



**Office of the City Administrator**

Michael Jordan, City Administrator

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**TO: Donnie Oliveira, Deputy City Administrator**

**FR: Karl Lisle, Spectator Venues Program Manager  
Lauren Broudy, Spectator Venues Program Coordinator**

**cc: Michael Jordan, City Administrator  
Chariti Montez, Director, Office of Arts & Culture**

**DATE: October 10, 2024**

**RE: Progress Summary | Collaborative Keller Meetings, August 22 – September 25, 2024**

On August 14, 2024, City Council directed City staff to bring representatives from the Halprin Landscape Conservancy (HLC) and Portland State University (PSU) together to draft a collaborative strategy that would include a consolidation of potential plans for the future of performing arts at the existing Keller Auditorium site and the proposed Portland State University Site.

Under the leadership of Deputy City Administrator Donnie Oliveira, the team began meeting on August 22<sup>nd</sup> to begin formulation of a partnership. Representatives from both the HLC and PSU began regularly meeting twice a week, along with City staff representatives from Oliveira’s office, the Spectator Venues Program team and the Office of Arts & Culture, and a facilitator from Kearns & West. A total of 18 hours of formal meetings were held during this period in addition to internal staff planning meetings. Arts organizations were brought to the table once the conversation was organized.

As meetings progressed, it became clear that the complicated nature of a project so vast in scope would result in a variety of outcomes. Table 1 below outlines the key takeaways from these meetings, along with the key assumptions provided by Mayor Ted Wheeler’s office:

**Table 1.** *Key Takeaways Resulting from Collaborative Keller Meetings.*

	<u>Category</u>	<u>Key Takeaway</u>	<u>Assumption</u>
(1)	Two Broadway-capable venues	Win/win scenario would be to incorporate a Broadway-capable venue at the existing Keller site as well as a Broadway-capable venue at the PSU site	No shutdown of Broadway
(2)	Market Feasibility Analysis	Market Feasibility Analysis needed to inform the appropriate seat count for each Broadway-capable venue, as well as whether an additional smaller (academic focused) venue would be appropriate on the PSU site	Determines appropriate seat count for each venue
(3)	Financial	Funding opportunities are time sensitive - collective general direction needed	Direction needed