

SAN JOSE MCENERY CONVENTION CENTER EXPANSION MOVES FORWARD

City Council Approves Ballot Measure to Fund Project

San Jose, Calif. - August 06, 2002 - The San Jose City Council unanimously approved a ballot measure today to increase the city's transient occupancy tax (TOT) to fund the proposed expansion of the San Jose McEnery Convention Center (SJMCC).

"An expanded convention center will allow us more flexibility with move-in and move-out dates and enable us to accommodate larger convention groups and trade shows," said Dan Fenton, president/CEO of the San Jose Convention & Visitors Bureau (SJCVB).

Since opening in 1989, the San Jose McEnery Convention Center has hosted more than 2,011 international, national and community events attracting 4.5 million attendees. Yet the convention center's 143,000 square-foot of exhibit space, once comparable to other West Coast convention centers, is now proving too small for many meetings and conventions. It ranks 82nd in facility size among the top 100 largest U.S. convention centers.

Plans for the expansion are still being finalized, but initial figures call for doubling the current exhibit space.

The ballot measure will go before San Jose voters November 6.

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