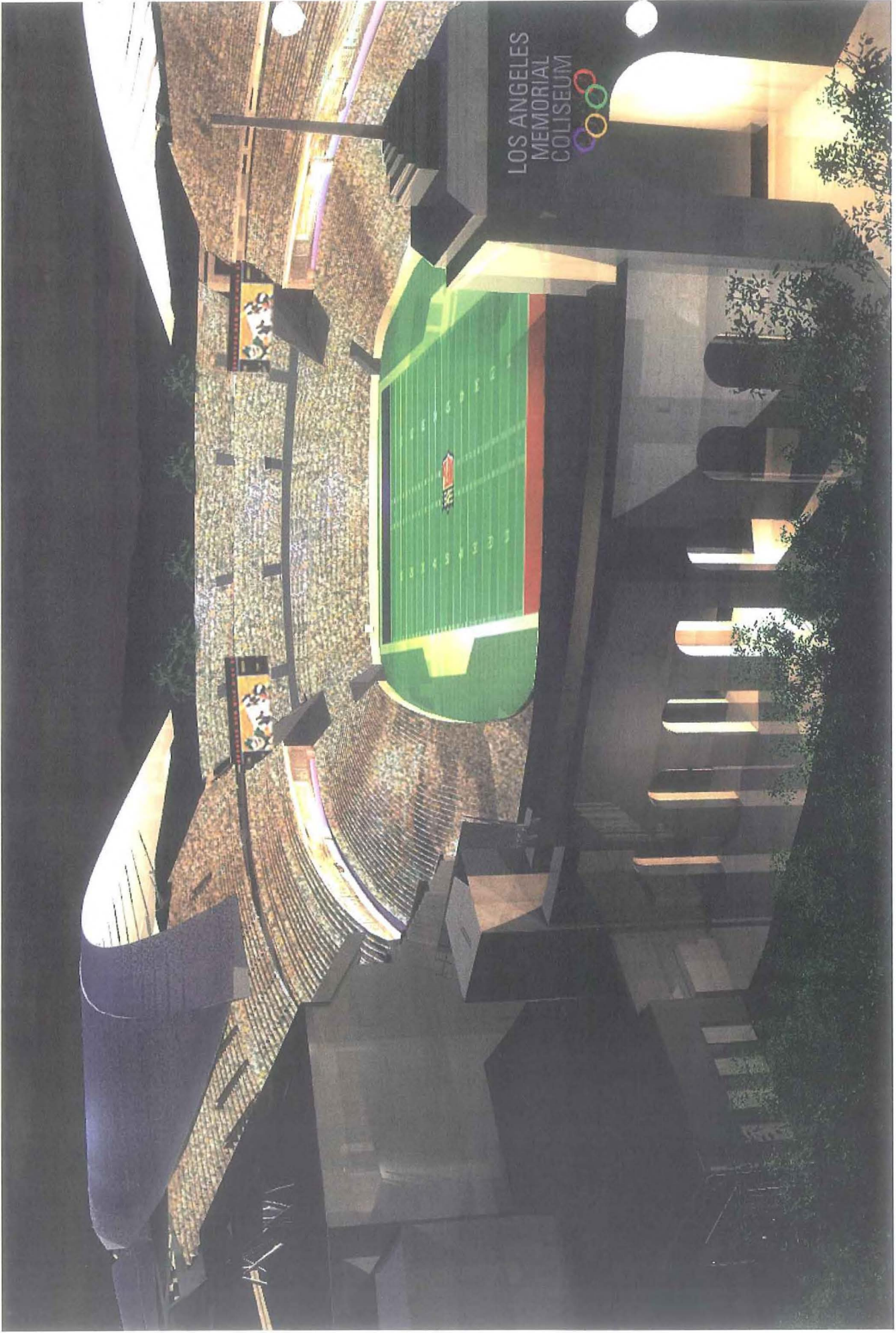


LOS ANGELES MEMORIAL COLISEUM

July 25th, 2005

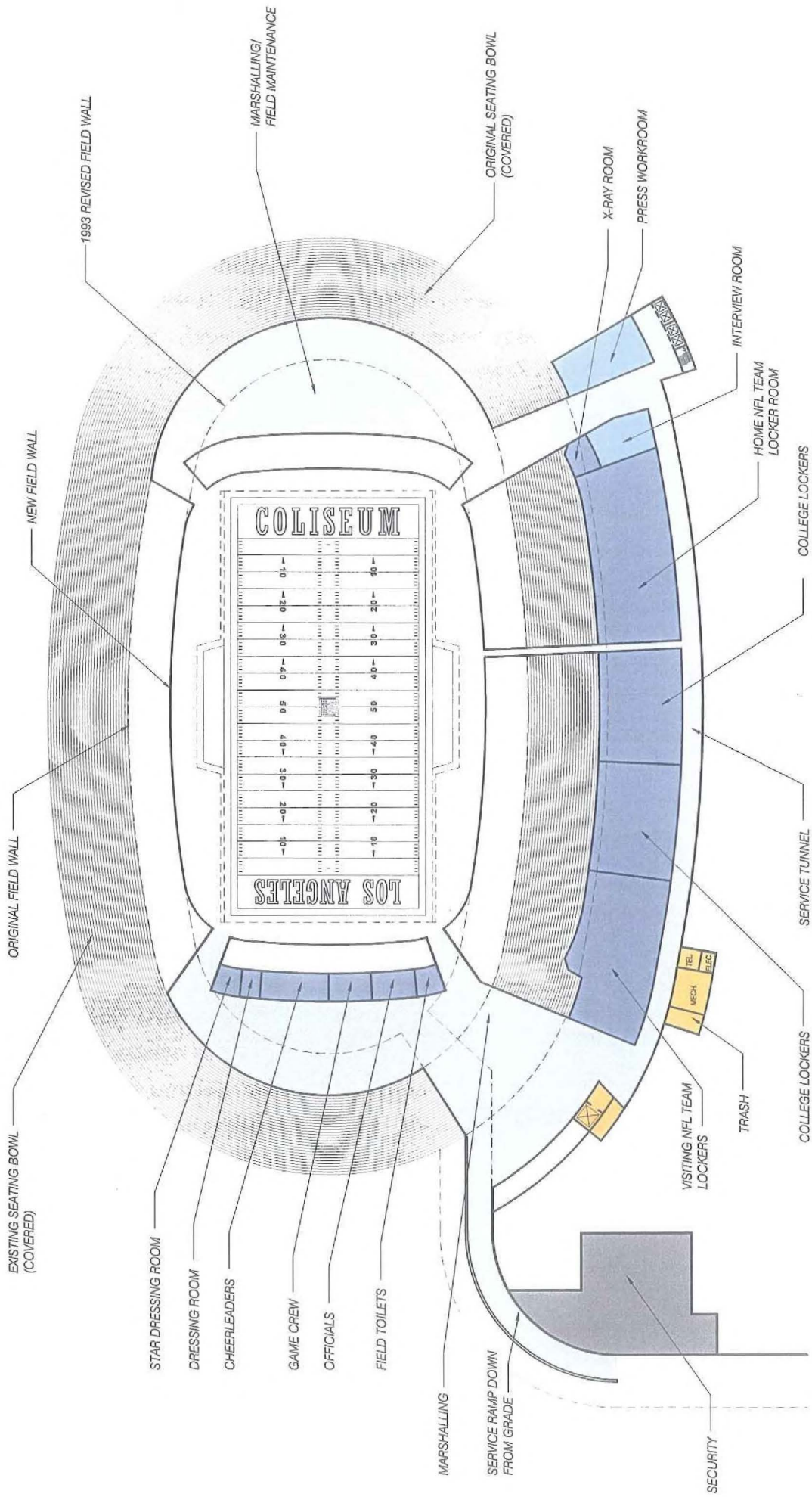


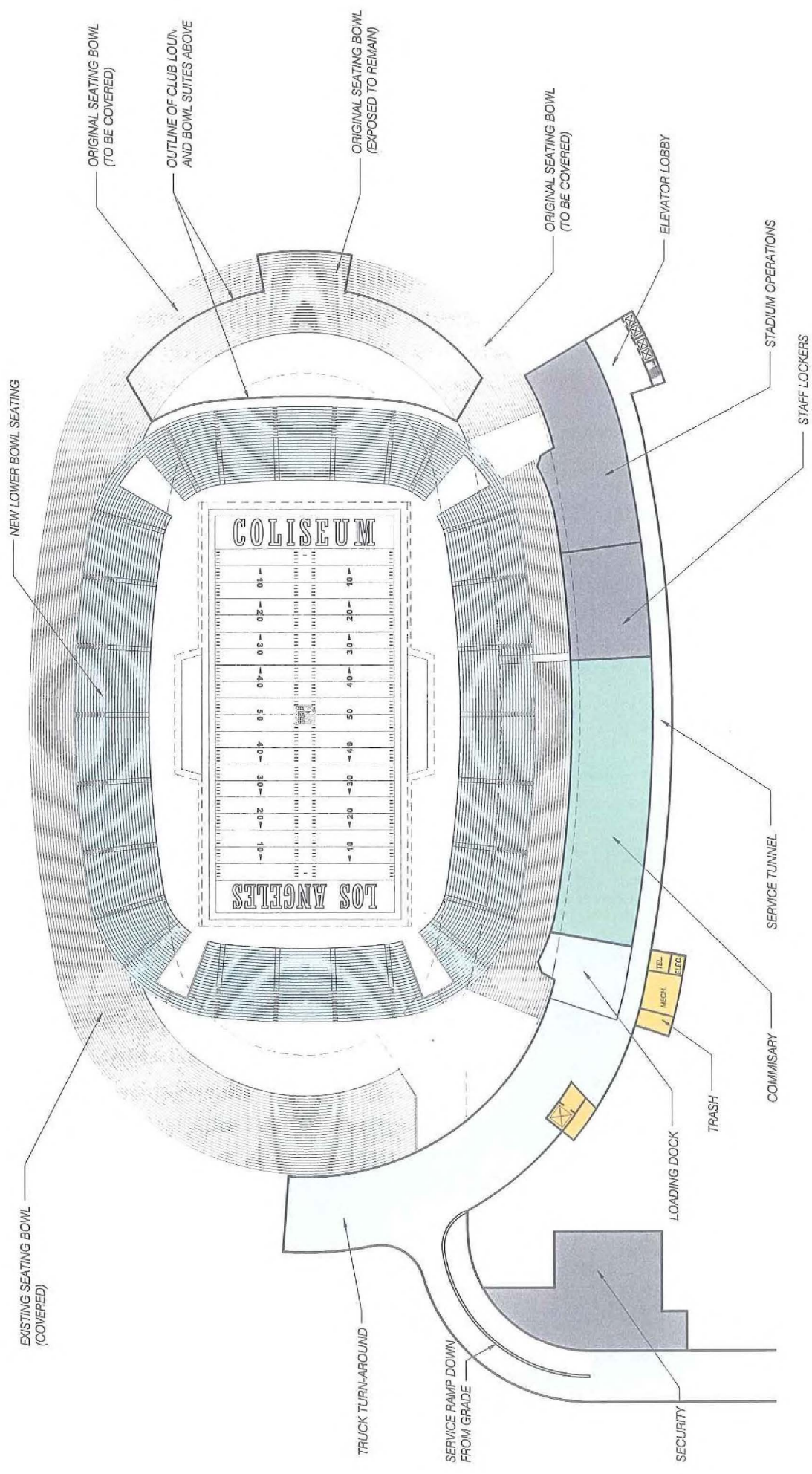
LOS ANGELES MEMORIAL COLISEUM
May 25th, 2005

