ATTACHMENT:  
TEMPORARY HOUSING AD HOC COMMITTEE  
CORRESPONDENCE FOR  
AGENDA ITEM 5.K.1
Dear Board Members:

My wife and I, along with each of our three children and their families, live within a few miles of the Fairgrounds. We are all vehemently opposed to the proposal to house the homeless on the Fairgrounds or Horsepark properties.

Helping the homeless is certainly a noble cause, however, placing them in this environmentally sensitive location where there is no access to transportation, health care or low cost support services, and no market or food services nearby, seems like a very poorly thought out idea. In addition, there are no sidewalks in the area and thus it would create an extremely dangerous situation for anyone trying to get around the area on foot.

I realize that there has been a significant loss of revenue as a result of the COVID-19, however, these revenue sources will eventually come back. In the meantime, attempting to recover your losses by placing this large number of indigent people in such an unsafe area seems like an extremely bad policy, one that clearly has no relation to your mission statement, and it should be stopped right now before receiving any further consideration.

Thank you very much,
August 8, 2020

Dear Boardmember Valdez:

I am a homeowner in the west side of Rancho Santa Fe, just a few miles inland from the Fairgrounds. I frequent the retail centers in and around the east Del Mar/Flower Hill area due to lack of retail services in Rancho Santa Fe so I indeed consider this area “my neighborhood”. I am unalterably opposed to any proposal to house the homeless on the Fairgrounds or Horsepark properties.

This is an environmentally sensitive location with no transportation, health care, or low-cost services. It is also one of the most affluent and densely populated communities in the world, one where residents would feel unsafe with a large number of indigent people on the streets. If there is a need for a homeless encampment, it should be in a remote area, one that minimizes the impact on the local population. There is also a youth soccer organization that uses the polo fields across the street from the Horsepark sites mentioned for potential use. This is not safe for these children or their families.

First, this is not veterans’ shelter. It is aimed at the general homeless population, some of whom are veterans. To call it a veterans’ shelter is an abuse of the facts.

Second, this will not be temporary. The units in the Fixx proposal were self-contained individual cottages with television, shower, bed, refrigerator, desk, and sink. We understand you are no longer dealing with Fixx, but in all likelihood a replacement contractor would provide similar amenities. Once in place, one can only imagine the ruckus any attempt to remove them would cause.

Third, we have been told not to worry because implementing the proposed shelter will take a long time. But bad policy does not become good policy just because it takes a long time to implement. Bad policy needs to be stopped in its infancy, which is now.

The issue of an encampment in our neighborhood is a horrible idea, and it should be rejected out of hand.

Thank you.

Tamela [Redacted]
Hello,
Please note that my family is against the use of the Del Mar Fairgrounds for Temporary Housing for the Homeless. We believe there are areas that would be better suited than Del Mar that can support and provide services for the homeless. We would also be very concerned with the safety of our children being in close proximity to the fairgrounds as we frequent the volleyball center a few times a week.

Thank you,
Lena
Dear Board Members,

I am a resident living just east of Del Mar. I want to register my strong disapproval of the proposed plan for "temporary housing for homeless veterans." The proposal is an ill-conceived plan primarily to solve the current Fairgrounds financial problems. It is neither temporary nor primarily for veterans. I understand the Board’s concern for the Fairgrounds’ financial problems but our community expects the Board to avoid decisions that have dire and irreversible consequences on the surrounding community.

Sincerely,

[Name Redacted]
Good Morning,

I am the organizer of a petition opposed to this concept that now has over 2,900 signers. The link can be found here: http://chng.it/TwWDMN5F. The opposition of the surrounding communities is intense and significant. It was great to read that Fixx Solutions withdrew its proposal, as reported in the July 29 San Diego Reader article. So it is truly disappointing and unbelievable to read in the August 6 San Diego Union-Tribune article that fairgrounds staff is still keeping this idea going. The article states: “Even though Fixx has withdrawn, fairgrounds employees will continue to review “the overall concept of temporary housing at district-owned properties,” Jennifer Hellman, the fairgrounds marketing director, said Wednesday. A report on their progress will be presented at the board’s regular meeting next Tuesday.”

Please do the right thing and have the board and/or staff definitively declare that the fairgrounds is permanently terminating any further review of this overall concept. To do anything else is going to significantly escalate the intensity of the opposition.

