



Board of Directors Meeting
February 27, 2025

Good morning.

The meeting will begin just after 9:30 a.m. For members of the public on Zoom – for Public Comment, please use the chat function to communicate to the meeting secretary to indicate which agenda items you would like to speak to.

Please keep your device on mute until called upon to speak.

If using the Zoom dial-in option, use *6 to mute and un-mute your phone.

Please take notice that this public meeting of the 32nd District Agricultural Association, a California state institution, is being recorded using video recording equipment. Please also take notice that the 32nd District Agricultural Association will release video recordings of its public meetings where required under California law.

Please keep your device on mute

The Mission of OCFEC is...

Creating equitable community access to
agriculture, entertainment, cultural and
educational experiences



3. Pledge of Allegiance



4. Roll Call

Board of Directors

Chair Nick Kovacevich

Vice Chair Barbara Bagneris

Director Newton Pham

Director Doug La Belle

Director Natalie Rubalcava-Garcia

Director Robert Ruiz

Director Tanya Bilezikjian

Director Dimetria Jackson



5. Minutes

A. Board meeting held January 30, 2025

Action Item



9A. Presentation of Black History Month Proclamation by Community Affairs Committee

INFORMATION ITEM:

At the January 2025 Board of Directors meeting, the Community Affairs Committee shared its plans to continue presenting proclamations for each monthly cultural celebration during 2025, focusing on a prominent member of that cultural community.

In recognition of Black History Month, the Committee will present a proclamation to Connie Jene Jones.



9A. Presentation of Black History Month Proclamation by Community Affairs Committee

INFORMATION ITEM:

Ms. Jones will be honored for her work in supporting the needs of the working poor in Santa Ana since 1970. Starting as a teenager working side-by-side with her grandmother, Annie Mae Tripp, Ms. Jones began ladling soup out of her grandmother's garage to a dozen homeless men in their area. Their efforts soon expanded to create the Southwest Community Center which Ms. Jones operated until her retirement in 2019.

Now managed by the Community Action Partnership of Orange County (CAPOC), the Southwest Community Center provides meals, rental and utility assistance, free tax services, financial empowerment, youth engagement and employment support. Ms. Jones serves on the CAPOC Board of Directors where she continues to advocate for the poor.



6. Matters of Public Comment

Public comment is allowed on issues NOT on the current agenda. However, no debate by the Board shall be permitted on such public comments, and no action will be taken on such public comment items at this time, as law requires formal public notice prior to any action on an agenda item. Speakers are requested to sign in prior to the start of the meeting and are limited to three minutes.

Comments will be accepted on all other agenda items at the time each item is listed on the agenda. Speakers wishing to address the Board on items on the agenda are requested to sign in prior to the start of the meeting and identify the agenda item(s) on which you desire to address the Board. Speakers are limited to three minutes.



7. Consent Calendar

All matters listed under Consent Calendar are operational matters about which the Board has governing policies, implementation of which is delegated to the CEO. They will be enacted in one motion by category in the order listed below. There will be no discussion of these items prior to the time the Board of Directors votes on the motion, unless members of the board, staff or public request specific items to be discussed separately and/or removed from this section.

Any member of the public who wishes to discuss Consent Calendar items should notify the Chair of the Board, at the time requested and be recognized by invitation of the Chair to address the Board.



