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Cal Expo Steps Up to Extend Dates as a Super Vaccination Site for the Region Leads to Postponement of the 2021 California State Fair

SACRAMENTO — While infection rates are declining, Cal Expo is currently a critical location for the Sacramento region's vaccination efforts, vaccinating thousands of people each day. This week, Cal Expo was requested to continue as a Vaccination Super Site for the State of California until at least the end of September, in an effort to vaccinate the public as well as help children to be prepared to return to school after summer break.

Since the availability of COVID-19 vaccines, Cal Expo has hosted two mass vaccination locations – one led by Sacramento County Public Health department and the other by Kaiser Permanente – making Cal Expo one of the largest vaccination sites in the state. In addition, the fairgrounds served as one of the State's largest volume COVID-19 testing sites until April 30, 2021, where tens of thousands of Californians were able to get tested for COVID-19.

"There is definitely a light at the end of the tunnel, and I am proud that Cal Expo has been able to play such an important role during this difficult time," said Rick Pickering, CEO of Cal Expo. "It is imperative that everyone gets vaccinated so that we can once again safely host the many events our community loves, including the annual California State Fair."

Extending vaccination programs through September will result in a postponement of the 2021 State Fair, from this July until perhaps later in the year. Cal Expo's Board of Directors plan to discuss the possibility of presenting a modified "slimmed down" version of the State Fair later this year.

"While the California State Fair is more than just an event, it is vitally important that Cal Expo continues its efforts to get Californians vaccinated and help our communities recover," said Jess Durfee, Chair of the Cal Expo Board. "Although the State Fair and the hundreds of events hosted by Cal Expo see more attendees than the other larger event facilities in the region, by continuing to host mass vaccination programs we are supporting the Governor in reaching the goal of reopening the state – which includes reopening events."

For more information on how to get vaccinated, please visit: <u>https://myturn.ca.gov/</u>.