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SGV Economic Partnership

April 2, 2020

Re: Pomona Fairplex Sheraton – Necessary Asset for COVID-19 Pandemic

To Whom This May Concern:

On behalf of the San Gabriel Valley Economic Partnership, I am writing to express my support regarding Los Angeles County's short-term lease of the Pomona Fairplex Sheraton to respond to the COVID-19 (or Novel Coronavirus) pandemic. COVID-19 has changed life as we know it and, with use of the Pomona Fairplex as a quarantine site, we will be able to return to our lives safely in a timelier fashion.

The San Gabriel Valley Economic Partnership has a mission to "advance the economic vitality and quality of life of the San Gabriel Valley." Our organization has seen Pomona and the surrounding communities always step up for our region. We know that they will meet this moment through the opportunity to use the Fairplex to tackle the many challenges resulting from COVID-19.

By providing accommodations to our friends, families, and neighbors, the Fairplex will be a safe space to isolate and heal. This is temporary, but a critical piece needed to help flatten the curve of COVID-19. We need more places for people to recover from this terrible virus, and do so safely. Los Angeles County's proposal to use the Fairplex is going to provide exactly that by offering the Sheraton Hotel – 244 rooms --- to serve those who are ill or have been in contact with someone who has become ill.

This will also provide relief to our first responders. The Fairplex Child Development Center will open its doors to children of first responders. This includes law enforcement and health care workers – those on the front lines to protect our families.

Additionally, as a regional economic development organization, the San Gabriel Valley Economic Partnership cares deeply about the economic impact COVID-19 is having on families. By keeping the Fairplex open, tax revenues will continue to come into Pomona allowing an easier return to normal life once these days are behind us.

Thank you for your consideration of this critical asset. I also want to acknowledge Los Angeles County Supervisor Hilda L. Solis and the entire Board of Supervisors along with the leadership at the Fairplex for moving swiftly. Please contact me at bmanis@sgvpartnership.org or at 626.856.3400 if I can provide additional information.

Sincerely,

Bill R. Manis
President & CEO
San Gabriel Valley Economic Partnership