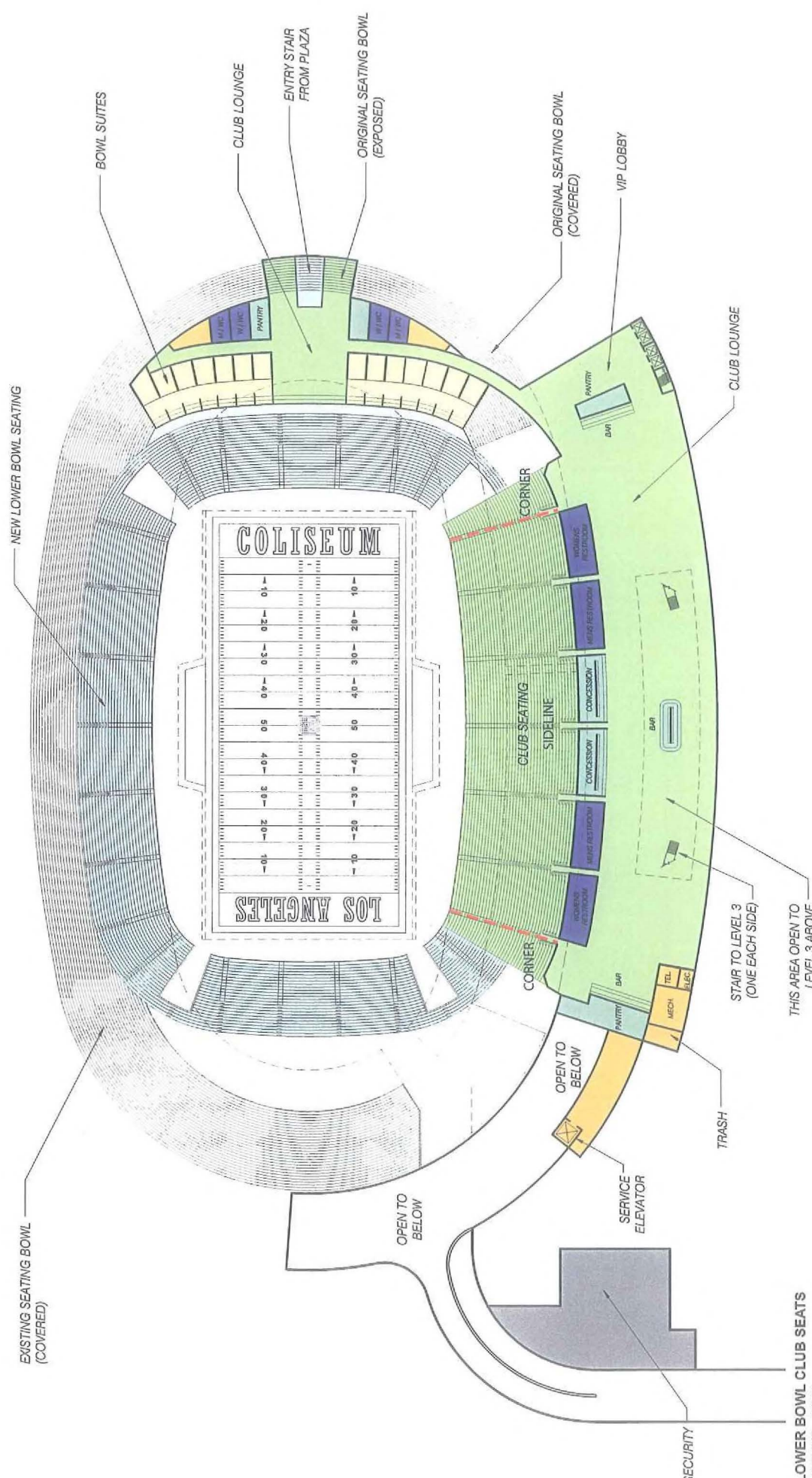


LOS ANGELES MEMORIAL COLISEUM

May 23rd, 2005







LOWER BOWL CLUB SEATS
 SIDELINE: 6,200
 CORNER: 900
 TOTAL: 7,100

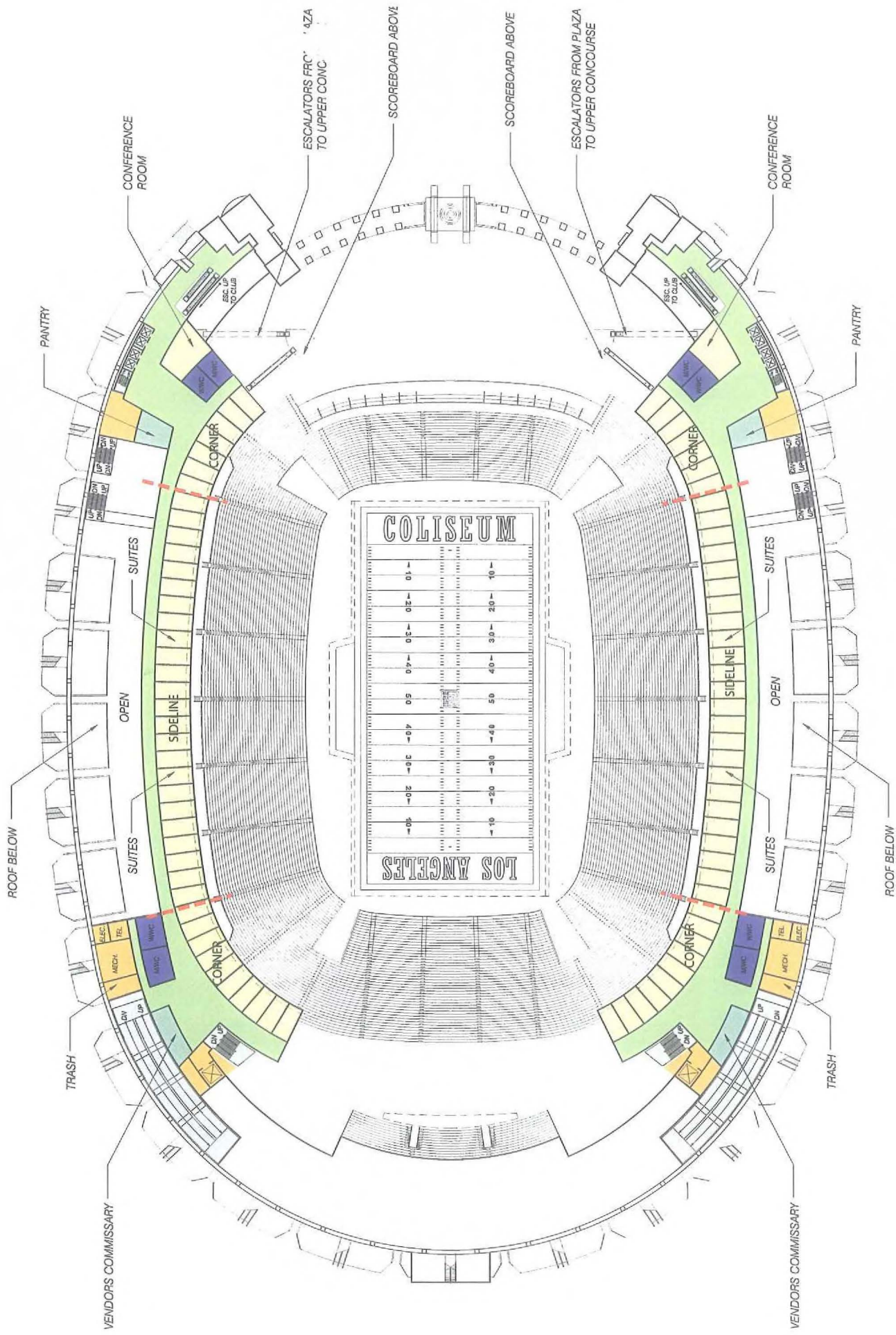
PLAZA BOWL SUITES: 14 (288)

LOS ANGELES MEMORIAL COLISEUM

A202 - Lower Club Level



