

State of California

California Exposition & State Fair
1600 Exposition Boulevard
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MEMORANDUM

Date: June 19, 2020

To: California Exposition and State Fair Board of Directors

Via: Rick Pickering, CEO, General Manager

From: Tom Martinez, Chief General Deputy Manager

Subject: Request by City of Sacramento to Extend COVID-19 Trailer Operations at Cal Expo

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 keeping 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 levels should be anticipated when major events do return. However, the State has recently allowed our satellite wagering facility to open with strict COVID-19 safety precautions in place.

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 including all benefits and

retirement contributions, all insurances to protect the property and general liabilities, all utilities and all facility maintenance costs, etc.

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 just around the corner, 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 it is 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. The State recently utilized Cal Expo to house National Guard troops during a temporary deployment in the City of Sacramento. 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.

At the early stages of the COVID-19 pandemic in California, it was requested that we utilize land at Cal Expo to house an Isolation Trailer Facility for the homeless population in Sacramento County. This item initially 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.

Request

In order for the County of Sacramento to move into phase two of reopening, Dr. Olivia Kasiyye, a public health officer, had to attest that Sacramento has the capacity to shelter at least 15% of the County's homeless population. The County of Sacramento has to keep the trailers at Cal Expo operational in order to meet that 15% housing requirement.

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. 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 September 30, 2020 or within (7) days of the COVID-19 emergency order being lifted, whichever date comes first.

Attached for review is the letter from Dr. Olivia Kasirye outlining why the City of Sacramento needs to extend and amend the original contract between Cal Expo and the City of Sacramento regarding the Isolation Trailer Facility.

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.



County of Sacramento

June 10, 2020

RE: Continuation of Medically Supported Isolation Care Units at Cal Expo

To All It May Concern:

On April 9, 2020, after an onsite visit of the CalExpo property, I submitted the attached letter, indicating my approval of the opening of the Medically Supported Isolation Care Units (MICCs) as approved under the Sacramento COVID-19 Homelessness Response Plan (Plan). As per the Plan approved by the Sacramento County Board of Supervisors and Sacramento City Council on April 7, 2020, I noted that the MICCs at CalExpo aligned with guidance from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and helped to meet an urgent need to isolate and quarantine persons experiencing homelessness in Sacramento County.

On May 18, 2020, I attested that Sacramento County had met the State's criteria to obtain a variance for entry into Stage 2 of community re-opening. As part of that attestation, I attested that Sacramento County met the requirement to have units to shelter at least 15% of the County's homeless population in part due to the availability of the trailers at CalExpo. It is critical that Sacramento County can maintain these trailers to continue to comply with the State's requirements for community re-opening.

On May 26, 2020, I signed an order extending the stay at home order that, among other things, required continuation of strict adherence to CDC guidelines for people experiencing unsheltered homelessness. There is a need for continued use of the CalExpo property to provide MICC and preventative quarantine sheltering for people experiencing homelessness, who may not be able to appropriately isolate or quarantine in encampments or in a congregate shelter.

Given this, I request that the City of Sacramento pursue an extension of the lease arrangement with CalExpo to continue the use of this site for isolation and quarantine.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Olivia Kasirye MD".

Dr Olivia Kasirye,
Public Health Officer,
County of Sacramento