



Chicago's New Lakefront Legacy

A replacement state-of-the-art stadium, coupled with investments to make northern Burnham Park and the Museum Campus a year-round destination, will drive meaningful economic benefits for the City, County, and State for decades to come.

KEEPING THE BEARS IN CHICAGO

Chicago is the home of the Bears. A replacement publicly-owned stadium accommodating NFL games ensures that fans' energy and passion remains at Burnham Park, building on a half-century of lakefront football and a century of hosting the city's biggest cultural events. Today, the Bears occupy the oldest stadium in the NFL. A new, replacement lakefront stadium offers an opportunity to **enhance economic development** and to establish a recreation and cultural campus anchored by the replacement stadium, playfields, and adjacent museums as a year-round **civic amenity** for all Chicagoans.

ECONOMIC BENEFITS OF A REPLACEMENT STADIUM

The Bears' presence in Chicago helps drive our local economy, and a replacement publicly-owned Burnham Park stadium offers the opportunity to meaningfully grow those positive economic impacts. The delivery of the stadium and adjacent year-round lakefront improvements will result in:

\$8.4B in one-time regional economic impacts during construction, supporting **43,000 job-years** of employment

\$450M+ in ongoing regional economic impacts from operations, supporting **4,000+ permanent jobs**

\$1.3B in fiscal revenues to the City, County, and State governments from stadium construction and 30 years of operations

- A modern, domed facility with expanded capacity situated within an iconic Chicago location creates the potential to **attract new global events** such as the Super Bowl, college football championships, the Final Four, and new concerts. It will also attract **additional events during winter months** and a greater number of visitors from both within and beyond Cook County and Illinois.
- More day trippers, overnight game, concert and event attendees and NFL, media, and event staff will visit and **spend money in Chicago.**

Across the region, the Bears recognize the opportunity to **create a plan for inclusive growth** as a part of stadium development, leveraging the economic opportunity from stadium development to benefit a range of local residents and businesses.

*Ongoing impact figures reflect gross impacts of new stadium activities and associated visitor spending. Approximately 25% of these impacts are new to the local economy in that they (a) exceed current Soldier Field impacts and (b) exclude outside restaurant and retail spending that would otherwise occur within Chicago, Cook County, and Illinois based on stadium visitor origin.

CONSTRUCTION

A replacement publicly-owned stadium and associated Burnham Park improvements will be one of **the largest building construction projects in the region's history**, representing **\$4.7B** of direct capital investment and creating opportunities for a regional workforce.

	Chicago	Region
Jobs (Job-Years)	24,000	43,000
Economic Impact	\$5.0B	\$8.4B
Labor Income	\$2.4B	\$3.5B

Impacts incurred presented in 2025\$. Regional impacts include Chicago as well as spillover impacts throughout Chicagoland.

ANNUAL IMPACTS

	Chicago	Region
Jobs Supported	2,300	4,200
Economic Impact	\$248M	\$456M
Labor Income	\$92M	\$170M

MWBE PARTICIPATION

CBFC intends to work with its governmental and private sector partners to ensure that MWBE construction and other firms are well represented within the project.

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Economic & fiscal impact projection prepared by: **HR&A**

AN OPPORTUNITY TO REVITALIZE THE LAKEFRONT

Along with the introduction of a **publicly-owned replacement stadium**, this effort presents an opportunity to **revitalize Chicago's incredible civic lakefront** by increasing open space, reconfiguring transportation to improve access, and creating an integrated visionary recreation and cultural campus with two hubs – the replacement stadium and the adjacent museums. Residents and visitors already treasure the lakefront's green and blue spaces and beloved museums and institutions, despite physical barriers between the lakefront and downtown. Enhancements to physical connections and amenities will improve accessibility and activate the lakefront even further as an iconic year-round destination within Chicago. The relocation of the stadium offers an **opportunity to enhance the public open space experience by repositioning underutilized sites** and parking lots while maintaining or increasing green space and advancing the vision set forth both in the original plan for Burnham Park and in the recent strategic plan, A Vision for a Reimagined Museum Campus, developed by the City, lakefront institutions, and other stakeholders. Intentional efforts to improve the synergy of civic, cultural, recreation, entertainment, hospitality and food and beverage uses can attract additional residents and visitors throughout the year, activate a broader cultural, amusement and recreation campus, and bring a vibrancy and energy for the next century to Chicago's lakefront, one of America's great civic waterfronts.



SIGNATURE VISITATION EVENTS*

Marquee events offer significant additional economic impacts; recent economic impact studies of Super Bowls estimate **\$350M-\$400M** in economic impact.



Super Bowl
Attendance:
68,000 (2023)

Chicago has never hosted



College Football Championship
Attendance:
73,000 (2023)

Chicago has never hosted



NCAA Final Four
Attendance:
72,000
(2023, per event)

Chicago has never hosted

*The economic projections in this document do not include the above signature visitation events.

FISCAL IMPACTS

	City of Chicago	Cook County	State of Illinois
One-Time Construction (2025\$)			\$97M
Annual Tax Revenue* (2025\$)	\$36M <i>Amusement, sales, hotel taxes</i>	\$13M <i>Amusement, sales, hotel taxes</i>	\$15M <i>Business and personal income, hotel, sales taxes</i>
30-Year Net Present Value*	\$680M	\$240M	\$370M

All data reflects programmatic assumptions that may change as specific design plans evolve. Fiscal impacts exclude property taxes. Net present value calculations include construction and 30 years of ongoing operations. These calculations measure the value of money over time, discounting values that are counted further in the future. Annual local taxes from ongoing operations are 37% higher with the replacement stadium than current operations at Soldier Field.