Respectfully,

Dan
-----Original Message-----
From: Andrew [redacted]
Sent: Sunday, August 09, 2020 4:00 PM
To: Lisa Barkett <lbarkett@sdfair.com>; Donna O'Leary <doleary@sdfair.com>; Don Mosier <dmosier@sdfair.com>
Subject: Please NO homeless housing at the Fairgrounds or Showpark

Dear Board Members

A plan to house homeless at the fairgrounds should be permanently rejected.

The average household size in San Diego County is 2.78 persons. Adding 1,000 homeless people at the fairgrounds would be equal to a developing a 540 unit housing development. Where in San Diego can you put a new 360 unit development without years of hearings and lawsuits? Just imagine the impact on the surrounding areas from the added traffic plus water and sewer needs.

PLEASE - NO HOMELESS AT THE FAIRGROUNDS OR SHOWPARK

There is no such thing as “Temporary Housing”.......Once it is in place any homeless housing would be virtually impossible to remove

There is no public transportation nearby. The Via de la Valle / El Camino Real (Showpark) and Via de la Valle / Jimmy Durante / I-5 intersections are already heavily impacted by existing traffic. Imagine waking up at the Showpark and wondering what to do all day. Have you tried on walking on Via de la Valle?

What are these residents going to do all day? There is no entertainment, inexpensive restaurants or services nearby. They will hang out at the Gelson Shopping Center and the Flower Hill Mall.

How much is this going to cost the taxpayers? Where is this money coming from and when?

How will this housing development treat the COVID-19 pandemic? Will each resident be tested before entering the housing development? Adding up to 1,000 new residents in the area could be deadly.

PLEASE REJECT ANY PLAN TO HOUSE HOMELESS AT THE FAIRGROUNDS OR SHOWPARK ON TUESDAY, AUGUST 11TH!

Thank you

Ann and Andy [redacted]
Solana Beach CA [redacted]
To the Del Mar Fairground Board Members:

I would like to go on record as a Del Mar homeowner that I adamantly disagree with any type of homeless structures being built on the Del Mar fairgrounds. Many of the reasons why I am against this idea have been shared in the past:

- The proposed location is a watershed / flood zone that cannot be occupied
- Del Mar and the local communities are not equipped to manage and provide the care that is needed for over 1,500 homeless people.
- Del Mar is a township of only 4,000 people and this would mean that over 25% of the residents would be deemed homeless. This statistic is so outrageously out of proportion to any other city/town that it is beyond comprehension why the fairground board would even think that this is a good idea.
- Statistics show that over 27% of the homeless that are put into these types of housing locations leave and live once again on the streets. This would mean that the city of Del Mar and Solana Beach would have over 400 homeless people living on the streets in our very small downtown communities. Areas like Flower Hill mall would become the center of this homeless sprawl which would kill all current businesses. Has someone at the fairgrounds reached out to companies like Whole Food Markets, Gelson’s and McDonalds and all the other renters at Flower Hill to explain that they will have hundreds of homeless people living in their development.
- Wave Volleyball which has 1,000's of young athletes participating in activities at their location and the polo fields where 1,000's of soccer and lacrosse events are held year round would be exposed to the drug and alcohol problems that come with these types of communities. Many prominent people have invested large amounts of money in the polo fields to ensure that these fields can host larger soccer and lacrosse tournaments in the future. As anyone reached out to these individuals to explain to them that there will be a homeless community right next to the polo fields

I challenge the fairground board member which almost all of you do not live in the city of Del Mar, would you support having 1,500 homeless people move into your community. Specifically, would the board members who live in other communities like Encinetas or La Jolla believe that their communities could support the type of care and support that this type of temporary housing needs for 1,500 homeless residents in their communities?

The fairground board is not considering the effect this will have on the fairgrounds and the racetrack ever hosting events like the Breeder's Cup or any nationally or state level events in the future. The Breeders Cup will never choose the Del Mar racetrack as a track to hold the event after 2021. My belief is that if this goes forward the Breeders Cup will pull out of their contract for Del Mar to host the Breeders Cup in 2021 and choose another track for the event.

The fairgrounds will become a ghost town.

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Tim
We are strongly opposed to housing the homeless in the Del Mar Horse Park because it is not good for the homeless, it is not good for the environment, and presents serious safety concerns for everyone.