0 10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 100

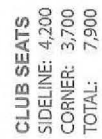


SUITES
 SIDELINE: 48 (768)
 CORNER: 34 (544)
 TOTAL: 82 (1,312)

LOS ANGELES MEMORIAL COLISEUM

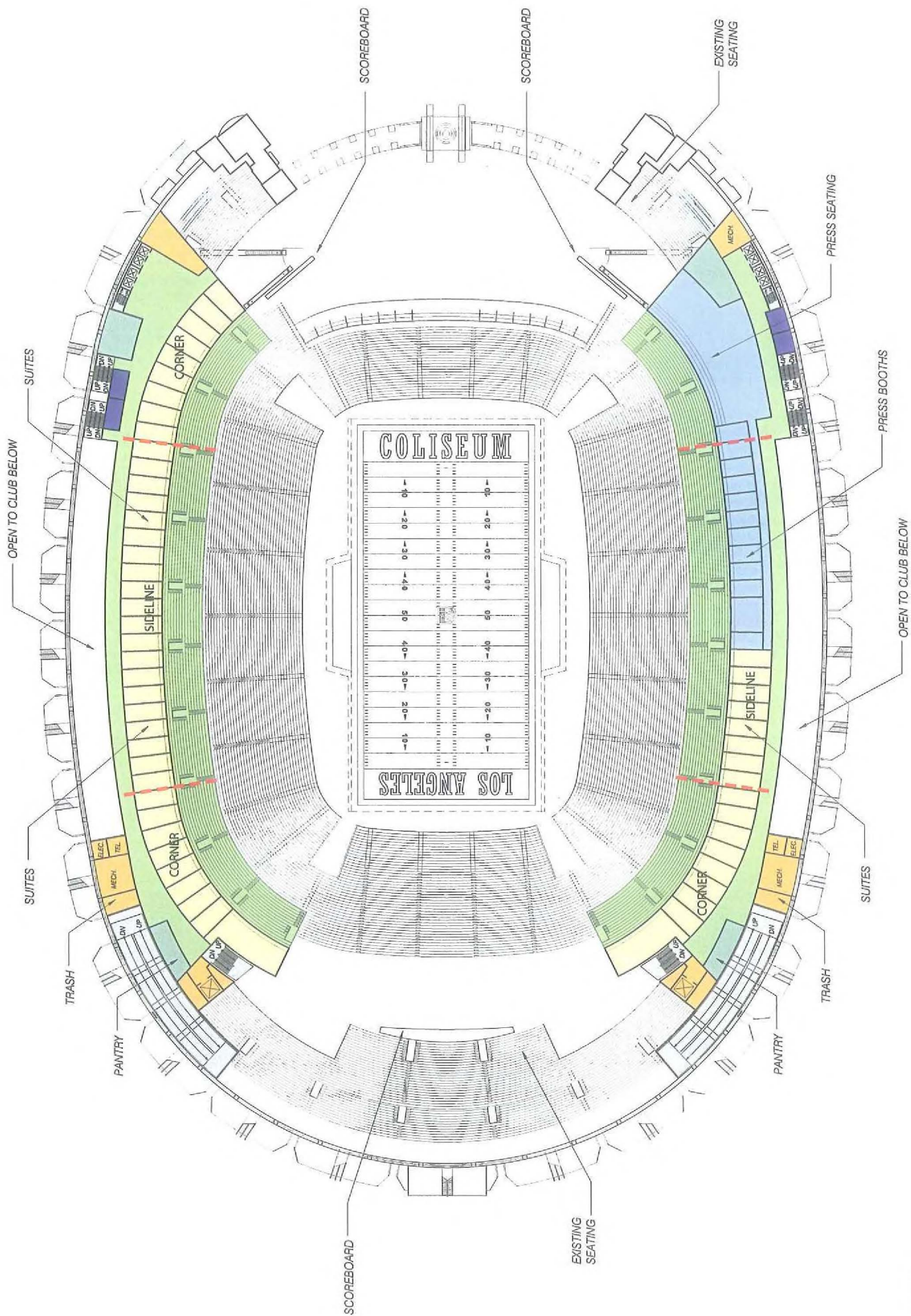
A204 - Mid Suite Level - Tower Suite Scheme





