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Sale Would Reduce County Debt, Simplify Negotiations with Raiders and Other Teams

County of Alameda Tells City of Oakland it Wants to Sell County's Interest in Oakland Alameda County Coliseum

Oakland—Alameda County today announced it has told Oakland City officials it would like to sell its interest in the Oakland Alameda County Coliseum to the City of Oakland. This move would streamline the complex negotiations over retaining Oakland's three national sports franchises, allow the County to focus spending on county issues tied to the County's core mission, and contribute to the retirement of debt.

Alameda County Supervisor Nate Miley said County representatives raised the issue this morning in a meeting with City officials, the Raiders, and the National Football League. He said he believes the City's response to this opportunity is positive.

"We believe the sale of our interest to the City of Oakland is in the best interest of everyone - the County taxpayers and the City of Oakland - and it furthers the negotiations to retain the Oakland Raiders NFL franchise," said Miley, who also serves as vice-chair of the Oakland Alameda County Coliseum Authority, the joint county-city authority overseeing the Oakland Coliseum and Arena.

Supervisor Miley said the County has been discussing the sale of the assets to Oakland and reached a consensus that the action would be beneficial. He said the County and the City each contribute approximately \$11 million per year towards debt and obligations and the debt will continue until 2026.

"The County and the City are in different positions. The County loses money each year while the City has more revenue generating opportunities to offset costs and losses associated with property development and sports venues," Miley said. "The County believed, when it entered this arrangement in 1995, that it would get revenues from operations of the facilities, but they

never fully materialized. Thus, we believe it's wise to sell our interest to the City, retire our debt, and focus on what we do best—providing our residents with beneficial programs like healthcare and social services."

Supervisor Miley said the sale could also be a positive turning point in negotiations to retain the Oakland A's, Oakland Raiders, and Golden State Warriors. He said the negotiations are especially complex because the County and City have different priorities, mandates, financial issues and constituencies.

"Having a two-headed government agency overseeing the management of a sports and entertainment venue is not necessarily the most effective way for any of the parties to function properly," Supervisor Miley added.

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