

February 5, 2024

Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors
70 W. Heeding St.
San Jose, CA 95110

Dear Members of the Board,

I am writing on behalf of the Fairgrounds Management Corporation to express our gratitude for the proposed establishment of a \$500,000 reserve for near-term Capital Improvements at the Santa Clara County Fairgrounds. This commitment of resources underscores the County's dedication to vibrant public spaces and their vital role in community building.

During the critical months of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Fairgrounds were repurposed to support the County's response efforts, including testing and vaccination programs. We were proud to partner with the County in these endeavors, fully recognizing the importance of these activities to the health and well-being of our community.

However, the repurposing led to a significant loss in revenue, impacting on our ability to address various structural needs. While our budget has provisions for paving and ADA compliance improvements, the scope of challenges we face extends beyond these areas. The establishment of the reserve fund is a step in the right direction, and we are deeply appreciative of this support.

We hope the Board will allow some flexibility with these funds to prioritize and address our most pressing structural and operational challenges. This would enhance the Fairgrounds' capacity to both serve our community and resume our role as a vibrant hub for events and gatherings.

We are committed to utilizing the reserve funds judiciously, ensuring that every dollar spent contributes to the improvement and sustainability of the Fairgrounds. We look forward to continuing our partnership with the County.

Thank you once again for your support and consideration.

Sincerely,



Abraham Andrade, Executive Director
Santa Clara County Fairgrounds Management Corporation