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MEMORANDUM

To: Ald. Marina Dimitrijevic
From: Gunnar Raasch, Legislative and Fiscal Services Specialist
Date: 6/17/2025
Subject: Convention Center PILOT Agreements

This memorandum is in response to your inquiry pertaining to other convention centers' payment in lieu of taxes (PILOT) agreements.

Multiple methods (Google searches, scanning spreadsheets of PILOT agreements, and specific searches based on a list of convention centers) were used to identify other convention centers that have PILOT agreements with a local government. However, only two such cases were found.

1. Nashville.ⁱ

The Metropolitan Government of Nashville negotiated a PILOT agreement with the Music City Center (MCC) in 2019. As part of this agreement, MCC pays the metropolitan government an annual amount based on the property tax rate and the value of the MCC. In FY2020 this amount was \$12,620,000 and in FY2021 the amount was \$16,884,000. The agreement stipulates that all funds received "shall be used solely for the purposes of funding affordable and workforce housing initiatives".

2. New Orleansⁱⁱ

New Orleans reached a PILOT agreement with the Ernest N. Morial Center, which received an estimated \$114 million in public subsidies. As part of the agreement, which was passed by the Louisiana state legislature in 2019, the Center agreed to pay between \$3 and \$5 million dollars to local tax authorities annually. It does not appear that the agreement established requirements for how the local governments could expend those funds.

Please let me know if you have any other questions.

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ⁱ Convention Center Authority of the Metropolitan Government of Nashville and Davidson County, Tennessee. "Financial Statements". June 2021.

https://www.nashvillemcc.com/sites/default/files/media/Quarterly%20Reports/mcc_fy2021_audit.pdf

ⁱⁱ The Lens NoLa. "At Meeting this Week, More Details Emerge on New Convention Center Hotel Deal". (2019)
<https://thelensnola.org/2019/10/23/at-meeting-this-week-more-details-emerge-on-new-convention-center-hotel-deal/>