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MEMORANDUM

ORANGE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
10 Civic Center Plaza, 5th Floor, Santa Ana, California 92702

OK TO AGENDIZE
Chz Monaco

2009 NOV 19 PM 2:52

Date: **November 19, 2009**

To: **Darlene Bloom, Clerk of the Board**

From: **Supervisor Campbell** Bill Campbell
Chairman Moorlach

Re: **November 24, 2009 Board of Supervisors Agenda: Supplemental Request**

Dear Ms. Bloom,

Please add the attached item to the Agenda for the November 24, 2009 Board of Supervisors Meeting:

"Adopt resolution requesting that Governor Schwarzenegger immediately cancel the proposed sale of the Orange County Fairgrounds"

Supervisor Campbell

Supervisor Moorlach
Paul Francis for John Moorlach

WHEREAS, the first Orange County Fair occurred in 1890 and has since thrived as a "Celebration of Orange County's Communities, Interests and Heritage" as is stated in the Orange County Fair and Event Center mission statement; and

WHEREAS, as a result of the State of California's budget deficit of over $26 billion, the largest in the state's history, Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger proposed the sale of surplus or underutilized assets for the purpose of helping to close the budget deficit; and

WHEREAS, on July 28, 2009 the Orange County Board of Supervisors passed Resolution # *09-110*, in support of Governor Schwarzenegger's proposal to sell the Orange County Fairgrounds, only if the sale provided that the Fairgrounds would be sold to a local government agency or local not-for-profit corporation to *perpetuate* its use as a fairgrounds, event center, and equestrian facility; and

WHEREAS, on October 7, 2009, the California Department of General Services released a Request for Proposals for the sale of the Orange County Fairgrounds; and

WHEREAS, the Request for Proposals does not require the buyer to be a local government agency or local not-for-profit, nor does it require the buyer to perpetuate the utilization of the property as a fairgrounds, event center, and equestrian facility; and

WHEREAS, the Orange County Fairgrounds is the only asset of its kind the State is actually proposing to sell and relinquish control over; and

WHEREAS, the Orange County Fairgrounds are wholly contained within the corporate limits of the City of Costa Mesa; the City of Costa Mesa's General Plan designates the property as "Fairgrounds"; the City of Costa Mesa has zoned the property "recreational/institutional"; and

WHEREAS, the Costa Mesa City Council has authorized preparation of a Specific Plan for the Fairgrounds property and subsequently directed staff to prepare a ballot initiative for the June 2010 ballot for voter approval of a land use restriction to "Fairgrounds"; and

WHEREAS, the Orange County Board of Supervisors believes that it is the best interests of the public that the Governor immediately cancel the sale of Fairgrounds property;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE ORANGE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS does hereby request that Governor Schwarzenegger immediately cancel the sale of the Orange County Fairgrounds; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, THAT THE ORANGE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, does hereby respectfully call upon all other cities in Orange County to join with the County of Orange and the City of Costa Mesa in formally requesting of the Governor that the proposed sale of the Orange County Fairgrounds be cancelled immediately.