1. Terrible location due to roads with high speeds and no sidewalks, traffic issues, lack of resources

This area doesn’t provide the homeless with the resources they need; there are serious transportation, safety and facility issues. This corridor of El Camino and Via de La Valle cannot handle the traffic it has and presents a further danger by adding a largely walking population to the area that has no sidewalks or even a bike lane. It is a narrow rode that is harrowing in the best cases and by adding hundreds of people walking around we will end up with serious accidents and likely fatalities. The nearest grocery store would require a 1 1/2 mile walk along Via de La Valle, another road without sidewalks and with cars traveling at speeds of 50mph and greater. There are no nearby hospitals, police stations, transportation networks, nor proximity to job opportunities. This area is simply not set up to manage a high needs, walking population. We are doing the homeless a disservice by literally parking them in a parking lot in the middle of a very suburban area with no nearby resources for them. We cannot expect them to sit in their “houses” all day. They will be out and about with no where to go and resources and potential work so far away as to put them at an extreme disadvantage.

2. Environmental issues

A development of this sort is not the same as the occasional weekend or seasonal event. Housing hundreds of people in a sensitive coastal area will negatively impact the environment for years to come. We cannot think in the short term about our delicate coastal ecosystems. The impact of this type of housing and humanity on this area would be devastating.

3. Safety concerns

The horse park is next to soccer fields where children are present 5-7 days per week. While we could wish that the homeless population was simply homeless, we know the fact is many are suffering from mental and drug issues which result in erratic behavior that would be harmful to unsuspecting soccer players and their families. My understanding is that there is a surplus of veteran housing so the type of homeless that would be housed in the area are likely those with severe problems that need professional assistance and should not to be parked in a residential area with no resources. Children and their families should not be exposed to this danger. As in any area with a large homeless population it is not a matter of if but when. Children and their families are not equipped to manage the likely scenarios.

While we fully support finding a facility/area that would meet the needs of our growing homeless population, the Horse Park area does not meet the needs of the homeless and does not meet the needs of the residential suburban community in which it is located. Such a short term and ill-conceived proposal will only serve to cause more harm than it does good. The homeless housing should be in an area where there are resources, the potential for nearby work, walkable and access to a good transportation network. This location does not meet any of those objectives and parking them in suburbia will only serve to isolate the homeless from critical resources that could assist them in recovery and entry into the workforce and eventually lead to resolving their homelessness.
Such a plan begs the question who is benefitting financially because it is definitely not altruistic nor for the benefit of the homeless. There is a financial motive afoot that is in clear conflict with the public’s best interest and we will hold the board accountable.

Jennifer and Frank
We are absolutely opposed with housing the homeless in the proposed 200 units next to Mary’s Tack and Feed at the Del Mar Horsepark.
Although we are fully supportive of finding accommodation for our homeless and veterans, this location presents a myriad of challenges. It lacks adequate public transport, not in walking distance to essential stores and offers no social services and facilities.

Also this location is a far more heavily populated residential area than the Fairgrounds which has very few residences in the surrounding area and is much closer to nearby shopping.

We are also in the midst of a major public health crisls and creating high density units represents major health and safety concerns.

So given the above concerns we are adamantly opposed to sheltering the homeless at the Del Mar Horsepark.

Renata and Alan
Sent from my iPhone
To Whom it May Concern:

We are and have been residents of the area for over a decade. While we support housing programs for the homeless the current proposal is not well thought out due to both safety and logistic issues.

We have not seen any detailed plan or study identifying the impacts of the homeless housing proposal and are very curious as to how the obvious impacts will be addressed. The main problems associated with the proposed housing are as follows:

**Safety for the families in the local community**

All of our 6 children have either played or continue to play sports in the adjacent polo field area. In addition our family members, as well as other families in the area, use the adjacent trails that traverse this site for hiking and biking. It has always been a safe place for the kids to ride along the trail that follows the estuary along the boundaries of the proposed site location. Many children and their families travel this area on a daily basis and should not be exposed to the potential danger that this type of development may bring to the immediate area.

**Lack of proximity to necessary services**

The current proposed location does not provide adequate resources within close proximity to the site. Access to basic necessities would require travel on foot for close to two miles along a busy roadway that has no walkways or sidewalks. The area is also not well lit in the evenings, increasing the likelihood of serious accidents which, in addition to potential serious injury or death, would result in increased liability for the City and/or County due to this obvious hazard.