4205 - Club Level





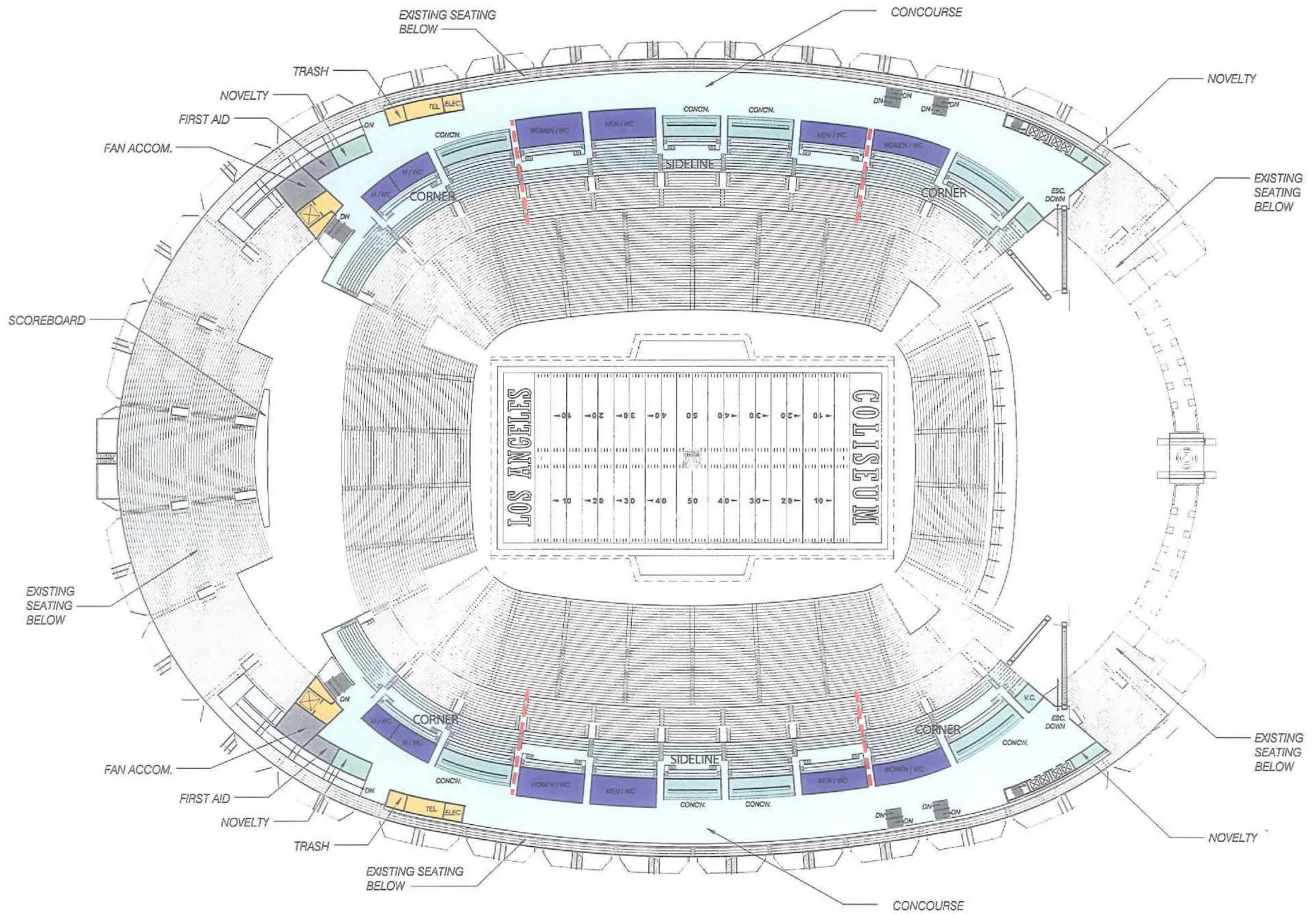
SUITES
 SIDELINE: 28 (448)
 CORNER: 27 (448)
 TOTAL: 55 (896)

LOS ANGELES MEMORIAL COLISEUM

A206 - Upper Suite / Press Level



May 25th, 2005



UPPER BOWL
 SIDELINE: 14,200
 CORNER: 13,100
 TOTAL: 27,300

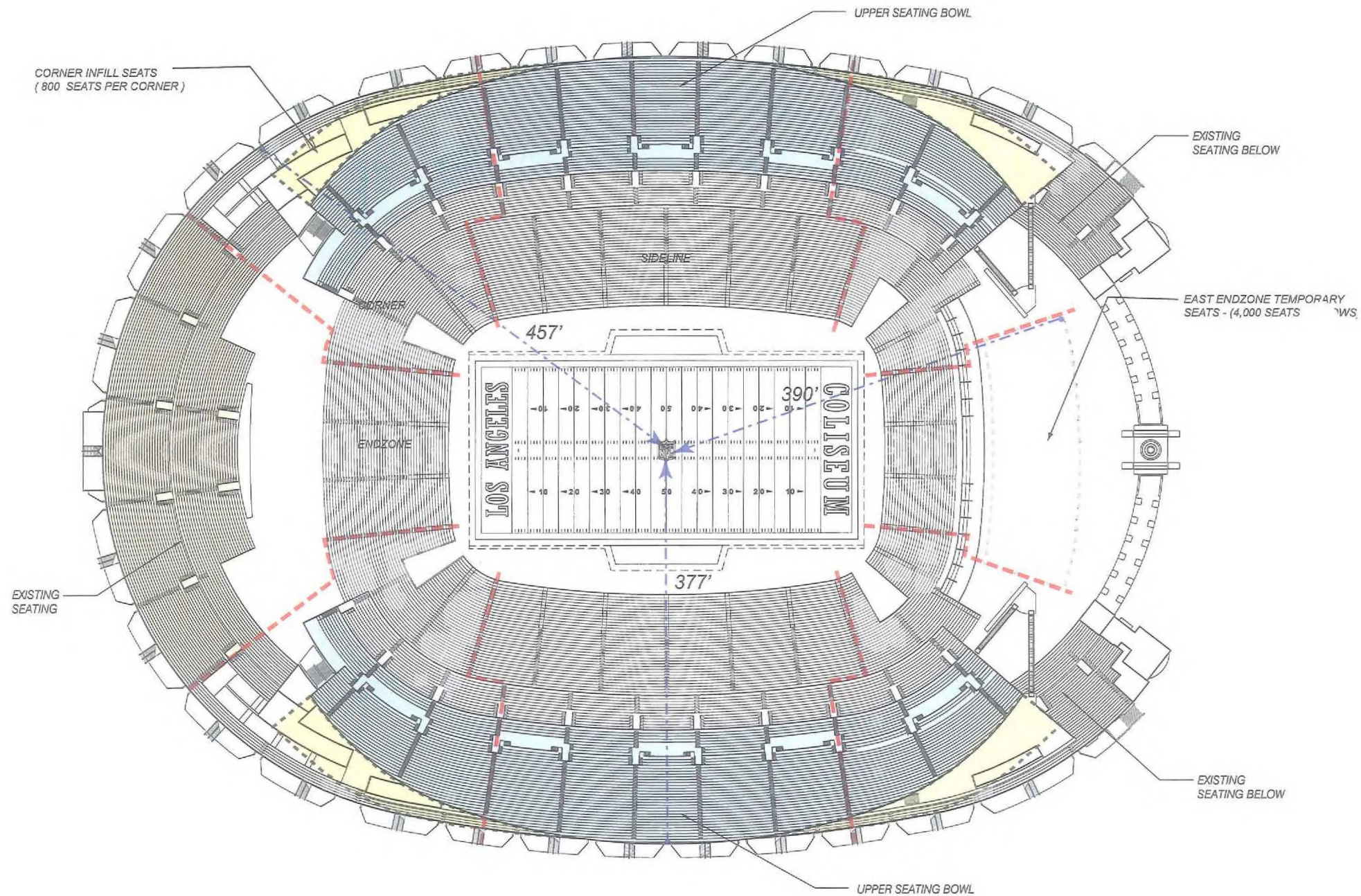
LOS ANGELES MEMORIAL COLISEUM

A207 - Upper Concourse

0 10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 100 FEET



RTKL Associates Inc.



