March 3, 2020

To WPA Conference Attendees:

San Francisco is looking forward to hosting you at the WPA 100th anniversary annual convention next month at the Hyatt Regency San Francisco.

With the recent media attention on the new coronavirus, we want you to know that, according to the San Francisco Department of Public Health, “There are zero confirmed cases of novel coronavirus in San Francisco.” Although there are confirmed cases in counties outside of downtown San Francisco. The global picture is evolving and San Francisco is taking the necessary steps to keep visitors and residents safe and healthy.

On February 25, Mayor London Breed strengthened San Francisco’s preparedness by declaring a local emergency, which simply allows the City to access more resources and streamline staffing should the need develop. At a press briefing, she encouraged people to go forward with their plans.

We want you to know that all of San Francisco’s group and convention businesses, hotels, Moscone Center, restaurants and attractions are all operating as usual and continue to welcome guests from around the world.

Of course, it is recommended that everyone practice common sense prevention such as frequent hand washing in order to prevent illness. If you are sick, please stay home and do not attend work, school or conferences.

We also want to assure you that the official agencies are being extremely proactive. We are in frequent contact with experts at the following departments:

- The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention are closely monitoring and taking steps to contain the coronavirus, known as COVID-19, in the U.S.
- The San Francisco Department of Public Health is providing updated information about prevention and control of the virus within the city.
- The Department of Homeland Security is providing updated information related to travel restrictions and enhanced screening procedures for travelers going between China and the U.S.
- At San Francisco International Airport, the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) are conducting health screenings for eligible international arriving passengers, and providing guidance on necessary health measures.
- The Moscone Center is following recommendations set forth in the U.S. EPA's Emerging Pathogen Policy regarding cleaning disinfectants effective against the coronavirus (2019-nCoV).

We are excited to welcome you to San Francisco.

Sincerely,

Joe D’Alessandro
President and CEO