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Agricenter ShowPlace Arena Undergoing Renovations

MEMPHIS, TN --- Agricenter just announced the start of renovations for the ShowPlace Arena's warm-up barn and the interior of the main arena. This is the first injection of public capital into the Agricenter since it was built in the 1980s.

Collectively the cost of the two projects is \$6 million, but each was separately funded and contracted. Agricenter is managing the improvements to the warm-up arena (funded by a grant from the State of Tennessee) with design work by Fleming Architects and construction by F & F Construction. Work will include a new fresh look to the warm-up arena exterior, new meeting rooms, patio, and entryway gate.

ShowPlace Main Arena improvements are managed by Shelby County Government (funded by grants from Shelby County and the State of Tennessee). Design work on the interior renovations are by Evans Taylor Foster Childress Architects and construction work will be done by Jaycon Development Corporation pending Shelby County Commission approval. Work will include seating, updated and improved concessions, and restroom improvements.

John Charles Wilson, President Emeritus and project manager for the improvements, said, **"This renovation makes us very competitive with arenas around the country and we have already attracted new shows here because of the buzz around it."** Last week the National Walking Horse Association hosted a nine-day show and had an economic impact in the community of \$200,000.



Agricenter is currently in a Master Planning stage for the remainder of their campus.

Agricenter International, the education, agribusiness, research and agricultural hub of the Mid-South has a \$524 million annual economic impact on the region, hosts over 1.3 million visitors annually, and has educated tens of thousands of students. For more information visit www.agricenter.org or call 901-757-7777.

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