TOTAL FIXED SEATS: 67,500
 EXISTING SEATS WEST ENDZONE: 7,500
 TEMPORARY SEATS EAST ENDZONE: 4,000
 TOTAL SEATS: 79,000

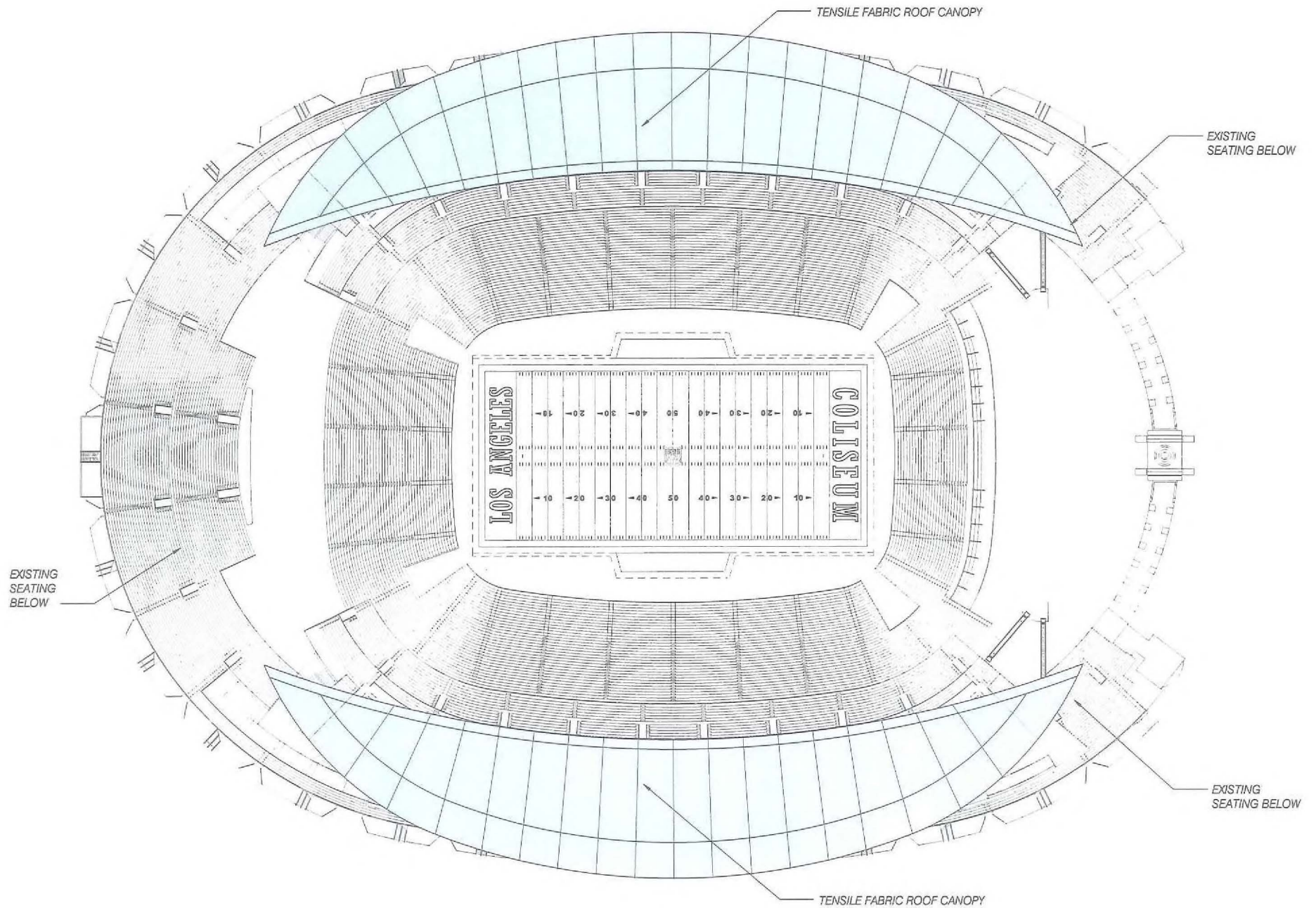
LOS ANGELES MEMORIAL COLISEUM

A208 - Overall Seating Bowl

1" = 40'



RTKL Associates Inc.



LOS ANGELES MEMORIAL COLISEUM

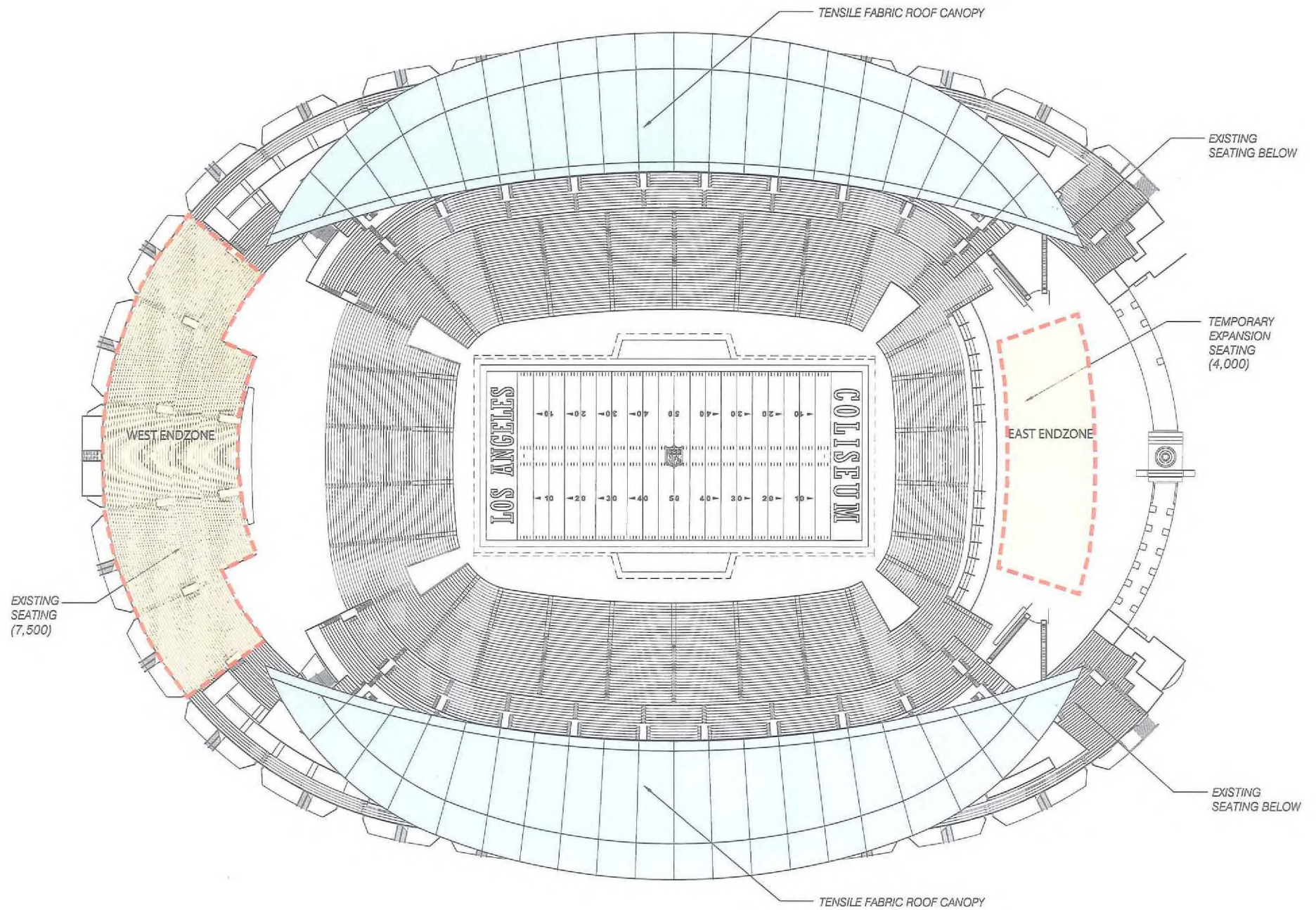
May 25th, 2006

A209 - Roof Plan

0 10 20 30 Feet



RTKL Associates Inc.



