

[DNC seeking bids](#) (Charlotte Business Journal – September 14, 2011)

By Erik Spanberg

The Democratic National Convention Committee is ready for business. On Tuesday, [the national host committee posted its request for proposal](#) for a construction manager for the overhaul of [Time Warner Cable Arena](#) in uptown Charlotte, as well as an event architect. The convention runs Sept. 3-6, 2012, at the arena. Work will begin in July on the conversion of the venue, and the building will be returned to its current configuration several weeks after the convention wraps up. Extensive changes are expected at the 6-year-old arena, standard procedure for political parties trying to make convention sites as TV-friendly as possible. In prepared remarks, national host committee Chief Executive **Steve Kerrigan** said, “This process is open to all firms or teams who believe they have the necessary qualifications and capacity to build a world-class convention space.” Deadline for submitting proposals is Sept. 30. Companies must tell the host committee by Sept. 22 if they intend to participate. One or multiple firms will be chosen by Oct. 21. The Charlotte Bobcats, the NBA franchise that operates the publicly owned building, will vacate the arena for several months while the makeover and reconstruction are taking place. [Businesses are hoping to cash in on the 2012 convention](#). In recent weeks, the local host committee started work on a vendor directory to help companies in the region land DNC-related business. Organizers say the DNC will generate an economic impact of \$150 million to \$200 million and attract 35,000 visitors to Charlotte. [Last week, Mayor Anthony Foxx and other political figures started the one-year countdown to the convention](#), promising an event that will transform the city’s image.