10. Closed Session

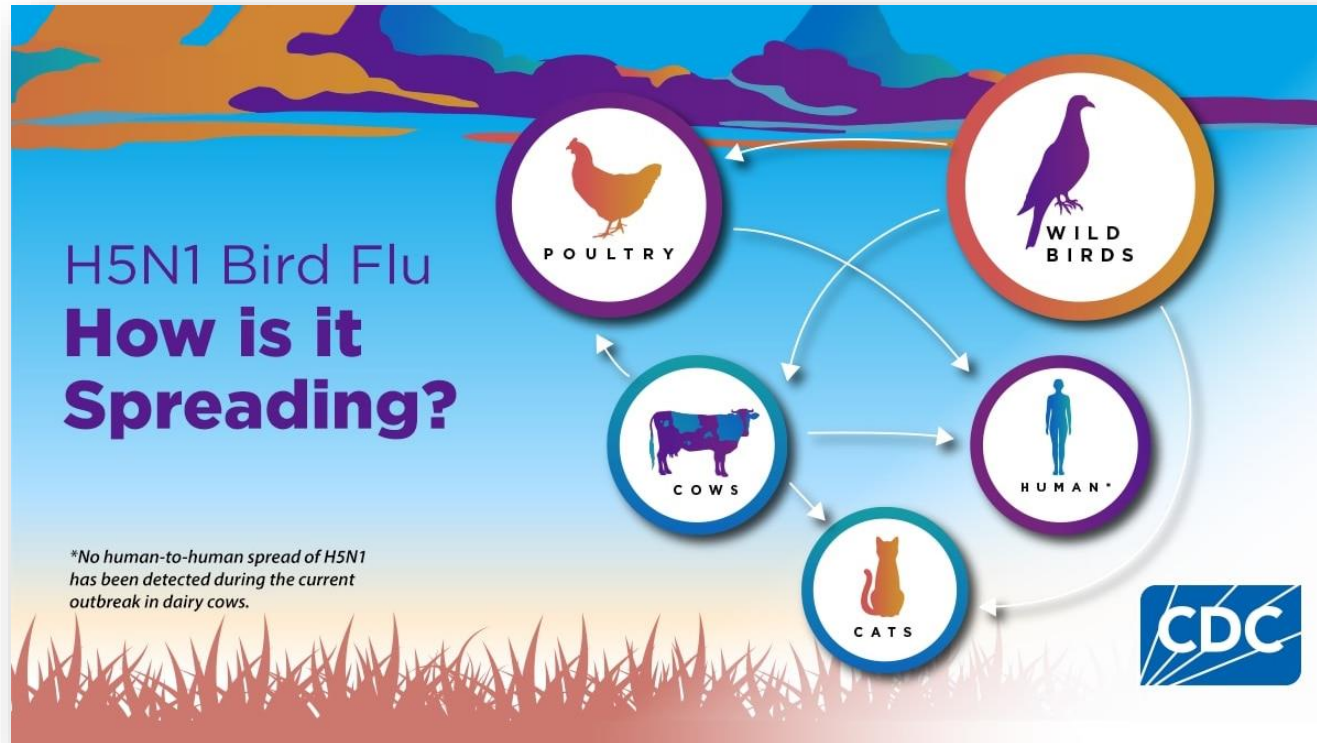
A. Pending Litigation – The Board will meet in closed session to consult with legal counsel regarding the following pending litigation. [Gov. Code section 11126(e).]

- i. To confer with and receive advice from legal counsel regarding potential litigation involving the 32nd District Agricultural Association. Based on existing facts and circumstances, the Board of Directors will decide whether to initiate litigation. (Govt. Code, § 11126, subd. (e).)
- ii. To confer with and receive advice from legal counsel regarding potential litigation involving the 32nd District Agricultural Association. Based on existing facts and circumstances, there is significant exposure to litigation against the 32nd District Agricultural Association. (Govt. Code, § 11126, subd. (e).)
- iii. To confer with counsel, discuss, and consider the following pending litigation to which the 32nd DAA is a party. Changing Strides, et al., v. 32nd District Agricultural Association, et. al., Orange County Superior Court, Case No. 30-2024-01421750-CU-WM-WCJ
- iv. To confer with counsel, discuss, and consider the following pending litigation to which the 32nd DAA is a party. Changing Strides, et al., v. 32nd District Agricultural Association, et. al., Orange County Superior Court, Case No. 30-2024-01423147-CU-OR-CJC

B. Personnel: The Board will meet in closed session to consider the appointment, employment, and/or evaluation of performance of the General Manager / CEO as authorized by Government Code, § 11126, subdivision (a).



