



SAN MATEO COUNTY FAIR | 2023 SURVEY COMMENTS

SECURITY

- "I liked the security check point and seeing SM PD walk around the fair - I went in the day."

OVERALL EXPERIENCE

- "With all the bad things happening around the Bay Area it was nice to see a large diverse crowd at the same event enjoying themselves...everyone seemed to police themselves."
- "I have been attending the county fair for over 50 years. The past few years have been very disappointing. This year was much better."
- "Thank you for providing the nearby, safe & multi generational activity!"
- "Excellent fair this year crowded but that is good."
- "Great job putting the event together it required a lot of coordinations for everything to go well!"
- "Keep Senior Day. Alameda County Fair dropped Senior Day, we will not attend. We spent over \$170.00 on food, snacks, commercial booths and ride wrist band and it was worth every Penny! Enjoyable weather, atmosphere and selections. Just wish there were more vendors. Your fair is much more laid back then the Alameda fair. We usually attend Contra Costa, San Mateo, Alameda and Marin County Fairs. This year it will be only the San Mateo County Fair."
- "Bravo to the planning committee, Fair staff, and everyone else involved... it felt very vibrant, safe, and full of fun at every turn. The food court was a great place to meet people standing in line, out of the blue just talking to each other, like a Fair from another era. It was clean too, even in the barns, and restrooms. Well done and thanks!"
- "All the feedback from friends and family who went to the Fair to watch my show told me they really enjoyed all the other attractions at the Fair, too. They were very pleasantly surprised at how fun and interesting it was and would probably go again next year."
- "Although the county fair is not my thing I think it is a wonderful event for many others including and especially children and I really like that it is held every year. So I fully support it."
- "My 30 year old daughter enjoyed the dragon exhibit and winning a stuffed corn dog on the midway. Thank you for all the effort you put into planning the fair each year."
- "Enjoyed that things were changed around, and not in the same places as in the past years."

EXHIBITS

- "The farm workers exhibit was excellent and very moving, thank you for including this..."
- "The dance events of Argentina, Brazil, Mexico, and Philippines of the Department Culinary Arts are noteworthy. Congratulations! Love the Fair!!!"

CONCESSIONS

- "I would have liked to see more vegetarian food offerings."
- "Please have more specialized diet friendly food."
- "Please add healthier food items."

COMMERCIAL

- "It feels like the food and carnival rides are pre pandemic levels but the booths seem to not be as plentiful."
- "I would like the vendors to come back to the main building like before."
- "This is very likely a problem caused by Covid, however, I greatly missed the wild and wacky few of vendors of seemingly millions of tiny helpful household objects. I was hoping to find another flashlight. That's only 2 inches long. My guess is that these vendors have just been pummeled by Covid and did not feel that they would get a return from the fair equal to their entry fee."



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COMMUNITY STAGE

- "Young people do not have the clubs/bars to play at like I had as a kid and our gigs at the fair are significant memories for us."

ENTERTAINMENT

- "I would love to see more entertainment for toddlers."
- "Not enough entertainment or activities for adult."
- "Enjoyed the pacific islander section! enjoy play areas with the grandkids."
- "Lots of interactive activities for families."

GREAT IDEAS FROM GUESTS

- "A few strategically placed maps at the entrance and along primary pathways would have helped me find interesting things to see."
- "Also making the special fair day for special needs children known so people can bring their children."
- "Need to bring more cultural displays and activities."
- "Senior Showcase should be expanded!!"
- "I have seen a black appreciation/history dedication. When will there be an Asian one. I'd like to see some of our equity "appreciated." If you are going to do one. You must do all."

NOSTALGIA

- "Need to look at what the fair was like in the 80's to early 2000's and bring that back."

STAFF

- "Kerry and Janet were extremely helpful in answering all my questions and just so knowledgeable all around. I had asked staff at the gate and info booths some questions and they did not know. Saw Kerry and Janet in the shopping building as I was walking in and they were extremely helpful. It's nice that your staff are in shirts, it helpful to tell staff apart. Great job overall!"

Those are only a few of the many comments made by the participants of our 2023 Fair Survey. From those, we have identified **THREE main areas of improvement for next year:**

1. FOOD OPTIONS FOR ALL DIETARY PREFERENCES AND NEEDS

2. FINDING A BALANCE OF HAVING WEEKEND VENDORS AND INDOOR VENDORS ALL DAYS OF FAIR

3. BRING BACK SAN MATEO COUNTY FAIR NOSTALGIA FOR THE 90TH ANNIVERSARY - CONDUCTING COUNTY WIDE FOCUS GROUPS