

January 28, 2021

2021 Santa Barbara County Fair Large Market Show and Livestock Auction

The 2021 Santa Barbara County Fair is fast approaching; we would like to provide the community this update regarding the status of the Fair and Livestock Program. The likelihood of an in-person fair with a carnival, food, and concerts is still unclear in our ever-changing world. There is a long list of requirements to be met for such an event to take place and we are still exploring options that could be available to us.

We do want to offer the fair livestock experience to our exhibitors and our final decision was not easy to arrive at. The top priority, that was important to all of us, is we offer exhibitors an option that was secure without any threat of cancellation. For the 2021 Santa Barbara County Fair both the auction and market show will be virtual. There will be no in person show or auction. We are diligently working to ensure the survival of our fair and for that reason we are planning for market sales only, and unfortunately will not be able to offer separate showmanship classes. Small livestock will also not be included as a fair judging is not possible without hands on evaluation of the animals, transportation to processors, and the current restrictions with rabbits. We know the community will rally around such an important experience in our livestock community and encourage your support through sponsorship of the virtual show and market auction!

The Santa Barbara County Fair Board of Directors, Fairpark staff, and the Junior Livestock Sales Association (JLSA) are all committed to working together to save the fair and making this experience a success for the kids and our community. We will have more specific details available in February about the Virtual Market Show and Livestock Auction, please continue to check our website at www.santamariafairpark.com for updates.

Thank you,

Autumn Acquistapace, Interim CEO

Kevin Merrill and Matt Olsen, Santa Barbara County Fair Directors and Livestock Committee