8. CEO's Operational Announcements & Updates



MAINTENANCE
4 MANIA
FAIRS



8. CEO's Operational Announcements & Updates



8. CEO's Operational Announcements & Updates



January 2025 Impact Report

196 Jr. Farmer Tours

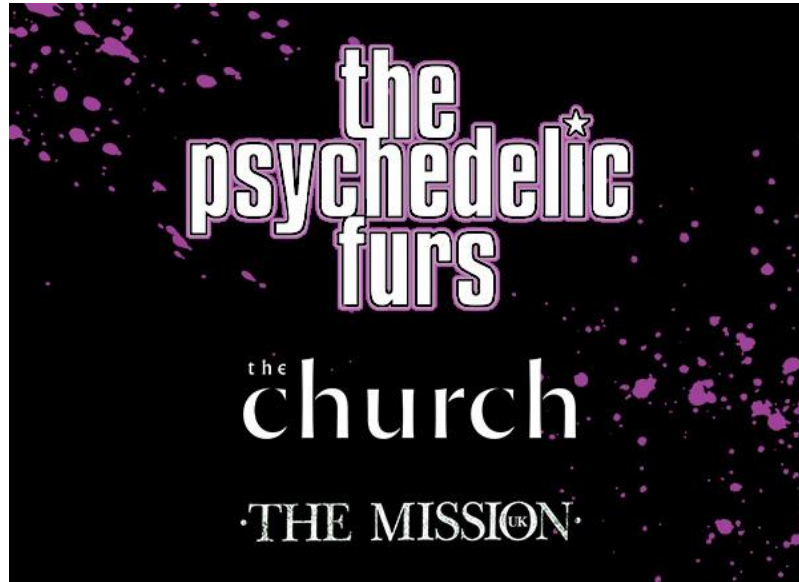
3,810 students

769 Discovery Day students

64 Farm & Garden class participants



8. CEO's Operational Announcements & Updates



9B. Update on Outreach to Stakeholders for Feedback on Five-Year Strategic Plan

INFORMATION ITEM:

At the January 2025 meeting, the Board of Directors approved the DRAFT 2025-2029 Strategic Plan. Staff developed a plan to reach out to various stakeholders and the community to solicit feedback on the plan. Following is a list of how the draft plan was distributed:

1. Following the January 2025 Board meeting, the draft strategic plan was posted on the ocfair.com website, along with a portal to collect direct feedback from visitors to the website.
2. An eblast was sent on February 13 inviting over 7,800 stakeholders to click on a link which takes them to the draft strategic plan and portal for providing feedback.
3. Visitors to the ocfair.com website see a pop-up on the home page inviting them to provide feedback on the draft strategic plan. The pop-up includes a link which takes visitors directly to the plan and the feedback portal.



9B. Update on Outreach to Stakeholders for Feedback on Five-Year Strategic Plan

1. Following the January 2025 Board meeting, the draft strategic plan was posted on the ocfair.com website, along with a portal to collect direct feedback from visitors to the website.

Monday, February 10, 2025 (12:03 pm)

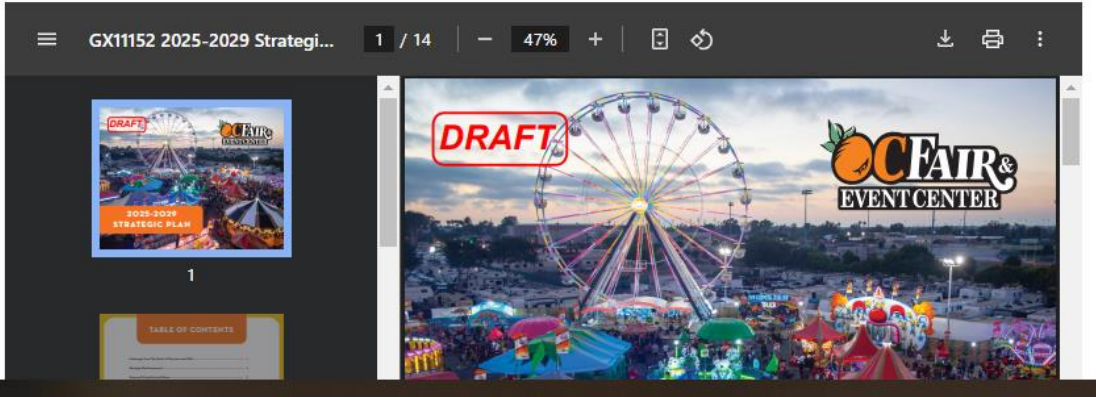
Give your feedback on the future of the fairgrounds

The OC Fair & Event Center Board of Directors is seeking public comments on a draft five-year strategic plan to determine the future direction of the state-owned property.

