

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Background:

Denver Arts & Venues (DAV) is renovating the historic Theatre at Loretto Heights into a publicly owned performing arts venue that will provide cultural programming, community access, and workforce development opportunities.

Following years of community engagement, operational planning, and evaluation of multiple operating models, DAV identified a partnership with the Community College of Denver (CCD) as the preferred approach for operating the venue. This model allows the City to retain ownership and long-term stewardship of the facility while leveraging CCD's educational mission and operational capacity to support day-to-day venue management and workforce development.

Current Request:

Denver Arts & Venues requests City Council approval of an Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) between the City and County of Denver and the Community College of Denver to establish the operational partnership for the Theatre at Loretto Heights.

Scope of Work:

The agreement establishes the roles and responsibilities of Denver Arts & Venues and the Community College of Denver for operation of the Theatre at Loretto Heights.

Under the agreement:

- Denver Arts & Venues will retain ownership of the facility and responsibility for capital planning, major maintenance, asset management, and overall oversight of the venue.
- The Community College of Denver will manage the day-to-day operation of the venue, including staffing, event booking, programming, ticketing, marketing, facility operations, and financial management.
- CCD will develop and operate a workforce development program that provides students with hands-on training in venue management, technical production, hospitality, marketing, and performing arts operations.
- The agreement establishes requirements for annual budgeting, financial reporting, performance reporting, utilization targets, maintenance responsibilities, branding, public art coordination, and operational standards to ensure the venue supports the City's goals for community access, cultural programming, financial sustainability, and historic preservation.