TEMPORARY SEATS
 WEST ENDZONE: 7,500
 EAST ENDZONE: 4,000
 TOTAL: 11,500

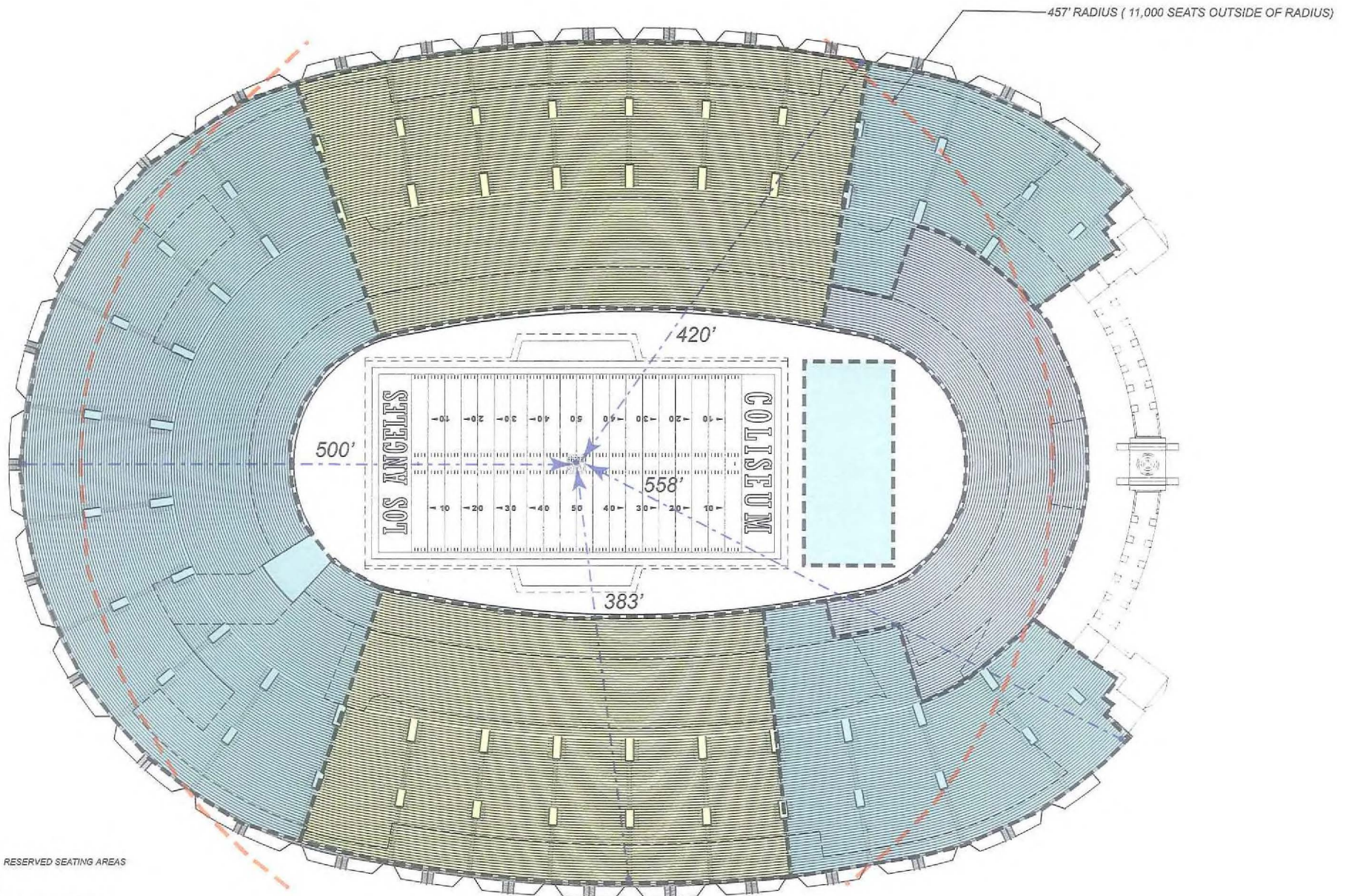
LOS ANGELES MEMORIAL COLISEUM



A210 - Temporary Expansion Seating

0 10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 100



RTKL Associates Inc.



