

Timeline: Major Milestones and Expansion Rumors (2008–2025)

Date	Event / Rumor
July 2, 2008	SuperSonics relocate to Oklahoma City; settlement preserves name/colors for Seattle
2008–2012	“Save Our Sonics” activism, legal fallout, Sonicsgate documentary
2012–2013	Chris Hansen’s SoDo arena plan and failed Kings relocation bid
2017	City issues RFP for KeyArena redevelopment
June 7, 2017	Oak View Group selected for \$800M+ arena redevelopment
Oct 5, 2018	Warriors-Kings preseason game, KeyArena’s final event before renovation
2018–2021	Climate Pledge Arena constructed, NHL Kraken awarded
Oct 10, 2023	Clippers-Jazz preseason at Climate Pledge Arena; NBA locker room confirmed
2021–2024	Samantha Holloway, Andy Jassy, Marc Benioff, Jeff Bezos linked to ownership
June 2024	Mayor Harrell: Feels “Very good” about NBA return “in near future”
July 2024	NBA finalizes \$76–77B media rights deal; expansion fee estimates \$6–7B
Mar 20, 2025	Celtics sold for \$6.1B; expansion chatter surges
Mar 27, 2025	Adam Silver: “We are very focused on [Seattle]”
July 2025	NBA Board of Governors tasks league with in-depth expansion analysis
July 2025	Portland Trail Blazers sale, regional uncertainty
Summer–Fall 2025	Expansion committee expected; Seattle and Las Vegas leading candidates
2027–28 (projected)	Earliest possible debut for Seattle NBA expansion team