



## **Kentucky Tourism, Arts and Heritage Cabinet Kentucky International Convention Center**

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### **Kentucky International Convention Center to Host Pre-Construction Information Meeting on May 9 for Construction and Related Services Companies** *Prime contractors, small, minority and women owned businesses encouraged to attend*

**LOUISVILLE, Ky (April 26, 2016)** — The Kentucky International Convention Center (KICC) and its construction manager, Hunt Abel Finch Construction, are hosting a public, informational meeting for construction and construction-related services companies regarding the \$207 million KICC expansion project.

The May 9 meeting will serve as an opportunity for all companies to learn how to bid on construction contracts with Hunt for the KICC project. Prime contractors, small, minority and women owned businesses are encouraged to attend this meeting. The meeting will be at the KICC from 2 to 4 p.m. in room 101 at the corner of Third and Jefferson Streets.

“With a project the magnitude of this one, there will be many opportunities for subcontractors to bid on more than 30 different parts of the project,” said Anthony Leachman, CFO and interim CEO of the Kentucky State Fair Board, the entity that owns the KICC. “We are working with the state and our construction manager to be inclusive and to work with as many local contractors as possible.”

“As the construction manager for the KICC project, our goal is to get specific information out to the contracting community early in this process,” said Joe Eckhart, Hunt Construction project executive. “We envision working with prime contractors as well as minority and women owned entities.”

Meeting attendees will learn about the 34 bid packages that cover a range of services from demolition to concrete, steel, mechanical systems, doors, windows and more. Current cost estimates of packages run from \$100,000 to \$24.7 million and all points in between.

The meeting is open to all interested parties and no registration is needed.

The KICC will undergo a major transformation that will include a minimum of 200,000 square feet of contiguous exhibit hall space, up from the existing 146,000 square feet, along with 10,000 additional

square feet of ballroom space for a total of 40,000 square feet. Other improvements include fire, HVAC and other mechanical systems, communications equipment, exterior finishes and more.

The Finance and Administration Cabinet put out a request for proposal last year for the renovation/expansion project. Hunt Abel Finch Construction was chosen as the construction manager that will oversee the entire two-year project. Hunt has developed the bid packages and will be responsible for hiring subcontractors for the work.

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*Located in the heart of downtown, the [Kentucky International Convention Center](#) (KICC) draws 250,000 people to a wide variety of events each year. The facility is close to the entertainment and arena districts and connects to 2,300 hotel rooms. For more information, including updates on KICC's upcoming expansion, visit [www.kyconvention.org](http://www.kyconvention.org).*

*Two public parking garages are available to visitors: the KICC (Cowger) Garage at Fourth and Market Streets, and the KICC (Commonwealth) Garage on Jefferson Street between Third and Fourth Streets (next to the Hyatt Regency Hotel).*