The Board is considering the following: technology infrastructure, community and guest preferences, the Master Site Plan, self-produced revenue streams, process and operational improvements, and programming and business opportunities.

Please submit your comments using the [online form](#) by March 13.

* If viewing on mobile, please click [here](#).



Name*

Required field

First Name Last Name

Email*

City of Residence

Strategic Planning Feedback*

Would you like to receive emails about OC Fair & Event Center's year-round events?

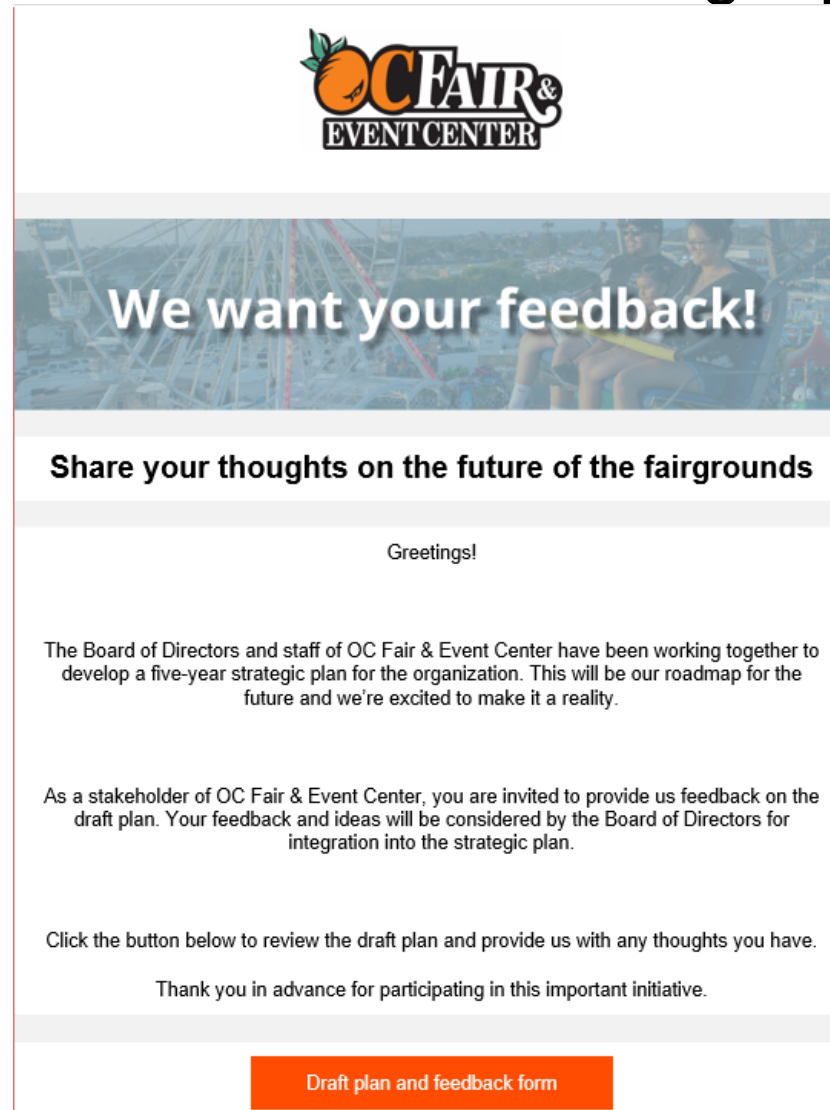
☐ Yes ☐ No

Submit Feedback



9B. Update on Outreach to Stakeholders for Feedback on Five-Year Strategic Plan

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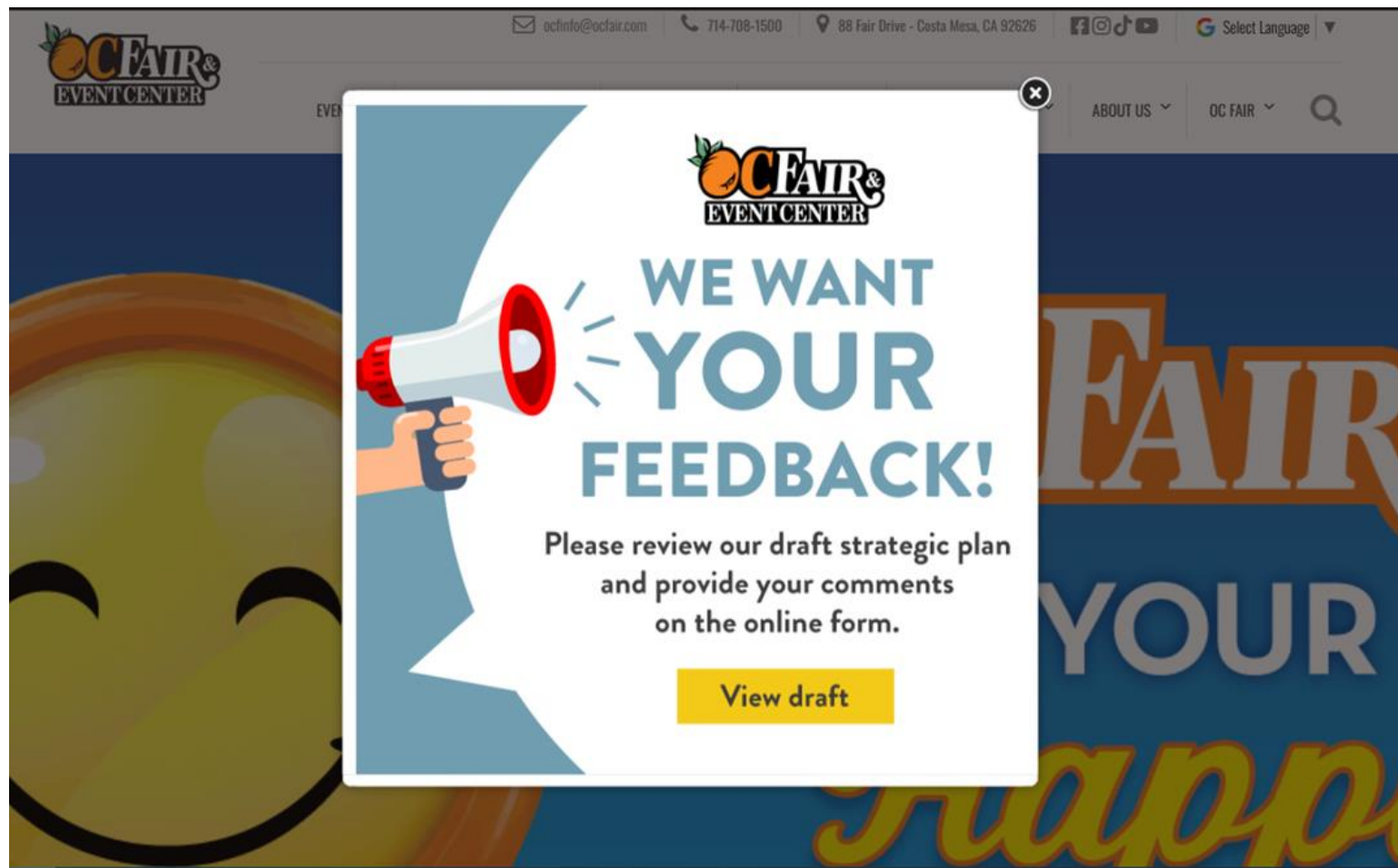
2. An eblast was sent on February 13 inviting over 7,800 stakeholders to click on a link which takes them to the draft strategic plan and portal for providing feedback. Stakeholders included:

- OC elected officials and City Managers
- Chambers of Commerce
- Merchants and concessionaires
- Education contacts
- Law enforcement contacts
- Centennial Farm Foundation and Heroes Hall Foundation
- Agriculture community
- Event promoters and sponsors
- Media contacts
- Entertainment contacts
- California fair CEOs and staff
- Fair industry associations
- Past OC FEC Board members
- RCS, Oak View Group, OC Wine Society
- OC Arts community
- CDFA, CFSA, CCA and CalHR contacts
- OC Veterans groups



9B. Update on Outreach to Stakeholders for Feedback on Five-Year Strategic Plan

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9B. Update on Outreach to Stakeholders for Feedback on Five-Year Strategic Plan

INFORMATION ITEM:

The deadline for submitting feedback is Friday, March 13. Staff will provide the Board with copies of the comments submitted by stakeholders and recommendations for any amendments to the strategic plan at the March Board of Directors meeting.



