

State of California

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## MEMORANDUM

**Date:** August 21, 2020

**To:** California Exposition and State Fair Board of Directors

**Via:** Rick Pickering, CEO and General Manager

**From:** Tom Martinez, Chief Deputy General Manager  
California Exposition & State Fair

**Subject:** Request by City of Sacramento to Temporarily Extend COVID-19 Trailer Operations at Cal Expo through December 2020

### Background

The COVID-19 Pandemic continues to cause significant hardship for families, businesses and governments around the world, and particularly here at home in California. Following the lead of health officials and in the spirit of shelter-in-place orders, major event facilities including Cal Expo reacted quickly to cancel events in an effort to help lessen the spread of COVID-19.

In accordance with the Governor's Executive Order N-33-20 and guidance from health officials, on April 24, 2020 the Cal Expo Board of Director's made the difficult decision to cancel the annual California State Fair. The State Fair was scheduled to take place July 17 – August 2, 2020. Phase Four of the Governor's reopening of the economy includes allowing some modified forms of event gatherings at an undisclosed point in the future. It is currently unclear at what point health officials will allow Cal Expo to host major events and what attendance will levels should be anticipated when major events do return.

Cal Expo relies solely on revenues from events and the annual State Fair to keep Cal Expo open and available for use by the public and by the State during emergencies. Revenues from events cover the payroll for State employees, all benefits and retirement

contributions for State employees, all insurances to protect the property and general liabilities, all utilities, all facility maintenance costs, Police and Security costs etc.

During emergencies in recent years, Cal Expo has supported the Governor's Office of Emergency Services, Cal Fire, the California Highway Patrol, FEMA, and as of June of 2020, the National Guard. With the annual fire season in full swing, Cal Expo is already coordinating with Cal Fire and Cal OES to support more emergency operations for the region and the State. As a key emergency support facility, Cal Expo receives no rent when activated by the State to assist in emergencies.

In recent months, Cal Expo has been an essential part of the State and local government's emergency response to COVID-19. In concert with the State and County of Sacramento, Cal Expo is serving as a regional "COVID-19 Drive through Testing Facility" that is one of the largest in the State. Cal Expo was also selected for Sacramento's Isolation Trailer Facility, which provides 63 trailers for COVID-19 use by the City and County of Sacramento. The State recently utilized Cal Expo to house National Guard troops during a temporary deployment in the City of Sacramento. Earlier this month we hosted the California Medical Associations' regional PPE distribution event for local Doctors.

At the early stages of the COVID-19 pandemic in CA, it was requested that we utilize land at Cal Expo to house an Isolation and Recovery Trailer Facility for the homeless population in Sacramento County that either had COVID-19 or were at risk of having it. This action was not presented to the Board as it was an emergency action that required prompt coordination on the parts of Cal Expo and the City and County of Sacramento. These trailers have been in operation on Lot 26 since the contract was signed in early April.

At our June Board meeting, the Board voted to extend the contract with the City of Sacramento to extend the Isolation Trailer contract until September 30, 2020. Sacramento County is currently on the Governor's list of watched counties for COVID-19 and will not move into reopening phases until that status changes.

## **Request**

In the original agreed upon contract, the trailers would be located at Cal Expo until June 30, 2020 or within (7) working days of the COVID-19 emergency order being lifted by the County of Sacramento, whichever date comes first. The amended contract extended the expiration date of the contract to September 30, 2020. As the COVID-19

emergency order is still in place, the City and County of Sacramento would like to extend the Isolation Trailer contract for another three months. This would make the termination date December 31, 2020 or within (7) days of the COVID-19 emergency order being lifted, whichever date comes first.

**Recommendation**

Staff respectfully recommends to approve the extension of the contract with the City of Sacramento for the COVID-19 Isolation Trailer Facility and to execute an appropriate amendment to the contract.