

July 18th, 2011

**THE METROPOLITAN ENTERTAINMENT & CONVENTION AUTHORITY (MECA)
ANNOUNCES ISSUANCE OF A REQUEST FOR INTEREST (RFI) TO
DEVELOPERS FOR A MIXED USE DEVELOPMENT TO INCLUDE A FULL-SERVICE
CONVENTION HOTEL IN OMAHA, NEBRASKA**

This announcement is only for the purpose of seeking development interest in this opportunity. All interested parties are encouraged to register with their full contact information at <http://www.omahameca.com/HotelRFI.aspx>. Registered parties will be notified of the issuance of a subsequent Request for Proposals (RFP).

The Metropolitan Entertainment & Convention Authority (MECA) in partnership with the City of Omaha, is seeking qualified firms to acquire and develop a parcel of land that is owned by the City of Omaha. This parcel is located in downtown Omaha adjacent to the Qwest/CenturyLink Center Omaha Arena and Convention Center and three blocks from the new TD Ameritrade Park Omaha. The ballpark and Qwest/CenturyLink Center Omaha are home to such events as the NCAA Men's College World Series, Nighthawks UFL football team, U.S. Olympic Swim Trials, Red Sky Music Festival and dozens of other concerts. The Qwest/CenturyLink Center Omaha Convention Center is also host to the annual meetings of Berkshire Hathaway, Kiewit Corporation and Home Instead. The property is within walking distance of Omaha's popular Old Market District, Holland Performing Arts Center and the Missouri Riverfront's iconic Bob Kerrey Pedestrian Bridge. Omaha's recently adopted Downtown Master Plan envisions the site as a prime location for a large mixed use development project that will serve as a key link between the Old Market and the Qwest/CenturyLink Center and TD Ameritrade Park districts.

The remediated property is approximately six acres in size and was converted in 2009 into a 510 stall surface parking lot which presently serves the Qwest/CenturyLink Center Omaha. The property at a minimum will need to be developed into the following components: 350 room full-service convention hotel with integrated office, residential, retail and parking components. MECA has retained the services of HVS to provide a market study of the hotel component. Developer incentives, subject to approval by the City of Omaha, may include tax increment financing, write down of land acquisition costs, infrastructure enhancements and structured parking.

Upon issuance of a subsequent Request for Proposals (RFP), respondents will at a minimum be required to submit conceptual drawings, technical details of their proposal and an overview of the project's financial feasibility.

The RFP process will culminate in the selection of a qualified developer or development team and negotiation of a redevelopment agreement with the City of Omaha. The agreement will include the financing, design, construction and operation of the proposed mixed use development by the selected developer or development team.

Key dates in this process are: (Note: dates are tentative and subject to change)

- Monday, July 18, 2011 – Request for Interest (RFI) issued
- Friday, August 12, 2011– Last day for interested parties to register at <http://www.omahameca.com/HotelRFI.aspx>.
- Wednesday, August 17, 2011 – Issuance of the Request for Proposals (RFP)
- Friday, September 16, 2011 – Responses to RFP due
- Friday, September 23, 2011 – Development team finalists announced
- Week of Monday, October 10, 2011 – Interviews with development team finalists
- Monday, October 17, 2011 – Selected developer announced

All questions and correspondence regarding this Request for Interest should be submitted via email to: rfp@omahameca.com.

Updated information regarding this RFP will posted at: <http://www.omahameca.com/hotelrfp>

MECA reserves the right to reissue, remove or modify all aspects of this offering.