9C. Status Report on The Ranch Community Center Facilities and Programs

INFORMATION ITEM:



\$2,360 - labor and materials



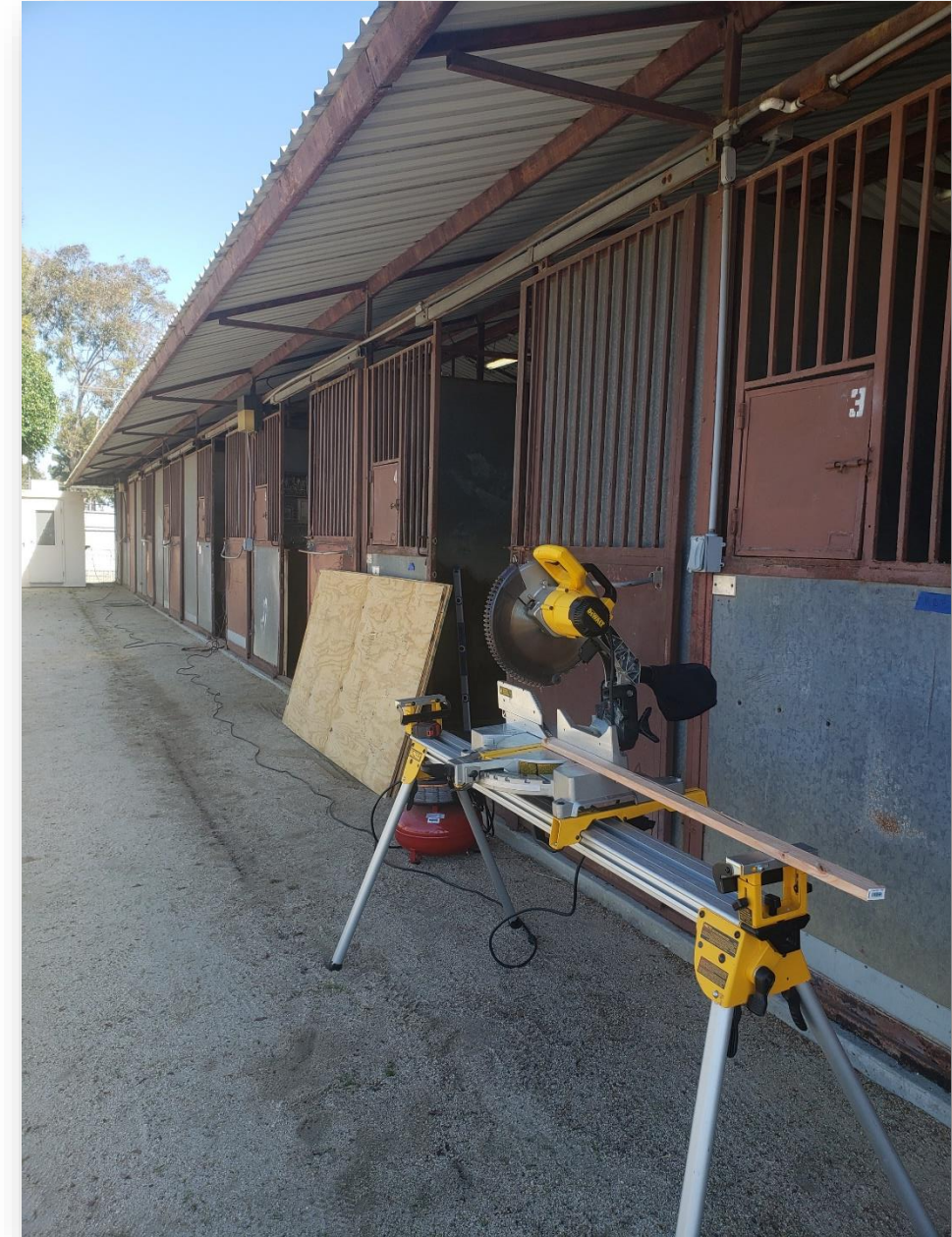
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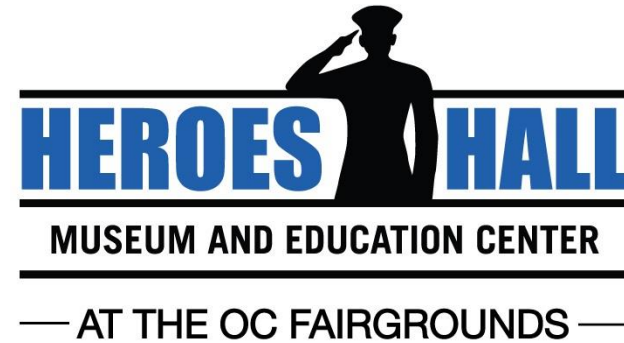
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• **THE RANCH** •
COMMUNITY CENTER

