



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS AGENDA ITEM REPORT

Addendum

Requested Board Meeting Date: 12/17/2024

\*= Mandatory, information must be provided

Click or tap the boxes to enter text. If not applicable, indicate "N/A".

\*Title:

County Fair Horse Racing Meet 2025

\*Introduction/Background:

Arizona Revised Statute allows local County Fair Horse Racing Commissions throughout the State of Arizona to hold racing meet days at their local horse racetrack to earn revenue from racing to fund their operational and other costs. This revenue does not come from actual racing meet revenues, as it comes from a portion of the funds collected as racing taxes. If actual racing does not take place in the jurisdiction, the Commission may hold County Fair Racing Meets at other operating horse racetracks within the State of Arizona.

\*Discussion:

The Pima County Fair Horse Racing Commission (PCFHRC) met on October 17, 2024 and approved four (4) County Fair racing dates for the 2025 Race Meet. PCFHRC is asking the Board of Supervisors to allow four (4) County Fair Horse Racing Days at Turf Paradise pending final approval by Arizona Department of Racing Commission. If approved, first by Pima County and then by Arizona Department of Racing Commission, the State will rebate back a portion of the taxes collected to the PCFHRC.

\*Conclusion:

If the racing dates are approved by Pima County and Arizona Department of Racing Commission, Turf Paradise will conduct four (4) County Fair Horse Racing Days and remit payment to PCFHRC. These funds will enable the PCFHRC to increase their fundraising efforts to support horse racing activities.

\*Recommendation:

Staff and the PCFHRC are requesting approval from the Pima County Board of Supervisors to approve the following days as officially designated County Fair Horse Race Days: January 13, 21, 27 and 28, 2025.

\*Fiscal Impact:

Revenue generated will benefit the PCFHRC to continue to operate.

\*Board of Supervisor District:

1  2  3  4  5  All

Department: Parks and Recreation

Telephone: 520-724-5000

Contact: Victor Pereira/Bernadette Russell

Telephone: 520-724-5244

VICTOR M. PEREIRA

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Date: 2024.12.12 09:49:57 -07'00'

Department Director Signature:

Date:

Deputy County Administrator Signature:

Date:

County Administrator Signature:

Date:

Handwritten signatures in blue ink

Handwritten dates: 12/12/2024, 12/12/2024

## Pima County Fair Horse Racing Commission

Date: December 11, 2024  
To: Pima County Board of Supervisors  
From: Raxon Cho – Chair  
Pima County Fair Horse Racing Commission  
Re: Request to Approve Pima County Fair Horse Racing Days

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Arizona horseracing operates under both commercial and county fair horse race days. Currently, there is no commercial racetrack operator for Rillito Racetrack; however, County fair horse race days are operated by the Pima County Fair Horse Racing Commission (hereinafter the "Commission"), and in accordance with A.R.S. Title 5, Chapter 1, Art. 1. The 1987 resolution (1987-224) passed by the Pima County Board of Supervisors, and in accordance with Arizona Revised Statutes, Title 5, Chapter 1, Art. 1, Sections 5-110 and 5-111, the Commission has the right to contractually assign their race dates to another Arizona racetrack.

Therefore, the Commission is requesting approval from the Pima County Board of Supervisors to approve the following days as officially designated County Fair Horse Race Days: January 13, 21, 27 and 28, 2025.

As such, Turf Paradise has agreed to contract with the Commission to run the approved Pima County Fair Horse Racing days at Turf Paradise on the above-referenced dates. In exchange for contracting with the Commission, Turf Paradise will remit to the Commission those funds which are exempt from the payment to the state of the percentage of the pari-mutuel pool, as described more fully in A.R.S. Title 5, Chapter 1, Art. 1, Sections 5-110(F) and 5-111(F), et. seq. These funds will enable the Commission to increase their fundraising efforts to support horse racing activities.

Upon approval by the Pima County Board of Supervisors to authorize these dates as Pima County Fair Horse Racing days, the Commission will submit the approved race days to the Arizona Department of Racing Commission for consideration at their January 10, 2025, meeting. Thereafter, Turf Paradise will finalize the contract between the parties (Pima County Fair Horse Racing Commission and Turf Paradise) and remit payment to the Commission to be deposited into the Pima County Fair Horseracing Commission Foundation's bank account on behalf of the Pima County Fair Horseracing Commission.

If there are any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Cc: Jan Lesher – County Administrator  
Carmine DeBonis, Jr. – Deputy County Administrator  
Victor Pereira – Director, Parks & Recreation  
Robert Padilla – Deputy Director, Parks & Recreation  
Chair - Pima County Fair Horse Racing Commission Foundation  
Dave Johnson – Turf Paradise, LLP