-  RESERVED SEATING AREAS
-  GENERAL SEATING AREAS
-  NO SEATING AREAS

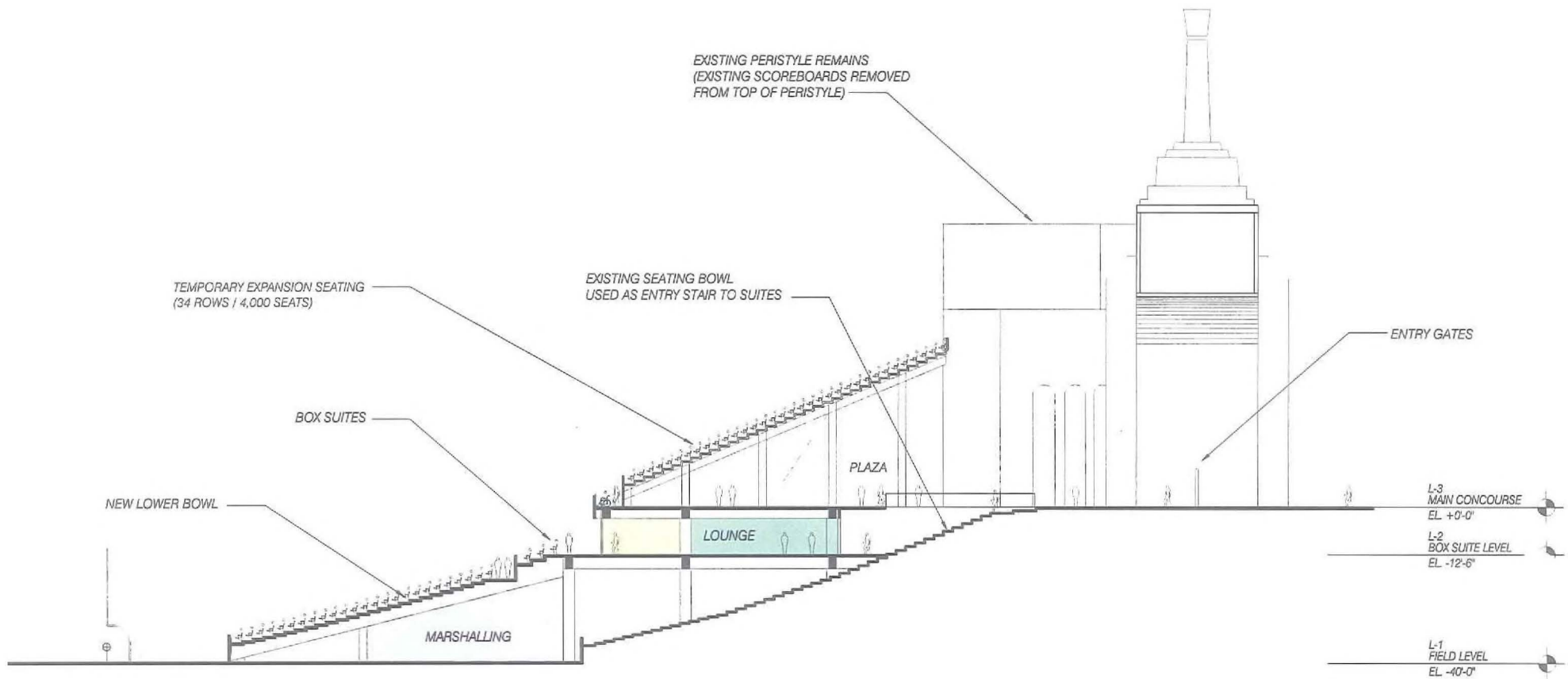
CURRENT CAPACITY: 91,000 SEATS

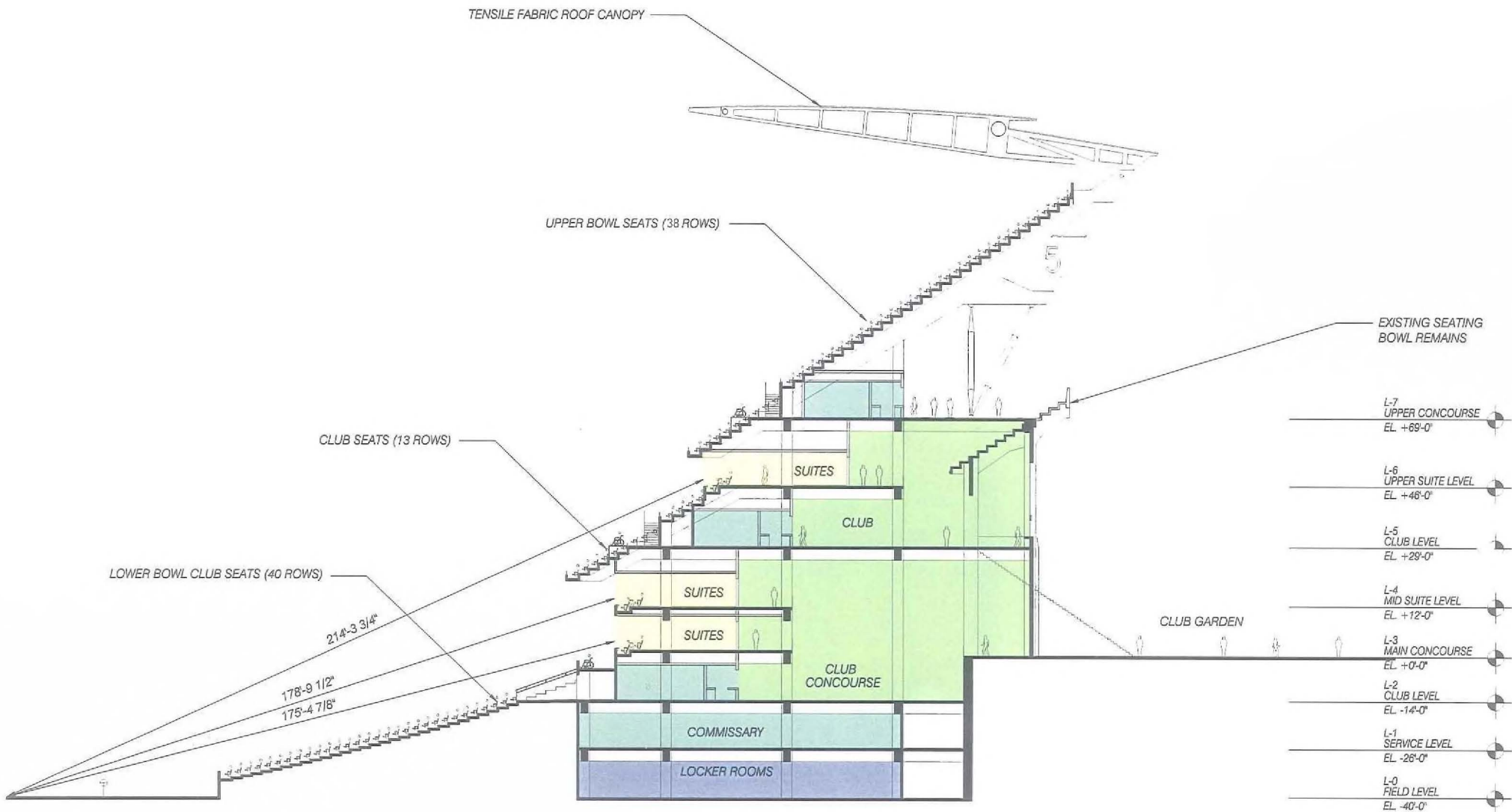
LOS ANGELES MEMORIAL COLISEUM

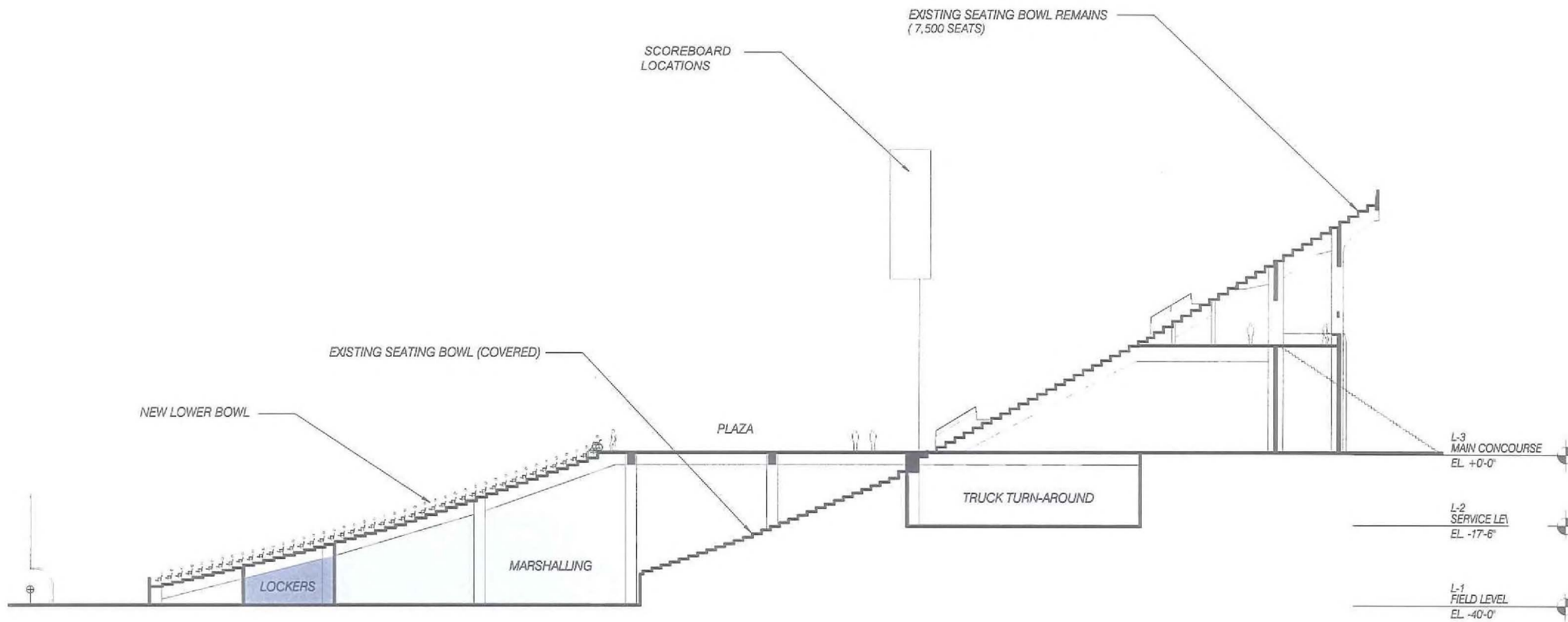
A211 - Existing Configuration



RTKL Associates Inc.









