Kern County Fair and Event Center

15<sup>th</sup> District Agricultural Association 1142 South P Street Bakersfield, CA 93307 (661) 833-4900 kcfair@kerncountyfair.com



## **PRESS RELEASE**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE May 17, 2021

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## VACCINATION SITE EXTENSION LEADS TO POSTPONEMENT OF THE 2021 KERN COUNTY FAIR

**Bakersfield, California** – At the Monday, May 17, 2021 Board of Directors Meeting, the Kern County Fair Board voted to approve the amendment to the contract/agreement between the County of Kern and the 15<sup>th</sup> District Agricultural Association, Kern County Fair and Event Center, for Emergency use of the property as activated by the Kern County Emergency Operations Center (EOC).

The amendment to the contract will extend the emergency use of the property through September. This extension will overlap the original dates of the 2021 Kern County Fair.

In addition to the extension, the County of Kern has agreed to allow the Kern County Fair use of the Livestock areas of the Fairgrounds. This will allow the 2021 Kern County Fair Livestock Show to still take place.

"Another year without having all aspects of the Fair here in September is something no one could have ever imagined," said CEO Michael Olcott "but we are happy to announce that the State, Kern County General Services, and Kern County Public Health, have given their approval to hold our in-person Kern County Fair Junior Livestock Show for all of our hard-working Junior Livestock Exhibitors."

Throughout the pandemic, the Kern County Fair and Event Center has been transformed into a wide variety of uses for our Community. Since April 2020, there has been isolation trailers, walk-up and drive-thru COVID-19 testing, COVID-19 Surge

Testing, Convalescent Plasma and Blood Drive, PPE Distribution site, United Farm Workers Food distribution site, Contact Tracing, and most recently a walk-up and drive-thru mass vaccination site.

"Although this amendment forces us to postpone the annual Kern County Fair, we know this is best for our Community." said Michael Olcott, CEO of the Kern County Fair "This vaccination site is instrumental in helping us reopen and get back to hosting live events again."

The Kern County Fair Board of Directors plan to present a modified festival later this year when the State and County guidelines are lifted.

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

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