**Environmental concerns**

Additionally, this type of a housing facility would result in a significant environmental impact to the immediate area. There are existing problems with flooding and water runoff in the area during the rainy seasons. The area suffers from flooding and standing water for weeks following the rains, and much of the area required significant repairs in the past several years due to unstable ground which collapsed into the adjacent creek. This would result in both safety concerns to the residents as well as potential sanitary or other concerns should the area continue to experience flooding and unstable soils.

Thank you

Jim & Belinda
Sent from my iPhone X with Qualcomm Snapdragon inside

Begin forwarded message:

From: Don  
Date: August 8, 2020 at 12:03:12 PM PDT  
To: "Administration@delmarfairgrounds.com" <Administration@DelMarFairgrounds.com>  
Subject: Fwd: Del Mar homeless solution proposal

Subject: Del Mar homeless solution proposal

We are absolutely opposed with housing the homeless in the proposed 200 units next to Mary’s Tack and Feed at the Del Mar Horsepark.

Although we
are fully supportive of finding accommodation for our homeless and veterans, the proper location, with the proper sanitation, support facilities, security and transportation is essential.

The horse park location presents a myriad of safety, sanitation, wildlife preservation, environmenta
l and security issues. It lacks adequate public transport, running water, communications infrastructure, sidewalks, security and sanitation. It is also not in walking distance to essential stores and offers no social service facilities. The horse park sits right next to a sensitive and protected
environmental ecosystem and just across the street hundreds of children practice and play soccer daily.

The neighborhoods that sit just hundreds of feet away have the right to feel safe and secure in their neighborhood and to know that the ecosystem they have fought to protect is not
at risk.
This is simply a BAD idea with absolutely no merit and no rationale other than a quid pro quo for a financial bailout by the state. There also seems to be a huge conflict of interest among board members who have brought this idea forward.

In case the board has forgotten, we
are also in the midst of a major public health crisis and creating high density units represents major health concerns.

We are adamantly opposed to sheltering the homeless at the Del Mar Horsepark.

Don and Stephanie

Sent from my iPhone X with Qualcomm Snapdragon inside
From: Kim
Sent: Monday, August 10, 2020 5:03 PM
To: Del Mar Fairgrounds Planning
Subject: Comment for 8/11 board meeting on Agenda Item 5.K-Temporary Housing Ad Hoc Committee

Thank you in advance for reading my thoughts re: Agenda Item 5.K

Hello!
My name is Kim [REDACTED] and I would very much like you to consider my thoughts regarding Temporary Housing at The Del Mar Fairgrounds.

I have been associated with the San Dieguito River Valley project basically since its inception over 30 years ago as either a volunteer, past board member and currently an Advisory Board member of the Conservancy.

I know you are aware that we are working to complete the ~70 mile coast to crest trail. (The $90M Wetlands Restoration project is an awesome example of our ability to work with other organizations, such as San Onofre and Edison.)

I also live up the hill from Horse Park in Rancho Del Mar. I am not within view of the HorsePark plan you have set forth with Fixx Solutions. I have lived here since 1985 and have seen what changes can do to our already burdened Via de la Valle.

That being said, can you imagine my concern for the River Valley trail that runs east to west and abuts the southern edge of Horse Park?

Have you considered the effect it could have on our trail and the very needed outdoor trails our community needs during COVID?

We need to keep these trails safe and we already have some areas along this section where homeless congregate. What about pollution to the river water and groundwater that this project could create?

YES, we need to help our homeless community, but do it in a location that is already populated and closer to walking distance for essential services.

I hope this will be read tomorrow as I cannot attend the zoom mtg.

Sincerely,
Kim [REDACTED]

...Climate change is not a debate between Republicans and Democrats or industrialists and environmentalists, it is between human beings and physics. And, physics is uninterested in spin.” Bill McKibben
Mandy Guerra

From: Donna O'Leary
Sent: Monday, August 10, 2020 5:16 PM
To: Mandy Guerra
Subject: FW: Homeless Housing Proposal for Fairgrounds/Showpark

FYI

-----Original Message-----
From: Dana [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, August 10, 2020 4:59 PM
To: Lisa Barkett <lbarkett@sdfair.com>; Donna O'Leary <doleary@sdfair.com>; Don Mosier <dmosier@sdfair.com>
Subject: Homeless Housing Proposal for Fairgrounds/Showpark

Dear Fair Board members:

I am writing to ask that you stop considering housing proposals for the homeless at either the fairgrounds or the Showpark once and for all. It is an idea that must be permanently put to rest. There are better ways for the State and the Fair Board to generate income that won’t permanently change the character of the surrounding area.

