



**INDIAN RIVER COUNTY, FLORIDA**  
**AGENDA ITEM**  
**Assistant County Administrator /**  
**Department of General Services**

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**Date:** August 20, 2019  
**To:** The Honorable Board of County Commissioners  
**Thru:** Jason E. Brown, County Administrator  
**From:** Michael C. Zito, Assistant County Administrator  
**Subject:** Disposition of Salvaged Holman Stadium Seat Backs

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**BACKGROUND:**

In January of 2015, County Staff was approached by Historic Dodgertown with a request to purchase used seating for a portion of the lower bowl at Holman Stadium. At the time, Holman Stadium seating was in need of replacement seating in the center lower bowl between 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> base. The remainder of the original stadium seats would be cordoned off or discarded. On February 17, 2015, the Board of County Commissioners authorized the purchase of approximately 2,000 used stadium seats from Archer Seating of Pittsgrove, New Jersey. Archer deals in buying and refurbishing stadium seats. Due to Archer's need to clear inventory, County Staff was able to negotiate a price point of \$20 per seat. The selected seats were previously extracted from Oriole Park at Camden Yards, home of the Baltimore Orioles.

The approved sale allowed the County to purchase only the plastic back and bottom of the seats which significantly reduced freight expenses by eliminating the weight of the ironwork. This plan also eliminated any unforeseen installation issues with respect to the integrity of the concrete which could not withstand tear out and replacement of the required hardware. The acquired seats were installed to the existing hardware already affixed to the original concrete bowl at Holman Stadium. This method avoided several issues with the removal and installation of a complete seating system while significantly reducing the cost of securing interim seating while the future needs of Holman Stadium were evaluated. Given the nominal value of the seats, they did not qualify to be inventoried as a fixed asset of the County.

**ANALYSIS:**

Under the recently approved Amended and Restated Facility Lease Agreement, Major League Baseball has now undertaken to renovate Holman Stadium including fortification of the concrete seating bowl and installation of a completely new seating system. MLB has engaged Hussy Seating to complete the Stadium seating project which includes tear out and replacement the Archer seats and the original metal fixtures which fastened the seating sections to the concrete.

Given the age and the fragility of the existing fixtures, the decision was made to significantly reduce the cost of tear out by selecting the option not to try and salvage all of the seats. These seats have no practical use without the purchase and installation of new hardware and foundation

flooring which makes repurposing the seats impractically expensive. While the seats hold no resale market value they may hold some display value to some including the sentimental Oriole fan, or Dodgertown Staff etc.

Most of the seating removed from the Stadium has been discarded by the tear out process, however; Hussy was asked by MLB Staff if they could gratuitously salvage approximately 380 to 400 of the 2000 Archer seats which may hold some sentimental value to Dodgertown Staff some who have worked at the facility for many years. MLB has asked to retain up to 200 of the remaining seats for display or donation to their staff. Additionally, County Staff has recently been approached by the local Cal Ripken Baseball League Affiliate (Indian River Sport Complex Inc.) to request a small section of seats (up to 50) to be installed at the local Cal Ripken facility known as Jake Owen Field. The remaining seats would be made available to the United Way as a fund raising promotion for the 2020 Jackie Robinson Game.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff respectfully requests Board authorization to dispose of the remaining seats extracted from Holman Stadium as follows:

Up to 200 of the Archer / Camden Yards Seats to be retained by Major League Baseball.

Up to 50 of the Archer / Camden Yards Seats to be retained by Indian River Sports Inc. for installation at Jake Owen Field.

Any remaining seats to be transferred to the United Way of Indian River County for fund raising in connection with the annual Jackie Robinson baseball game at Holman Stadium.

All transfers subject to the discretion of the County Attorney in requiring the execution of a hold harmless agreement approved as to form and legal sufficiency.

**APPROVED AGENDA ITEM FOR SEPTEMBER 10, 2019**