Exterior View of Peristyle



Interior View of Peristyle



View of Seating Bowl and Field



View of Perimeter



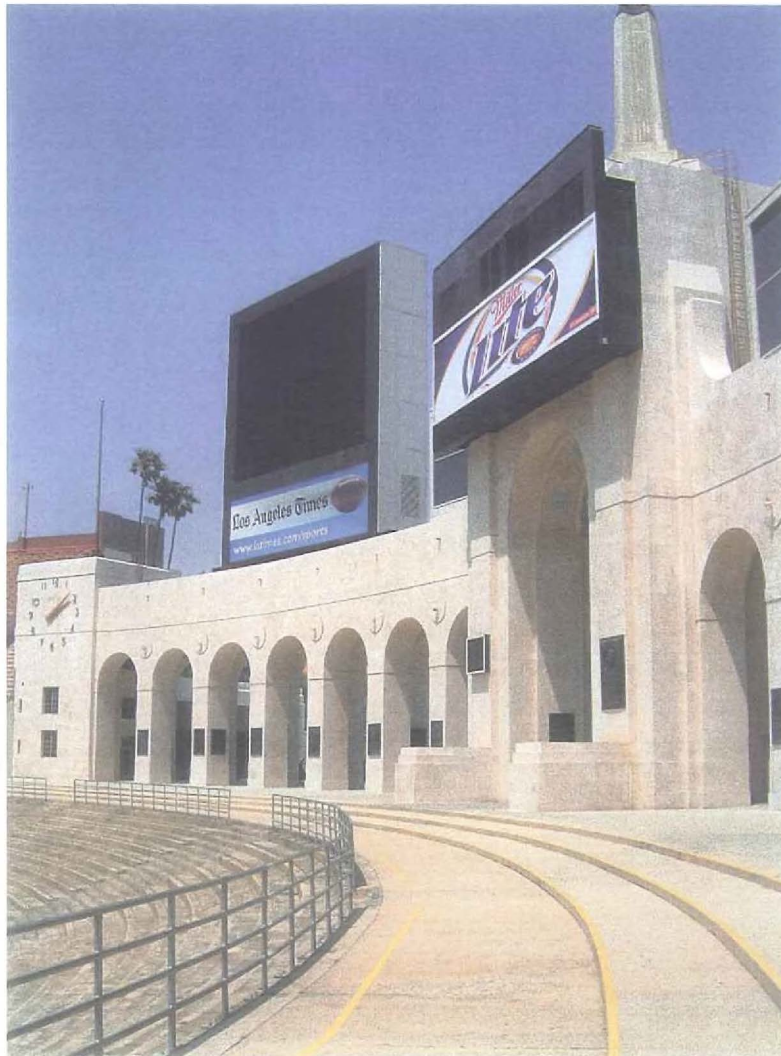
Exterior View of South Peristyle End



Exterior View of North Peristyle End



View of Berm Access Stairs




Detail Interior View of Peristyle

REPORT OF THE CHIEF LEGISLATIVE ANALYST

TO: Honorable Members Ad Hoc Stadium Committee

April 21, 2006

FROM: Gerry F. Miller 
Chief Legislative Analyst

Assignment No.: 06-04-0670

Rehabilitation of the Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum

SUMMARY:

On April 18, 2006, Councilmember Bernard Parks introduced a motion (CF 06-0873) relative to the rehabilitation of the Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum as a venue for a professional football team. The Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum Commission, a joint powers authority among the City, County and State, has been working with the National Football League (NFL) to bring a team to the Coliseum. The motion is scheduled to be heard in the City Council on Tuesday, April 25, 2006.

As stated in the motion, in order for a professional football team to use the Coliseum and its related facilities in Exposition Park, certain land use documents must be developed and approved addressing the rehabilitation/renovation and use of the Coliseum. As set forth in the Joint powers authority, the City is responsible for land use approvals relating to the Coliseum.

The motion seeks the following:

1. Initiate actions necessary to establish a Coliseum Specific Plan with Exposition Park addressing permitted uses, alcoholic beverage service, and parking and signage for the Coliseum;
2. Instruct the Planning Department to prepare necessary land use documents, including the Specific Plan and assign staff needed to process the draft Specific Plan in a timely manner; and,
3. Instruct the Chief Legislative Analyst (CLA), Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA), City Attorney and other departments to report to the Ad Hoc Stadium Committee on April 26, 2006 to provide a status report and recommendations relative to the use of the Coliseum as a NFL venue.

With the enactment of AB 2805 and subsequent City Council actions amending the Exposition/University Park (formerly Hoover) Redevelopment Project Area (including extending the life of the project area), City staff has been working closely with Coliseum representatives to determine the feasibility and extent of public participation. It is likely, that along with land use actions, a cooperation agreement among the City, CRA and Coliseum Commission will be necessary. Such agreement would set forth the terms of any public participation. Council has previously stipulated that only funds generated by the project itself may be used to assist in infrastructure improvements within Exposition Park and that no City General Funds may be used for Coliseum

CD's
889

AD HOC STADIUM
COMMITTEE 

rehabilitation/renovation (construction).

It is anticipated that status presentations will be made to the Committee, as follows:

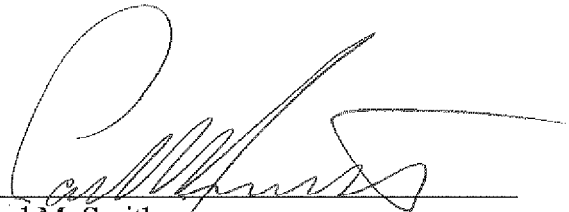
- Coliseum Commission/NFL Activities;
- CRA Cooperation Agreements relative to infrastructure improvements; and,
- NFL/Coliseum Commission Specific Plan and Development Agreement.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the City Council authorize the CLA, with the cooperation and assistance of the CRA, Planning Department, and the City Attorney, to continue negotiations with the Memorial Coliseum Commission and other parties of interest relative to necessary and appropriate land use and cooperation agreements setting forth the terms of any public participation relative to the use of the Memorial Coliseum as a NFL venue.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no General Fund impact. Revenues associated with any public participation are to be generated solely by tax increment funds produced by the increase of Coliseum property valuation as a result of NFL investments in the rehabilitation/renovation of the Coliseum and cannot be used for Coliseum construction per AB 2805 and prior City Council action.



Paul M. Smith
Legislative Analyst

TO CITY CLERK FOR PLACEMENT ON NEXT SPECIAL ORDER BE POSTED	#55
MOTION	

The Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum Commission, a joint powers authority of the City, County of Los Angeles and State of California, has expressed its desire to enter into an agreement with the National Football League in order to bring a professional football team to the Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum (Coliseum).

The Council has taken several actions over the years relative to the rehabilitation of the Coliseum for use as an NFL venue, including stipulating that only funds generated by the project itself may be used to help finance the construction, and no General Fund money may be used. The CLA, CRA, City Attorney, Coliseum Commission staff and involved departments have been meeting to determine what public participation may be feasible. It is likely that a Cooperation Agreement between the City, CRA and Coliseum Commission will be required which will outline the terms of any public participation.

In order for a professional football team to utilize the Coliseum and related facilities within Exposition Park, it is necessary to process certain land use documents, addressing the renovation and use of the Coliseum.

The City, pursuant to the joint powers authority agreement, is responsible for land use approvals relating to the Coliseum.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the Council initiate the process to establish the Coliseum District Specific Plan within Exposition Park, bounded by Exposition Boulevard on the north, Figueroa Street on the east, Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard on the south and Vermont Avenue on the west. This Specific Plan shall address permitted uses, alcoholic beverage service, parking and signage requirements for the Coliseum and related facilities; and,

I FURTHER MOVE that the Planning Department be instructed to prepare the necessary land use documents, including the Coliseum District Specific Plan, and assign staffing as needed to process the draft Specific Plan in a timely manner, with the goal that the proposed Specific Plan would be presented to the City Council for its consideration; and,

I FURTHER MOVE that the Council instruct the CLA, CRA, City Attorney and other departments and agencies as appropriate to report to the Ad Hoc Stadium Committee on April 26, 2006 to provide a status report and recommendations relative to the rehabilitation of the Coliseum for use as an NFL venue.

PRESENTED BY:

Bernard C. Parks
Councilman, 8th District

SECONDED BY:

APR 18 2006