Placing homeless veterans, families and others in the middle of an area devoid of public transit, jobs, or basic services is idiotic. It is a concept that is destined to fail.

So many Del Martians have put so much time and effort into preserving the character of our small town. The impact of having our downtown, parks and beaches overrun by the homeless would be devastating. All in the name of “short-term” funding?

The decision to house the homeless at the fairgrounds or Showpark would have so many unintended consequences. Please listen to your constituency and vote to permanently stop considering any and all housing proposals for the homeless. My children, grandchildren and I all thank you.

Sincerely,

Dana [REDACTED]
Del Mar
I am a Del Mar resident and wish to voice my opposition to the proposal of using the fairgrounds as a homeless shelter.

Thank you,
Glenn

We are extremely concerned about the proposal to add all these new dwellings to our already overcrowded and overpopulated neighborhood. What is even more appalling is the fact that there is no infrastructure to support the proposal, not to mention the fact that, at least by Showpark, there are no sidewalks nor any amenities within reasonable walking distance. Is this meant to be an encampment? If so, that is even more appalling. Showpark should remain a horse enclave and remain available to the equestrian community, not just for competitions but as a fire shelter for livestock.

It is also troublesome the fact you are proposing building little houses without the appropriate, plumbing and electricity. What is worse, doing it in what is considered a flood plain area as well as our ever shrinking open space by Showpark.

We also believe that the environmental impact is going to be massive. Many other private and very minor projects have been shut down because of how they would adversely affect our already frail ecosystem.

While we believe that the project is a worthwhile one, we believe the location was selected quite randomly and without any thought as to how it would impact our already overpopulated area. We strongly oppose this project in these locations and feel that further studies, along with full disclosure with how this would impact the area should be performed so you can let the residents decide what is best for our community. Moreover, adding more residents during a pandemic in an already densely populated area should automatically deem this a very poor idea.

The Fairgrounds could certainly sustain large ‘drive-in’ venues (concerts, movies, etc) that would provide the revenue required to subsist. A homeless encampment will offer limited funding to the 22nd DAA and will simply become another failed and short sighted project. It will also adversely affect the Fairgrounds ability to attract audiences and families when we are finally able to return to our “normal” life.

Respectfully submitted,

Bruce and Michelle
Del Mar, CA
Since Your Fair Board Meeting is tomorrow, I’ll keep this e-mail short and to the point...

Dear Ladies and Gentlemen of the Del Mar Fair Board, I cannot be more vehemently opposed to the location of a homeless encampment either on the Fair Grounds or the Show Park. I know, in fact I am certain, that you have received a substantial number of in-depth e-mails opposing this debacle...so, I’m not going to go into the vast number of reasons why this idea, pushed by the likes of Lisa Barkett and a few others on the board, is a non-starter... However, I fear we are facing a group of individuals who are desperately searching for revenue to keep Fair Grounds Personnel employed. Honestly, I feel the only way to combat this side show, would be to have the Del Mar residents continually ask why the Fair Board does not have the reserves to weather this pandemic storm? Of all the Californian Fair Grounds, Del Mar, with its additional Race Track, Kaboo and other high value venues should be the last of California Fair Sites to be considering bankruptcy.... Has there been mismanagement by the Board over the last number of years? Are Board members, such as Lisa Barkett now attempting to cover for their malfeasance? These are the questions, that the DM residents and DMCC are now wanting answered.

You have succeeded in polarizing all of Del Mar against you, I strongly suggest you calculate your next moves very carefully.

Sincerely,

Derek
Hello,

As professional Realtors and local coastal residents, we do not support any temporary or permanent changes to the use of the SD County fairgrounds. Having the site transition to a homeless camp is a terrible idea, defies logic, zoning and seriously tramples property rights, property values and property taxes (needed to finance city, county and state operations). Please stop any discussion of this kind and re-focus your efforts.

