

2016 Equestrian Centers, Fair & Festival Construction Update

UNITED STATES

ARIZONA

YUMA

YUMA COUNTY FAIR

FEATURES: Populous is working on a \$90 million relocation plan. The feasibility study includes the development of a concept master plan, identification of 3 potential sites and order-of-magnitude cost estimates. Awaiting funding.

CALIFORNIA

PETALUMA

CALIFORNIA EQUESTRIAN PARK AND EVENT CENTER

FEATURES: The goal is to build a \$200 million equestrian park on 1,000 acres, beginning in 2018 and completed in 2023. The master plan by GH2 Gralla Equestrian Architects includes an equestrian complex for public use, trails exclusively for horse riding, carriage driving, and hiking and arenas designed for specific riding disciplines. The facility would be able to host international equestrian events and provide boarding for polo horses, racehorses in training, and horses attending shows. A conditioning track, emergency sheltering and staging facilities, education/conference center, an equine intensive care center, horse campground and museum are also planned features. As of Nov. 13, they had 774 signatures, of a goal of 1,000, to move the project forward.

COLORADO

DENVER

NATIONAL WESTERN CENTER

FEATURES: Property acquisition, site remediation and other studies are underway for the planning of the new \$800 million National Western Center. It will be community oriented, used year-round. It will occupy 1,800,000 sq. ft. with Phase 1 scheduled for completion in 2017. The New National Western site is part of the old site. Selected buildings will be retained but the stockyards will be taken out, new livestock facilities will be built, and the replacement stockyards will be removable to become an entertainment zone for concerts the rest of the year. Venues are multipurpose. Populous is the architect. National Western Stock Show & Rodeo is the owner/operator.

PUEBLO

COLORADO STATE FAIR

FEATURES: Populous is developing a study for the entry gate design and planning at the Colorado State Fairgrounds. The study includes an operational assessment looking at pedestrian and vehicular flow

and volume at the various entries to the fairgrounds. The operational portion of the study is being led by Populous' Denver Event Group and recommendations from their report will inform the renovation, expansion and addition of entry gate structures around the historic fairgrounds campus. Opening is slated for 2017.

FLORIDA

MIAMI

MIAMI DADE COUNTY FAIR

FEATURES: This 10-year masterplan for the existing 86.6-acre site is being prepared by Populous. It would add a 300,000 sq. ft. multipurpose event center for consumer and trade shows, recreational events and service as a Disaster Relief Center for multiple counties.

KANSAS

KANSAS CITY

AMERICAN ROYAL

FEATURES: The American Royal Association is moving to a new \$160-million complex in Kansas, which will include arena space, exhibit space, high-quality barn/expo space and a new agriculture education center and museum. The agricultural education center will provide a state-of-the-art learning experience, covering all facets of the food and agricultural industry. The goal is to provide a unique, interactive food and agricultural learning experience, both indoor and outdoor, to instill a higher level of trust and knowledge about modern food and agricultural practices.

TOPEKA

KANSAS EXPOCENTRE

FEATURES: The county has committed \$40 million, raised through a small tax to upgrade Domer Arena, which has peaked-out of the type of shows it could do. Construction starts in 2018, to be completed in 2020. An architect has not been selected yet. SMG manages the venue. Preliminary plans are to add 200 new stalls, barns, a covered warm up arena, upgrade the current arena with new footing and add more RV spaces.

MARYLAND

FAIR HILL

FAIR HILL NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT AREA

FEATURES: Already home to the Fair Hill International, the bid is in to add another four-star event from Federation Equestre Internationale. The area was a fox hunting estate and pop-up facilities are built each year to accommodate events. Populous is working on a major master plan and venue design that would make it

possible for Fair Hill to host a new FEI dressage and show jumping competition that would draw 30,000-40,000 spectators and cross country day hosting 70,000-80,000. It would include permanently built infrastructure, but most of the 24,000-seat main stadium would be temporary, along the lines of the equestrian pop-up facilities for the Olympics in London. The Maryland Stadium Authority and Department of Agriculture are involved in the bid.

MISSISSIPPI

JACKSON

MISSISSIPPI STATE FAIR

FEATURES: This new 100,000-sq.-ft. multipurpose Trade Mart & Events Center attached to the existing Mississippi Coliseum would allow both buildings to work together or independently. The Trade Mart is located for easy access between the Carnival Midway and the commercial exhibits, which will be housed in this building during the Fair. The project is funded and in design. The new multipurpose building will have a larger kitchen, pre-function space, service quarters, and state of the art amenities. They will start construction the middle of next year. Populous is the architect.

