

For Immediate Release May 7, 2021 Contact: Wyndham Kemsley (505) 720-5691

Flea Market at EXPO New Mexico Scheduled to Reopen on May 15

Albuquerque, NM – More than a year after the COVID-19 pandemic closed EXPO New Mexico's gates for public recreational events, the Flea Market will welcome vendors and patrons back to the grounds on Saturday, May 15, 2021. Beginning next weekend, the public can once again enter the fairgrounds and participate in the outdoor market.

The news comes as Bernalillo County moved to Turquoise Level for the first time on May 5th. Under the Turquoise Level guidelines, large outdoor venues operating in Turquoise Level counties can operate at 75% capacity.

"This is a big day for us and the community," said General Manager Dan Mourning. "For many of our vendors, the Flea Market serves as their primary storefront and they play a vital role in the economic well-being of this neighborhood," stated Mourning. "New Mexico is coming back from our most challenging year and we're so excited to welcome visitors through our gates again and getting back to business, safely."

Significant improvements and updates were made to the Flea Market footprint during the closure. An extensive repaving project included removal of 10 acres of old pavement and replacing it with a new, smooth blacktop and fresh paint. A new and permanent outdoor handwashing location, and dozens of hand sanitizing stations, are just some of the significant safety improvements vendors and customers will enjoy upon their return.

The Flea Market will be open from 7am to 3pm on Saturdays and Sundays. Admission for those entering through the pedestrian gate located on Central Ave. is \$2.00. Patrons entering through Gate 3, located at San Pedro and Copper will pay \$7.00 to park on the grounds. The parking fee includes admission for all passengers inside the vehicle.

To ensure the safety of everyone who enters the fairgrounds, all marketgoers will be required to wear a face mask that covers the nose and mouth, maintain three feet of distance between members outside of households, and regularly was their hands and use alcohol-based disinfectant often.

Those interested in selling their merchandise at the Flea Market should call the Flea Market Office at (505) 319-2849, or email the office at <u>Flea.Market@state.nm.us</u>.

For more information regarding the Flea Market, and everything else at EXPO New Mexico, visit our website at exponm.com.