Thank you,

The Thompsons
Hello – I am submitting this email to voice my concern over the concept of using the fairgrounds, and in particular the Horse Park section, for temporary housing. I am a resident of Solana Beach and travel the Via De L Valle/El Camino Ream roadway everyday and can unequivocally say housing upwards of 1500 people at the Horse Park site is an irresponsible decision for many reasons:

1. There are no sidewalks, throughways, or other public transportation to/from the site. The road itself is a 2 way road already congested and prone to accident potential
2. The nearest services are approximately 2 miles via roadway ( unless you take the park trials )
3. Unfortunately this population segment comes with a crime element the area is ill prepared to handle
   a. The adjacent polo field hold children’s athletic event most weekends
   b. There is little lighting at night
   c. The City of Del Mar and Solana Beach don’t have proper enforcement for an added 1500 people ( or 25% of the Del Mar population )
   d. The adjacent Riverwalk/park is a potential area for crime scenes. Poor lighting, heavy vegetation, no police access. ( Think the teenage girl murdered by a homeless person in the lake area of RB a few years back... the name escapes me at the moment )...Any crime like this due to this Boards action will be blood on your hands
4. The area itself is a flood zone
5. There are no electrical services, waste services etc. which will require more heavy equipment traffic on already unsafe roadways
6. The current population is already safely house at the Convention Center. It is doubtful the convention center will have any conventions soon so why move them.
7. The cost to the 22nd District of the litigation that will for sure follow any decision to a proposed project

I could continue on and on but as a local resident I urge the Board not to consider any large scale ( 100 + ) temporary housing at the Horse Park site

John
Mis-management of the Del Mar Fairgrounds finances is not a good reason to consider housing homeless people at the Horse park property. This ill-conceived and politically motivated idea, in order to secure a "bail out" from the state poses a huge danger to our community. Quality of life is important, and this idea will impact us drastically.  
glen

........Del Mar
If the plan re: temporary housing is still being considered - I am strongly opposed! I am a Del Mar resident and this plan brings up many concerns ranging from security to safety to overall appropriateness of this development in this location. I do not think enough has been considered in regards to the surrounding community and problems that will arise from this.

I understand a need for more temporary housing - but this is not the correct location for this! Please terminate this idea.

Jennifer
Del Mar Resident

Sent from my iPhone
I am not in favor of this temporary housing project at the Del Mar Fairgrounds. It poses security and safety concerns for the surrounding communities. It will have a direct impact on the surrounding areas and this must be taken into consideration. It will affect the home values in the area. It has a negative impact on the residents and surrounding homes in Del Mar & Solana Beach.

Ashley - Solana Beach resident that lives directly across from the Del Mar Racetrack
Dear Fairgrounds Board Members,

I do not agree with any plans to add 1200 modular homeless dwellings in Del Mar Horse Park due to the fact that this area next to Via De La Valle and San Dieguito Road is designated as an agricultural zone. It does not have access to mass transit, stores, libraries, etc. This is a rural region and to put high density structures there is not compatible with the surrounding area. It does not appropriately service the needs of the people due to the lack of appropriate infrastructure.

A more appropriate location would be 2 miles west which would be closer to mass transit (i.e. train, bus, etc.) as well as grocery stores, libraries, etc. and is not a designated rural area and can accommodate higher density housing.

Thank you,

Lisa
Del Mar Resident
Dear Members of the Board, I implore you not to put through any temporary housing and ruin our community. Let's all work together and find a solution that's a win-win for all of us. Thank you, Ruth
Dear Board Members,

I implore you not to put through any temporary or permanent housing and ruin our community. Let us work together and find a solution that is beneficial for the Fairgrounds as well as the local communities.

Thank you,
Edward

Del Mar
Wildfire Large Scale Shelter at Fairgrounds Essential & Incompatible with Exec. Order N-23-20

Dear 22nd DAA Board Members and Staff,

The Del Mar Fairgrounds serves many community purposes, including that of a large-scale wildfire shelter. Key is the sheer size and number of Fairgrounds buildings, which could serve as a modified congregate sheltering in case of a large, more than 50-person, evacuation center, even during a pandemic.

