

Attachment 1

Letter from the Santa Barbara Bowl Foundation Board of Directors



SANTA BARBARA BOWL

March 4, 2022

Honorable Members, Board of Supervisors,

Please allow this correspondence to accompany our request for a one-time variance of the negative declaration for the Santa Barbara Bowl Foundation. We are seeking to host up to an additional 7 events at the Santa Barbara Bowl as part of the 2022 Concert Season.

It comes as no surprise that the COVID-19 pandemic has hit the live event industry exceptionally hard, and SB Bowl was no exception to this impact. In 2020, the Bowl was completely dark for the first time in its operation and was able to safely reopen after 22 months for 23 events in the second half of 2021. This is only the second time that a variance has been requested, the last being a request which was granted of 4 additional events following the Thomas Fire and resulting Montecito Debris Flow.

Goldenvoice of Los Angeles, the promoter of record for the SB Bowl, is encouraging a 2022 variance to help ease the economic impact on the artists, employees, and contractors that are vital to Bowl operations and the Santa Barbara community. This impact will extend to not only commercial businesses like hotels and restaurants but also benefit our youth providing additional funds for performing arts programs in the County through the Bowl's Outreach.

With an anticipated full calendar of the maximum 37 events, this is the first time the Santa Barbara community has seen so much interest from artists this early in the year. It is essential for our community to be responsive to this additional "pent-up demand" from the artists and to meet the needs of their managers and agents. Failure to do so may tarnish the community's reputation and drive these artists to seek other venues now and in the future. Thus, we are supportive of the increase in shows for 2022.

The Santa Barbara Bowl Foundation is dedicated to enriching Santa Barbara County's communities through shared artistic experiences. Community focused events and Outreach will continue to be an organizational imperative and will include the Santa Barbara Mariachi Festival's return to Fiesta Saturday and an event with the Music Academy of the West in June.

Thank you for considering our request and please contact me directly if you have questions or require additional information.

Sincerely,

Rick Boller
Executive Director
Santa Barbara Bowl Foundation