“Discovery Day”



9D. Committee/Ad Hoc Committee/Liaison Reports

INFORMATION ITEM:

To assure compliance with the Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act, Committee reports are only for the purpose of the Committee chair, Ad Hoc Committee members or Liaison to provide a verbal update. Should the Board want to discuss any Committee work item not already on the agenda; those would need to be agendized for a future Board meeting.

- i. **Leadership Committee** (Chair Kovacevich, Committee Chair; Vice Chair Bagneris)
- ii. **Financial Monitoring and Audit Committee** (Director Pham, Committee Chair; Director Bilezikjian)
- iii. **Facilities Committee** (Director Ruiz, Committee Chair; Director Bilezikjian)
- iv. **Governance Committee** (Director La Belle, Committee Chair; Chair Kovacevich)
- v. **Community Affairs Committee** (Director Rubalcava-Garcia, Committee Chair; Director Jackson)



January 2025 Financials

	Actual	Budget	Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)
January 2025 Revenue	\$ 645,291	\$ 969,213	(\$ 323,922)
January 2025 Expenses	<u>\$ 2,060,286</u>	<u>\$ 2,640,881</u>	<u>\$ 580,595</u>
January 2025 Net Proceeds/(Loss)	<u>(\$ 1,414,995)</u>	<u>(\$ 1,671,668)</u>	<u>\$ 256,673</u>



Cash and Cash Equivalents

	<u>January 31, 2025</u>	<u>January 31, 2024</u>
Cash on Hand	\$ 568,723	\$ 3,013,348
Investments	<u>\$51,632,305</u>	<u>\$53,117,193</u>
Total Cash and Cash Equivalents	<u><u>\$52,201,028</u></u>	<u><u>\$56,130,541</u></u>
Year over Year Change	<u><u>(\$ 3,929,513)</u></u>	
Year over Year % Change	-7.0%	



