



Capital Improvements

Take a look at what's being done to improve the Fresno Fairgrounds

The Big Fresno Fair is focused on taking the necessary steps to continually maintain and enhance the Fairgrounds and focuses on implementing new capital improvements each year. It's important to note, without the support of community leaders and organizations, these projects would not be possible. In the past decade, The Big Fresno Fair has invested more than \$13 million in capital improvements. Some recent projects are:

- **Table Mountain Rancheria Park**

This capital improvement campaign began development in 2005 and features the award-winning Pirates in the Park attraction plus five other attractions for families to enjoy. In 2009, the magic of Table Mountain Rancheria Park will continue with The Water Tree, a two-year, two-phase project. The first phase, which will be completed this year, will mark the completion of the main structure with fun stairs, nooks and crannies plus "lookout" areas and huge fish tanks...all the things kids love about the rest of the Park. It will also include some education elements about our Valley's most vital resource – water, plus all electricity needed for The Water Tree will be generated by PG&E's solar display at the Fair. Phase two will see the completion of the bridge that will connect to Granville Homes Horse Palace Tree House and Catfish Falls, plus more educational resources.

- **Kings Canyon Gate Entrance**

For the 2009 Fair, one additional rock feature will be added to this already impressive gate. The 2008 Fair marked the completion of the two-year Kings Canyon Avenue gate entrance redesign. The project, which won a Western Fairs Association Award, was made possible by support from the City of Fresno's Redevelopment Agency and brought City, County and State together for the benefit of the community. The new gate brought Fairgoers inside the Fairgrounds and off of Kings Canyon Avenue, providing a safer and more aesthetically pleasing entrance with a shaded covering, tropical trees and water falls. The completion of the Kings Canyon entrance marked the third entrance to be renovated at the Fairgrounds. In 2004, the Chance Avenue Gate was remodeled, and then in 2005 the Butler Avenue Gate.

- **New Infield Parking Entrance**

The Big Fresno Fair brought history to life with the Infield Parking entrance added in 2008. Now, patrons entering the Infield will drive underneath a replica of the original, 1890 Big Fresno Fair Grandstand. The entrance is 40-feet tall and includes a life-size horse and jockey.

- **Race Track Improvements**

In recent years the Fair's horse racing facility has received tremendous improvements making it better than ever. Since 2004, the Fair has planted more than 6,100 trees in and around the horse racing track and on Maple Avenue and has added a new grass surface, along with 2.5 miles of pop up sprinklers on the interior of the track. The Luxury Deck, which overlooks the Paddock Area, beautiful murals in the Grandstand, recycled rubber flooring and a revamp of the tote board also add to the list of improvements.



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- **New RV Parking**

At the 2009 Big Fresno Fair, guests that historically stay on-grounds will have a new home. The RV Parking Lot is a designated spot on grounds and includes 72 spaces and proper hook-ups that will allow vendors, exhibitors and guests on the Fairgrounds to have a home during the 12-day event. The new RV Parking Lot will be utilized year round for interim events.

- **New Landscaped Seating Area**

A new permanent and beautifully landscaped seating area will be revealed at the 2009 Fair. Located along the walkway by the Commerce Building, this seating area was created by Friesen Landscaping and features a stone patio, arbor and plenty of green foliage. It is the perfect spot for Fairgoers to take a seat and enjoy a delicious bite to eat.

- **"Cow Palace" Milking Barn**

The newest addition next to Dairyville USA, the Cow Palace features a new archway with cow heads that frame the Fair's education cow milking station. Stop by for the daily milking demonstration and learn how the milk gets from the cow to your fridge!

Interviews Available: John C. Alkire, CEO; Stacy Rianda, Deputy Manager II; and Lauri King, Deputy Manager I



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