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News Release

El Paso County Fair Advisory Board Pursuing 4-H Option for 2020 County Fair

El Paso County, CO, May 28, 2019 – During these unprecedented times, many events across Colorado have been canceled, postponed, or moved to virtual settings in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. However, the County has determined to continue with a modified County Fair in 2020. The 115th Annual County Fair will only feature 4-H exhibits and attractions.

Under normal circumstances, the fair would be held July 11-18, 2020, and include around 200 activities that would draw approximately 25,000 participants and spectators. The County decided to carry on the fair tradition while providing a safe environment, but also recognized large special events would be difficult while maintaining social distancing requirements at performances, carnival, and vendor areas. The 4-H Only Fair option would allow for 4-H participants to complete their projects and potentially participate at the State Fair.

“The El Paso County Fair is a treasured family tradition, and I appreciate the work done to carry that forward in some modified fashion,” said Mark Waller, Chair of the Board of County Commissioners. “While we would love to hold a normal fair, we agree it is unlikely the Governor will loosen restrictions in time. However, this approach is good for those in the 4-H program and we look forward to our regular Fair returning in 2021.”

“We all wish we could offer our regular County Fair,” said Lori Harfert, Chair of the Fair Advisory Board. “We are very interested in providing a positive 4-H Fair experience for our youth.”

County staff will work with Public Health officials to determine the procedures for offering a 4-H Fair. This will likely include a limit on the number of individuals in barns, social distancing, and other safety measures. Further information will be released in the coming weeks.

As the state guidelines evolve regarding COVID-19, The County will reevaluate County Fair special events such as the Demolition Derby as stand-alone events later in the year.

For additional information or questions, please contact:
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