



DENVER
ARTS & VENUES

ARGUS EXECUTIVE SUMMARY



MISSION

Arts & Venues enriches and advances Denver's quality of life and economic vitality through the advancement of arts, cultural, and entertainment opportunities for all.



BACKGROUND

In 2017 Denver Arts & Venues (DAV), through GS Purchasing Division, released an RFP for Event and Personnel Staffing services for DAV facilities. These services include event security, crowd control, ushering, ticket-scanning, traffic control and various other services. Argus Event Staffing, LLC. was awarded a three-year service contract THTRS-201738467, from 1/1/2018 through 12/31/2020 with an option for two mutually agreed upon, one-year extensions through 12/31/2022 by letter of notification.

CURRENT REQUEST

DAV is seeking City Council approval of an amendment with Argus Event Staffing to increase the contract maximum to \$34,000,000; The need for the increased contract amount is driven by:

- Wage rates across all classes of employees have increased with lowest hourly compensation increasing 50% from \$11.00 per hour on 1/1/2018 to \$16.50 on 1/1/2022 and highest hourly compensation increasing 52% from \$19.08 per hour on 1/1/2018 to \$29.00 per hour on 1/1/2022.
- Both promoters and performers are often requiring that attendees must be fully vaccinated and show proof of vaccination prior to entry which has resulted in the need for additional personnel and costs. COVID19 conditions may continue to drive needs for additional labor.
- The agreement covers event services provided at Red Rocks Amphitheatre, the Denver Coliseum, the McNichols Civic Center Building, the Ellie Caulkins Opera House, the Buell Theater and Boettcher Concert Hall.
- The majority of the charges under this agreement are billed back to the tenants utilizing DAV facilities.

Request 21-1312

- Amends a contract with Argus Event Staffing, LLC by adding \$14,000,000 for a new total of \$34,000,000 and two years for a new end date of 12-31-22 to provide security, crowd control, usher, parking supervision and vaccination verification services (as needed) at Denver Arts & Venues events (THTRS-201738467).

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- **Vaccination Verification Process**

- Vaccine verification applies primarily to Resident Company performances and may not apply to all rental events or other activities.
- Argus staff are stationed outside of the venue, prior to ticket entry. Staff in blue vests check vaccination cards, or by other verifiable means (e.g. mycolorado app). Vaccine status is checked against the patron ID. Currently, children under 12 must provide proof of negative PCR test.

- **Security and Licensing**

- Event staffing primarily consists of crowd management, usher services, and screening for contraband at the entrance; they are outside the definition of the security licensing ordinance.
- For those requiring licensure, Argus has worked with Excise and Licenses on compliance with guards licenses related to event staffing under – Article V, Chapter 42 section 42-132, C (5) of DRMC.
- Arts Complex Facility security is currently managed by HSS. DPD/DSD is on site for every performance for incident management.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- **Billing Process**

- Argus Event Staffing bills Denver Arts & Venues weekly for event services provided at DAV locations.
- Billing is subject to review and approval by venue managers.
- DAV bills expenses back to event promoters or venue tenants as outlined in event DAV's booking agreements.