The requirements for a large-scale evacuation center are highlighted below (see pp. 77-79 Board packet):

- Sheltering must be large enough for cots set 6’ apart—all the Exposition buildings have ample square footage.
- The buildings must have controllable access—the Genalyte testing center already controls access with ample room for screening.
- Multiple buildings/tents must be available for isolation in case of positive testing—Fairgrounds has a number of buildings suitable for separation of clients with flu-like symptoms from the general population.
- Those clients testing positive would need to be moved to non-congregate settings, such as hotels/motels, hospitals—Fairgrounds has multiple transportation and logistical resources.

In addition, the motel/hotel “preferred” temporary shelter options are very limited in this local area.

What’s also very concerning, as we have learned during the pandemic news, is that poor air quality also heightens risk to Covid-19 infections. Large wildfires, such as the Oakland Hills fire in 1991 that burned down 3,200 homes, polluted the air for weeks, and most of the people burned out had few options for shelter as well. If a similarly sized wildfire burned through the areas shown below, only the Fairgrounds could provide shelter for 3,000+ people and keep testing and social distancing protocols in place.

This essential service is completely incompatible with N-23-20 re temporary homeless encampment at this location, which ends by September 30, 2020 except in certain cases. Security alone would cause logistical headaches, given the chaos during large-scale disasters, and there’s simply not enough room for 1,000+ homeless in congregate trailers plus 3,000+ wildfire victims.

What makes the Fairgrounds unique and essential as a large-scale wildfire evacuation center would be completely upended by also trying to accommodate N-23-20 homeless. The local region has few alternative accommodations for future wildfire victims. It’s not a question of “if” the next fire burns a lot of people out; it’s a question of “when.”

The Fairgrounds must be preserved as an essential evacuation center for all of San Diego County.

Thanks for your service to our community and region. Carla Echols-Hayes, Solana Beach, CA
August 11, 2020

22nd DAA Board of Directors
Del Mar Fairgrounds
2260 Jimmy Durante Blvd
Del Mar, CA 92014

RE: Homeless Housing Proposal

Dear 22nd DAA Board of Directors,

We are writing to express our disapproval of housing homeless veterans, or homeless people in general, on the grounds of the Del Mar Fairgrounds and Horse Park Facility. As the 22nd DAA Board of Directors should know, Del Mar and Solana Beach do not have the adequate infrastructure, social, and medical services to serve the needs of a homeless encampment in our community.

While housing homeless may generate revenue for the 22nd DAA, it does not align with your organization’s mission statement:

*To manage and promote a world-class, multi-use, public assembly facility with an emphasis on agriculture, education, entertainment, and recreation in a fiscally sound and environmentally conscientious manner for the benefit of all.*

The 22nd DAA should once again solicit new revenue generating ideas from the community that align with your mission and the values of our community. We are open to participating in such a brainstorm session should you choose to do so.

On behalf of Saratoga West homeowners, a community of 90 residences, we find the homeless housing proposal, and even your consideration of such proposal, unacceptable. We thank you for taking our point of view into consideration as you weigh the pros and cons of housing homeless veterans, or homeless people in general, in our community.

Best Regards,

Saratoga West Homeowners Association
331 Longden Lane
Solana Beach, CA 92075
Dear Sirs:
My wife and I own and live in our home at [redacted]. We have been here since 1994. We have seen the traffic on Sun Valley Road increase to the point we no longer have a country home but more like a freeway house.
We are against the housing project on the horse park as we understand there will be no individual toilet facilities and no provision for over crowding of individual units. Also it will increase the foot traffic on both Via de la Valle road, and all the nearby streets, none of which have sidewalks. There is no provision for residents without transportation to obtain groceries. Schools will be a problem for those residents with children. With the current pandemic and no individual places for hand washing there will be a public health problem with the crowding. I say this as a physician with experience in public health.
We are sympathetic to the underlying problem of lack of housing and contribute to several veterans organizations and I am a Vietnam era veteran. However, to give an organization that has no past experience with this sort of project permission to do this at this location is incorrect in our opinion.

Carl and Alice [redacted]
Del Mar, CA [redacted]
As much as I am in favor of safe, effective housing for the area's homeless, the Del Mar Fairgrounds doesn't fit into the mold of safe or effective, not the least of which is the high risk of dense populations during a pandemic.

Please abandon this ridiculous idea.

L. [Name Redacted]

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[Name Redacted]  [Name Redacted]