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More Taxpayer Money Benefits Pro Sports Owners Amid 'Stadium Construction Wave'

Research shows stadium and arena projects are poor public investments.

As sports stadiums built in the 1990s show their age, many professional sports teams are looking for new facilities — and public money to pay for them.

"We are just in the heating up phase of the next stadium construction wave," said J.C. Bradbury, a Kennesaw State University economics professor who has researched the issue. "That's part of the reason why you're seeing a lot more stadiums happen."

Across the country, pro sports teams are gearing up to improve or build new stadiums and arenas. In Chicago, both the NFL's Bears and the MLB's White Sox are exploring moves. Baseball's Cleveland Guardians, Milwaukee Brewers, Oakland Athletics and Kansas City Royals are all working toward new or improved stadiums. So are the NBA's Philadelphia 76ers, Oklahoma City Thunder and Los Angeles Clippers.

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BY: KEVIN HARDY – FEBRUARY 20, 2024

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