

FIFA 2026 World Cup Host City Cost Estimate Projections

Game Day Estimate Projections

Projections are for per-game-day operations staffing based on stadium and perimeter controls and staffing required to produce one “super bowl” size game, plus current City permit fee rates for activation of surrounding neighborhood for street closure grid and fan activation based on recent similar permitted events with both Park and right of way use (Upstream Music Festival, 2014 NFL Kick Off). Host Cities could host between three and five games.

Item	Estimated Cost per Game	Shared Cost?	Reimbursable?	Notes
Police escort for teams to/from games/hotels	\$48,000	Yes, possible	Yes*	Estimate: \$48,000 per game Game Day: \$8,000 [25 SPD Traffic officers x \$80/hr x 2 hrs x 2 trips per game (based on Blue Angels SPD escort costs)] Practice Day: \$40,000 [25 SPD Traffic officers x \$80/hr x 2 hrs x 2 trips per practice day x 5 practice days per game (based on Blue Angels SPD escort costs)]
Per game stadium and perimeter costs	\$1,320,000	Yes, possible	Yes*	Estimate: \$1,320,000 per game Game Day: \$1,200,000 based on DSA stadium expanded footprint protocol using Super Bowl perimeter planning projections for medic, fire marshal, and police stadium security, police department traffic management and SWAT and perimeter control staffing, private stadium and perimeter staffing, and stadium collateral costs. Pre Game Day: \$120,000 based on FIFA requirement to maintain security perimeter at the stadium the day before each match Fully reimbursable from FIFA
Game Day Event Permit Fees (Pioneer Square)	\$27,229	Yes, possible	Not likely	Estimate: \$27,229 per day Special Event Fee: \$25,419/day [\$75 administrative fee (one time); \$1,291 per day (Administrative Street Use Fees); \$24,053 per day SPD fee (359 officer hours for 42 officers X \$67/hr)] (<i>street use and officer count based on Upstream event</i>) Park Use Fee: \$1,810/day [\$265 one-time administrative and utilities fee; \$420 per day Park Use Fee (\$35/hour park use fee X 12 hours); \$500 per day vendor fees (based on projected \$5,000 daily sales); \$125 per day vehicle fees (based on projected 5 vehicles per day); \$500 per day advertisement signage (based on projected 5 signs/tents/equipment with advertising logos)] (<i>based on vendor, sign projections</i>)

	Per Game	3 Games Hosted	5 Games Hosted	
Subtotal Game Day Projected Potential Exposure	\$1,395,229	\$4,185,687	\$6,976,145	
*Less Potential Reimbursables	< \$1,368,000 >	< \$4,104,000 >	< \$6,840,000 >	Does not include FIFA-allowable game day ticketed private events or sponsorship fees
Total Game Day Projected Potential Exposure to LOC	\$27,229 (Per Game)	\$81,687 (3 Game Total)	\$136,145 (5 Game Total)	

Fan Fest Estimate Projections

Projections are for a 35-day Fan Fest hosted at the to-be-completed waterfront entertainment district using current Special Event Permit and Parks Use fees for right of way and Park use, and on private contractor activation of the location using past FIFA Fan Fest and 2018 Special Olympics USA Games Closing Ceremony activation models. Does not include other ancillary FIFA Fan “pop up” or other marketing, vending, activation locations, though those would be produced under the same presumption of potential reimbursement.

Item	Estimated Cost	Shared Cost?	Reimbursable?	Notes
Fan Festival (Event Permit Fees)	\$821,590 (for full 35-day World Cup)	Yes, possible	Not from FIFA*	Estimate: \$23,474 per day x 35 days Special Event Fee: \$19,619/day [\$75 one-time administrative fee + \$1,656/day street use fee (\$23/hour x 6 street segments x 12 hours/day) + \$17,688 SPD fee (13 traffic control officers x 12 hours/day x \$67/hr; 9 officer postings x 12 hrs/day x \$67/hr). Based on projected Waterfront Park footprint and 10,000 daily attendee average. Park Use Fee: \$3,855/day [\$265 one-time admin & utilities fee + \$840/day Park Use Fee (\$35/hr park use fee x 24 hrs/day) + \$500/day vendor fees (based on projected \$5,000 daily sales); \$250/day vehicle fees (based on projected 10 vehicles/day) + \$2,000/day advertisement signage (based on projected 20 signs/tents/equipment w/ advertising logos). Based on vendor, sign projections.
Fan Festival (Operational)	\$2,012,410 (for full 35-day World Cup)	Yes, possible	Not from FIFA*	\$72,583 per day X 35 days (minus baseline revenue) Private vendor estimate for activation of public 15,000 minimum capacity venue with two viewing screens with stages, vending, security, equipment, volunteer, and utility costs (based on footprint review of 2018 FIFA Fan Fest events, modeled on 2018 Special Olympics USA Games closing ceremony)
Subtotal Fan Fest Projected Potential Exposure	\$2,834,000			
*Less Potential Reimbursables	< \$2,834,000 >	Reimbursable from FIFA-allowable ticketed private events or sponsorship fees		
Total Fan Fest Projected Potential Exposure	\$0			

Practice Facility Estimate Projections

Practice facility costs will be fully reimbursed by FIFA. Practice facility locations will most likely be the Seattle Sounders’ Starfire Sports training facility and the University of Washington. Potential alternate practice facility locations also include Magnuson Park Playfields or Genesee Park Playfields. Other practice facilities, such as Marymoor Park or other local colleges or high schools, are possible but have not been fully explored to this point. Projections below are based on 2018 Parks & Recreation Department projections for field security, field use, private and police security, and production costs, *if* Magnuson or Genesee are selected as a practice facility location.

Item	Estimated Cost per day	Shared Cost?	Reimbursable?	Notes
Practice Facilities	\$23,295	Yes, possible	Yes	Fully recoverable: \$23,295 per day [projecting one City-owned practice facility is used (average between \$23,120 for Genesee Playfields and \$23,470 for Magnuson Park Playfields)] X 32 days
Subtotal Practice Facilities Projected Potential Exposure	\$745,440	Estimated for 32 days of use		
Less Reimbursables	< \$745,440 >	Practice facilities are fully reimbursable		
Total Practice Facilities Projected Potential Exposure	\$0			

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Total potential exposure presuming Seattle will host three to five 2026 FIFA World Cup matches. City of Seattle will share these financial exposures with the to be formed LOC. Projections are made without consultation with FIFA or US Soccer Federation, and are based on a combination of past Seattle events (including NFL Kickoff, Upstream Music Festival, Special Olympics USA Games), current SPD stadium traffic and security staffing cost estimates, current Special Event and Parks permit fee structures, and presumptions on past FIFA Fan Fest events and future Seattle public space availability. Projections may fluctuate upon planning and coordination conversations and work with the LOC coalition partners, FIFA, and US Soccer Federation.

	3 Games Hosted	5 Games Hosted
Subtotal Projected Potential Exposure (5 games)	\$7,765,127	\$10,555,585
Less Projected Total Potential Reimbursables	< \$7,683,440 >	< \$10,419,440 >
TotalProjected Potential Exposure	\$81,687	\$136,145