



Office of the President

March 25, 2020

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
Los Angeles County
Kenneth Hall of Administration
500 West Temple St., Ste. 383
Los Angeles, C.A. 90012

RE: Fairplex Sheraton – Necessary Asset for COVID-19 Pandemic

Dear Supervisors:

I am writing to express my support for Los Angeles County's short-term lease of the Fairplex Sheraton in response to the COVID-19 (novel coronavirus) pandemic.

Cal Poly Pomona's mission is to cultivate success through a diverse culture of experiential learning, discovery, and innovation. To this end, we nurture mutually beneficial and meaningful relationships with community partners and stakeholders. Again and again, we have witnessed how Pomona residents, local businesses, and the surrounding communities always step up for those in need.

By providing accommodations to our friends, families, and neighbors, the Fairplex will be a safe space to isolate and heal. This is a temporary but critical need to help mitigate the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. We need more places for people to recover 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. Fairplex will also help provide critical relief to our first responders. Likewise, the Fairplex Child Development Center will open its doors to children of first responders. This includes law enforcement and health care workers – those serving on the front lines to protect our families.

Additionally, as an institution and leader in the community, Cal Poly Pomona cares deeply about the economic impact COVID-19 is having on families. Many of our students, faculty, and staff are also current residents of Pomona. By keeping the Fairplex open, tax revenues will continue to support our cities and communities, allowing for an easier return to normal life once these days are behind us.

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Thank you for your consideration of this critical asset. I also want to acknowledge Los Angeles County Supervisor Hilda L. Solis, the entire L.A. County Board of Supervisors, and the Pomona Fairplex leadership for moving swiftly on this issue. If you have any questions or need further assistance, please contact Frances Teves, AVP for Government and External Affairs at fteves@cpp.edu or at 714-642-4873.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Soraya M. Coley". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending from the end of the name.

Soraya M. Coley, Ph.D.
President