NEW MEXICO

ALBUQUERQUE

NEW MEXICO STATE FAIR

FEATURES: Populous is working on a master plan to expand the site.

NEW YORK

SYRACUSE

NEW YORK STATE FAIR

FEATURES: After the successful completion of all of the elements of the \$60 million Phase I Master Plan, which opened in June, Populous is beginning a Phase II Master Plan which will include a new 100,000+-sq.-ft. hybrid multipurpose building, open and covered equestrian arenas, enhancement of the New York Experience Festival area and a new 4H/FFA Livestock Complex.

OKLAHOMA

ARDMORE

HARDY MURPHY COLISEUM

FEATURES: Populous is providing a comprehensive study of the historic Hardy Murphy Coliseum and Event Campus. The study identifies a wide range of projects to enhance user experience, generate additional revenue, and address operational and facility needs. The report is a road map to assist the owner with identifying and prioritizing capitol projects

that will be funded by a new hotel/motel tax.

CHICKASHA

GRADY COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS

FEATURES: Populous continues to partner with the Grady County Fairgrounds in the design and construction of new facilities. After developing a comprehensive master plan for the fairgrounds campus, the architect designed a new \$2.5-million rodeo arena that opened in 2015. A new climate controlled, 90,000-sq.-ft. indoor arena is under construction and is scheduled for completion in July 2017. Construction is a few months ahead of schedule, to open in May. The new arena is designed to reflect the historic WPA buildings on the fairgrounds campus and will expand capabilities to host large equestrian and livestock events as well as concerts, expo and family entertainment. The venue is capable of holding up to 2,400 seats.

OKLAHOMA CITY

OKLAHOMA STATE FAIRBENNETT EVENT CENTER

FEATURES: Populous was recently commissioned to study and now to design and construct an \$80 million-replacement of the existing main event arena on the fairgrounds. The new arena will have retractable seating on the upper concourse, a diverse seating product in the bowl and all amenities exposed to the bowl. In addition, the new \$44 million Bennett Event Center, which opens in January, is a benchmark for modern expo halls. This class "A" exhibition facility, also designed by Populous, will accommodate commercial exhibits, trade shows, car and boat shows, heavy equipment shows, entertainment events and banquets. The 201,000-sq.-ft. main hall has a column bay spacing of 60 feet with clear spans of 90/120/90 feet across the building to maximize event layout flexibility while also maximizing the building system efficiency for construction cost optimization. The venue includes a 12,000-sq.-ft. kitchen and large prefunction lobby.

SOUTH DAKOTA

RAPID CITY

CENTRAL STATES FAIR

FEATURES: Looking at a multipurpose addition to the fair's existing arena. It will allow them to do more events in one facility and tear down some smaller buildings.

TEXAS

ROUND ROCK

GAREY PARK EQUESTRIAN CENTER

FEATURES: Populous has designed a new equestrian center and equestrian trail network to be

integrated as part of a large park development in Georgetown. The equestrian facilities include a large covered arena, trail head pavilion and covered pens designed around the white limestone and rustic country vernacular of the Texas Hill Country.

UTAH

SALT LAKE CITY

SALT LAKE CITY EQUESTRIAN CENTER

FEATURES: SMG has been working with the county for three years to determine a direction – equestrian recreation. They've selected equestrian. They will be replacing all the old barns and adding RV spaces and giving four older arenas a facelift. No architect has been selected.

AUSTRALIA

SYDNEY

ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY OF NSW

FEATURES: This master plan by Populous calls for significant peripheral development, adjacent residential towers, a multi-level livestock complex and new exhibition facilities. Improvements will be phased in through 2030.

CANADA

ONTARIO

TORONTO

CANADIAN NATIONAL EXHIBITION

FEATURES: Masterplan by Populous. Client discussions with city officials are ongoing for a \$200-million expansion.

ZAMBIA

LUSAKA

AGRICULTURE & COMMERCIAL SOCIETY OF ZAMBIA

FEATURES: The Agricultural and Commercial Show of Zambia is the largest agricultural and show event in the country. The master plan by Populous proposes to develop surplus property as commercial/residential properties and completely redevelop the show grounds with the funds provided with these property sales (estimated at \$32 million). This is an emerging trend in the U.S. as well. Proposed are a 120,000-sq.-ft. exhibition building (largest in the country), outdoor arena with seating for 5,000; events field and an equestrian complex. When completed, this will become the country's official exhibition and events center. Refinement and implementation of the plan is underway.

SOURCE: Venues Today Research/Populous