



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
June 14, 2017

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Pasco County Government shuts down USA Flea Market

~~Flea market closed due to hundreds of public safety code violations~~

PORT RICHEY, FL ---- Pasco County Government officials held a news conference Wednesday, June 14, 2017, to announce the shuttering of the USA Flea Market due to serious code violations. A joint investigation at the Flea Market, located at 11721 U.S. 19 in Port Richey, Florida, uncovered hundreds of fire, building and electrical violations that posed a significant health, life and public safety threat.

The County is working with vendors to see what can be done to help them find a safe location to sell their wares. Vendors can call the County's Customer Service line at 727.847.2411.

To watch the USA Flea Market closure media briefing in its entirety, with statements from the County Administrator, Assistant County Administrators and various department representatives, click here: <http://bit.ly/2sIzhLz>.

The Flea Market closure is the first case the Pasco County Board of County Commissioners focused on as part of its High Return Enforcement approach to code violations. This new, proactive approach aims to crack down on serious code violators throughout Pasco County. Until now, inspections were primarily complaint-based; however, our citizens have overwhelmingly called for more action to clean up Pasco County. County officials decided implementing a proactive approach is the only way to effectively address the problem. Prioritizing enforcement action based on life safety is the most responsible way to proceed.

See the full video of the Pasco County inspection walk-through at the USA Flea Market here: <http://bit.ly/2t6fPb5>.

***UPDATE: June, 21, 2017**

The owner of the USA Flea Market agreed to demolish all structures on the property and to clear all content and debris by September 1, 2017. The agreement reached allows the owner the option of retaining the original skeleton support structure on the main flea market building. The owner asked for this option to assess whether the original support poles can be used in possible future construction of a new, open-air flea market. All other structures on the property, including the buildings in the front along U.S. 19, will be demolished.

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