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Merced County Fair Board Launches Formal CEO Search

This follows the retirement announcement of current CEO Teresa Burrola, effective July 1

MERCED, CALIFORNIA, April 25, 2025 – The Merced County Fair Board of Directors has officially opened the recruitment process for its next Chief Executive Officer (CEO), who will take the helm following the upcoming retirement of longtime CEO Teresa Burrola on July 1, 2025.

To support a comprehensive and successful search, the Board is working in partnership with the California Department of Food & Agriculture (CDFA) and leveraging fair industry networks statewide and nationally to attract top-tier candidates. The application deadline is May 13, 2025.

The incoming CEO will guide the Merced County Fair into its next chapter – building on a strong foundation that supports a cherished annual Fair and a robust year-round calendar of community events. The Board seeks a forward-thinking, community-driven leader with experience in fair management, operations, and strategic planning.

“We are incredibly grateful to Teresa for her nearly three decades of dedicated service and visionary leadership, which has strengthened our Fair’s presence in the community and laid the groundwork for continued success,” said Emily Haden, First Vice President, Merced County Fair Board of Directors. “As we look ahead, we’re seeking a leader who can build on that legacy while bringing fresh ideas and energy to help the Fair continue to evolve and thrive for future generations.”

To view the full job profile and application instructions, please visit www.mercedcountyfair.com/careers.

About The Merced County Fair:

The Merced County Fair, first founded in 1891, represents the 35th District Agricultural Association. The Fair’s mission statement outlines that it “*promises to meet the needs of our community by providing a fun, safe venue to celebrate our area’s agricultural heritage, discover new technology and be entertained.*” This year marks the 132nd year of operation for the Merced County Fair. The Merced County Fair annually welcomes nearly 70,000 people from throughout Merced County and beyond to attend the five-day fair each June. Members of the Board of Directors include: President, Luis Lara; First Vice President, Mark Erreca; Second Vice President, Emily Haden; Vicky Banaga; Lori Gallo; Mark N. Pazin; Kim Rogina; and Carol Sartori-Silva. Teresa Burrola heads up the daily operations in her role as CEO. The 2025 Merced County Fair will return to kick off the summer, June 4 - 8. For more information about the Merced County Fair, please visit www.MercedCountyFair.com. Connect with the Fair on Facebook ([@mercedfair](https://www.facebook.com/mercedfair)), Twitter ([@Merced_CA_Fair](https://twitter.com/Merced_CA_Fair)), Instagram ([@mercedcountyfair](https://www.instagram.com/mercedcountyfair)) and Tik Tok ([@mercedcountyfair](https://www.tiktok.com/@mercedcountyfair)).

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35th District Agricultural Association

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