



City of Arts & Innovation

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

July 16, 2021

Contact:

Phil Pitchford
Public Information Officer
951-826-5975
ppitchford@riversideca.gov

Planned “America First” Rally Will Not Occur in Riverside

Riverside Convention Center operator informs City of Riverside that event planned for Saturday is off

RIVERSIDE, Calif. – The City of Riverside has been notified by the operators of the Riverside Convention Center that an “America First” rally planned for Saturday will not take place.

The planned event, which was scheduled for 6 p.m. Saturday, is off, the Raincross Hospitality Corp. told the City of Riverside on Friday evening.

Raincross Hospitality Corp. manages and operates the Riverside Convention Center under contract with the City, which owns the building. Specific questions about the event and why it is not taking place should be directed to Raincross Hospitality.

“I recognize this was a divisive issue in our community, and I am glad it has been resolved,” Mayor Patricia Lock Dawson said. “I commend Raincross Hospitality Corp. for this decision.”

The event has been widely condemned by Riverside residents since the public became aware of it Thursday afternoon. The event was to feature two controversial speakers, Reps. Marjorie Taylor Greene and Matt Gaetz.

“Riverside is a diverse and inclusive community, so it is heartening to hear that this event will not move forward,” Mayor Pro Tem Gaby Plascencia said. “I am disappointed we even got to this point, because these speakers are the antithesis of everything Riverside stands for.”

For the latest information and resources regarding COVID-19 -- www.RiversideCA.gov/COVID-19