



**City of
Santa Clara**
The Center of What's Possible



NEWS RELEASE

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Response to San Francisco 49ers' Dishonest Statement to The Mercury News about a Meeting that Did Not Happen

Stadium Authority wants 49ers to act responsibly, be truthful and stop blaming others

SANTA CLARA, Calif. – On Jan. 17, 2019, the City of Santa Clara received a media inquiry about the Forty Niners Stadium Management Company's (ManCo) draft budget proposal for FY 2019/20 which projects a \$4.4 million decrease in net revenue. The reporter inquired about the 49ers' statements concerning their financial forecast discussed during this morning's meeting with the Santa Clara Stadium Authority. This was NOT AT ALL the purpose of the meeting, nor was any financial forecast discussed. In fact, today's meeting covered upcoming events as required in the Management Agreement. It is disappointing that the 49ers dishonestly mischaracterized the meeting and instead made it about politics and Mayor Lisa M. Gillmor.

It is a known fact that ManCo books money-losing, non-NFL events at Levi's Stadium and that blame rests squarely on the shoulders of the Forty Niners Management Company. This was illustrated in the Stadium Authority's [Oct. 2018 news release](#) about the net revenues of non-National Football League (NFL) events. For example, the 49ers continued to book non-NFL events that lose over \$3 million annually for the Stadium Authority. Additionally, this is further evidenced by the Stadium Authority requiring an Assignment and Assumption Agreement for the College Football Playoff National Championship to prevent the loss of \$12-14 million dollars resulting from ManCo entering into this money-losing agreement. 49ers President Al Guido has made multiple statements to the media confirming the loss.

The 49ers' continuing excuses about the 10 p.m. weeknight "curfew" is simply irresponsible and deflects from their management performance. The 49ers need to act responsibly as partners with the City and stop making excuses for their management of Levi's Stadium. When they accepted the role as property manager, the 49ers agreed to their development permit conditions (which include the 10 p.m. weekday time restrictions related to noise). 49ers President Al Guido acknowledged, [in a letter dated Sept. 28, 2017](#), his understanding of these conditions and agreed to them for Levi's Stadium. It is absolutely disingenuous for the 49ers to take issue with it when they knew these were the permit conditions and accepted them.

"We are going to hold the 49ers to the rules they agreed to when Levi's Stadium opened in 2014," said Mayor Lisa M. Gillmor. "We can have successful concerts at the stadium on weekdays and weekends and allow for people in our community who work and go to school to sleep during the week."

Santa Clara wants the 49ers to be good business partners, but they continue to attempt to wage a political war of words with Santa Clara. The 49ers submitted their draft budget proposal on January 16, 2018 at 10:47 p.m. and, instead of working cooperatively to go through the budget cycle with the Stadium Authority, they have decided to surface their draft budget proposal in the media and to untruthfully attribute it to a meeting that did not happen. This is not a professional approach, and the Stadium Authority will act responsibly and professionally to present a budget

to the Board for its consideration.

About the City of Santa Clara

Located at the heart of Silicon Valley about 45 miles south of San Francisco, the City of Santa Clara truly is “The Center of What’s Possible.” Incorporated in 1852, Santa Clara covers an area of 19.3 square miles with a population of 120,000. Santa Clara is home to an extraordinary array of high-tech companies, including Applied Materials, Hewlett-Packard, Intel, Nvidia, Oracle, and Ericsson. The City of Santa Clara is also home to Santa Clara University, California’s Great America Theme Park, and Levi’s® Stadium, home of the San Francisco 49ers and Super Bowl 50. For more information, go to www.SantaClaraCA.gov.

About the Santa Clara Stadium Authority

Established to provide for the development and operation of Levi’s® Stadium, the Santa Clara Stadium Authority exists as a public body, separate and distinct from the City of Santa Clara. The seven elected members of the City Council serve as the governing board for the Stadium Authority. The mayor serves as chair of the Stadium Authority, with the city manager as the executive director and the city attorney as the Stadium Authority’s general counsel. The City is not liable for the debts or obligations of the Stadium Authority.

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