

August 31, 2020

The Honorable Andrew M. Cuomo
Governor of New York State
NYS State Capitol Building
Albany, NY 12224

RE: Supporting NY amusement rides and parks small family-owned businesses

Dear Governor Cuomo,

We write to you today on behalf of amusement rides and parks small family-owned businesses from across the Greater New York City region and Long Island, and we are seeking guidance on operating standards in this new COVID era.

As you are uniquely well-aware, COVID has changed everything. Many of us lost friends and family to the pandemic, and no New Yorker has been left unchanged from this experience. As New Yorkers, we understood and supported the closures of our businesses in the interest of the public good - despite the personal financial hardships those closures created - as the pandemic ravaged New York City, Long Island and communities across the State.

Now that New York is 20+ days under the one percent new infection threshold, we are heartened by the State's progression through the phases of recovery and the opening of many businesses in our State, like museums, aquariums, bowling alleys, and gyms. However, we grow increasingly concerned about the future viability of our small family-owned businesses. Our financial situation is critical without any cash flow since our last season in 2019. Many of us will likely be without any income for 18 months.

We have all worked responsibly and thoroughly to prepare and submit operating plans to the State. We have also invested a lot of resources to prepare our facilities for opening: enhanced technological solutions to control access to our rides and parks and limit capacity, physical barriers to ensure social distancing, hand sanitizers and hand washing stations throughout our parks to facilitate hand cleanliness. We have procured PPE for our workers and implemented mandatory health and temperature checks for all of our team members. We have trained and equipped our park services team members for frequent sanitization and disinfection of high touch surfaces. We have been working very hard to make sure that when we open, we will be able to operate in a safe, clean, and fun environment and provide necessary stress relief in these very

challenging circumstances. Doing this in a vacuum without any guidance on what standards the State will adopt is costly at a time when we have no resources.

While some of us remain hopeful we might be able to operate for a few weeks before the end of the 2020 season, most of us are anxiously looking to 2021 - but need to plan for it now. If we can survive the offseason and winter, we need to know if our businesses will be viable next year. The thousands of people we employ need to know if they have jobs. Some of us have significant investment projects underway. An absence of a re-opening plan is also sending a precarious message to our workers, vendors, and lenders regarding the viability of the amusement rides and parks industry in New York State, and many may decide the risk of working with us outweighs the reward.

We respectfully request you to provide guidance and clarity to our industry. We cannot afford to wait any longer for guidelines. We have willingly sacrificed our own livelihoods for the betterment of New York, and we ask the State to help us navigate and plan for the future of our small family-owned businesses and employees - and give us the best chance of surviving this so we can continue to contribute positively to the New York economy and our communities. We look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

Alessandro Zamperla, President/CEO, Central Amusement International Inc.

Dennis and Steve Vourderis, Co-Owners, Deno's Wonder Wheel Park

Steven and Paul Gentile, Co-Owners, L.I. Adventureland Inc.

Ed Hiller, Chief Executive Officer, Ride Entertainment Group

Marc Garin, Owner, Fair Promotions Inc.

Toby Romano Sr., Owner, Fair Promotions Inc.

CC: Senate Majority Leader Stewart-Cousins
Speaker of the Assembly Heastie
Senator Savino
Senator Brooks
Assembly Member Frontus
Assembly Member Stern