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Black History Month

African Americans and Labor



11. UPCOMING EVENTS PREVIEW



Mar 1



Mar 6 - 9



Mar 15 - 16



11. UPCOMING EVENTS PREVIEW

Centennial Farm
Workshops



Make It, Take It

Mar 1



Hydroponics

Mar 22



Discovery Days

Mar 7 & 18



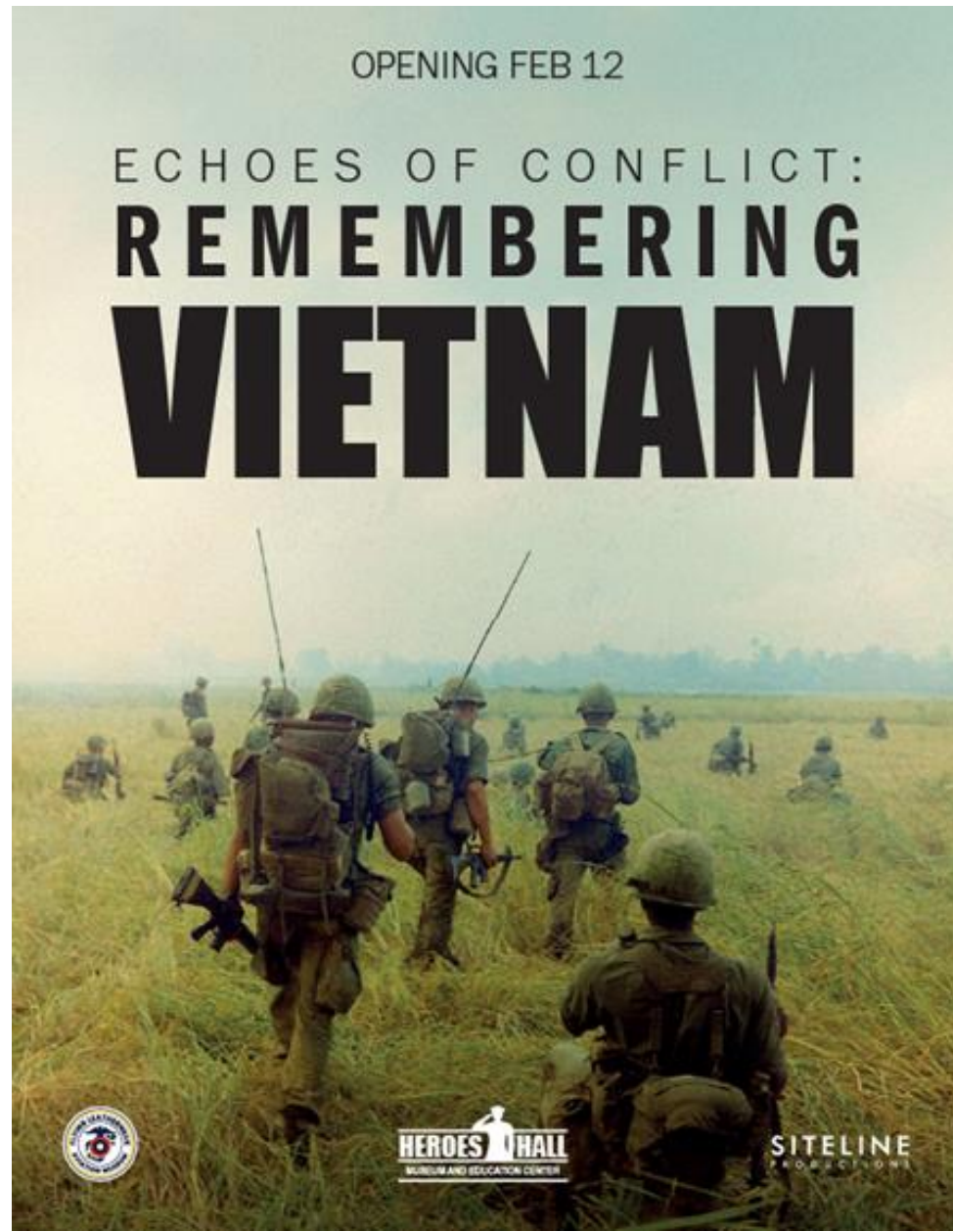
Every Thursday



ALL NEW
Weekly Donation
Location



Heroes Hall



★ **March 1**
Speakers Series –
Breaking Barriers: Black Marines Reflect on War,
Service and Sacrifice

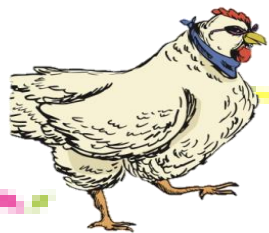
Compelling panel discussion with three members from the first all Black unit in the Marine Corps, whose service spans from World War II to Desert Shield, with a focus on their Vietnam War experiences. All three of the Montford Point Marines Association members are credited with their significant role in breaking racial barriers within the military.



Now Open

HAPPY MARCH BIRTHDAY!

DIRECTOR JACKSON



12. Board of Directors Matters of Information

13. Next Board Meeting

MARCH 27, 2025

Community Room at the City of Costa Mesa City Hall

