

FIFA World Cup 2026: Amendment to the Agreement with Arena Event Services Inc. for Temporary Hospitality Structures at Toronto Stadium

Date: November 18, 2025

To: FIFA World Cup 2026 Subcommittee

From: Executive Director, FIFA World Cup 2026 Toronto Secretariat, and Chief Procurement Officer

Wards: All

SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to seek authority from the Executive Committee to amend the agreement with Arena Event Services Inc. for the installation of temporary hospitality structures at Toronto Stadium to support additional semi-permanent fit-out equipment and installation. The contract amendment will provide additional funding to improve visitor experience for ticket holders attending the FIFA World Cup 2026 (FWC26), including the addition of HVAC, power, upgraded finishes, janitor closets, and Automatic External Defibrillators.

Authority is being sought to amend the existing Temporary Hospitality Structures contract with Arena Event Services by an incremental value of \$2,060,048.00 net of Harmonized Sales Tax, to be fully funded through contributions from Maple Leaf Sports & Entertainment (MLSE) with no impact to the \$380.0 million overall budget for the FWC26 as the requirements for these visitor experience improvements is outside the scope required for hosting the FWC26.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Executive Director, FWC26 Toronto Secretariat, and the Chief Procurement Officer recommend that:

1. Executive Committee, in accordance Section 71- 11.1.C of the City of Toronto Municipal Code Chapter 71 (Financial Control Bylaw), grant authority to the Executive Director, FIFA World Cup 2026 Toronto Secretariat, and the Chief Procurement Officer to amend the existing Temporary Hospitality Structures contract with Arena Event Services revising the overall target value from \$23,000,000 to \$25,060,048 net of Harmonized Sales Tax (\$25,501,105 net of Harmonized Sales Tax recoveries).

FINANCIAL IMPACT

Contract Amendment

Arena Event Services' **Temporary Hospitality Structures** contract will be increased by \$2,060,048.00 net of Harmonized Sales Tax to support additional semi-permanent fit-out equipment and installation. To support the contract amendment, Maple Leaf Sports & Entertainment requested that the Toronto Stadium Upgrades project within the 2025-2034 Capital Budget for Exhibition Place be increased accordingly by an additional \$2.06 million in cash flow funding. This incremental expense to the project will be fully funded through contributions from MLSE with no impact to the \$380.0 million overall budget for the FWC26 as this capital expenditure is outside the scope required for hosting the FWC26.

The contract details are as follows:

Original contracted value: \$23,000,000 + HST

Amendment: \$2,060,048 (8.9% increase) + HST, fully funded by MLSE

New contract value: \$25,060,048 + HST

The recommendations in this report will have no impact on the overall budget for the FIFA World Cup 2026. The total estimated cost of hosting the FIFA World Cup 2026 in Toronto, including operating and capital costs, remains unchanged at \$380.0 million gross.

The Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer has reviewed this report and agrees with the financial information as presented in the Financial Impact section.

DECISION HISTORY

On November 12, 2025, City Council adopted EX27.11, "FIFA World Cup 2026 Toronto: Procurement Plan Update".

<https://secure.toronto.ca/council/agenda-item.do?item=2025.EX27.11>

On June 17, 2025, Executive Committee adopted EX24.12, "FIFA World Cup 2026 Toronto: Community Benefits Plan Update, Social Procurement and Workforce Development Status, Community Activation Plan, Marketing and Communications Overview, Support for Concurrent Special Events, Principles of Bidding on International Events, and Purchase Order Amendment".

<https://secure.toronto.ca/council/agenda-item.do?item=2025.FWC5.1>

On May 22, 2025, City Council adopted EX23.16, "FIFA World Cup 2026 Toronto: Procurement Plan Update", updating the procurement plan to procure the goods and services required for the delivery of the FIFA World Cup 2026 Toronto.

<https://secure.toronto.ca/council/agenda-item.do?item=2025.EX23.16>

On April 23, 2025, City Council adopted CC29.3, "Procurement to Support Activities Funded by the Soccer for All Legacy Fund", authorizing staff to negotiate and enter into agreements for the provision of construction and professional services required to deliver up to 12 mini-pitches across Toronto.

<https://secure.toronto.ca/council/agenda-item.do?item=2025.CC29.3>

On November 4, 2024, City Council adopted EX18.17, "FIFA World Cup 2026 Toronto: Revenue Opportunities to Support Hosting Obligations, Procurement Plan Revisions, and Social Procurement and Community Workforce Development Updates", which reflected changes to the procurement plan and goals for social procurement.

<https://secure.toronto.ca/council/agenda-item.do?item=2024.EX18.17>

On July 24, 2024, City Council adopted EX16.32, "FIFA World Cup 2026: Toronto Host City Procurement Plan", which provided approval to proceed in accordance with the procurement plan to procure the goods and services required for the delivery of FIFA World Cup 2026 set out in Confidential Attachment 1.

<https://secure.toronto.ca/council/agenda-item.do?item=2024.EX16.32>

COMMENTS

Contract Amendment

MLSE has proposed increasing the project scope for the Temporary Hospitality Structures to support additional semi-permanent fit-out equipment and installation, including the addition of HVAC, power, upgraded finishes, janitor closets, and Automatic External Defibrillators, which was not included in the original scope for the installation of temporary structures at the Toronto Stadium. The changes proposed via the increase in capital expenditure would improve the visitor experience for ticket holders attending the FWC26 and have legacy benefits beyond the FWC26. City staff are supportive of this contract amendment and associated improvements, which will not result in additional costs to the City. To accommodate this increase in scope, both this amendment and an amendment to the Capital Budget for Exhibition Place are required. The report seeking the amendment to the Capital Budget for Exhibition Place is proceeding to Executive Committee in December 2025.

The increase in project scope necessitated further negotiations with the vendor resulting in the need to increase Arena Event Services' **Temporary Hospitality Structures** contract by \$2.06 million.

CONTACT

Sharon Bollenbach, Executive Director, FIFA World Cup 2026 Toronto Secretariat
Email: Sharon.Bollenbach@toronto.ca; Tel: 416-338-8779

SIGNATURE

Sharon Bollenbach
Executive Director, FIFA World Cup 2026 Toronto Secretariat

Geneviève Sharkey
Chief Procurement Officer