



CITY OF COSTA MESA

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FROM THE OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

PRESS RELEASE

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Costa Mesa, California – CITY OPENS NEGOTIATIONS FOR FAIRGROUNDS OPERATOR

The City of Costa Mesa announced late today that it had selected the firm of Facilities Management West to enter into an exclusive negotiating agreement for operation of the Orange County Fair and Event Center. News of the agreement was released by City Manager Allan L. Roeder following marathon negotiating sessions between the City and the two top rated proposers for operation of the site. The City is scheduled to meet Thursday with Governor Schwarzenegger's Office to review the status of the City's efforts to select an operator and arrange financing to acquire the 150 site from the State of California.

The City Manager noted that Facilities Management West has agreed to public ownership of the property, fulfilling one of the key principles guiding the City's effort to preserve the fairgrounds. The exclusive negotiating agreement is one of many steps remaining in the negotiations and subject to a final decision by the State to sell the property to the City.

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