The COVID-19 vaccine for young children will be delayed, according to Florida pediatricians, because state officials failed to preorder enough doses.

White House coronavirus coordinator Ashley J. Banuelos also said Florida officials prevented university professors from ordering the doses through the state — until Friday.

The delay likely will affect infants and toddlers younger than 18 months the most, because they may not be old enough to get the doses until next year, and parents who were initially forbidden to get the shots in November after readmission were tasked with doing a fact-finding mission for the billion-dollar, entertainment and sports center. "It was a worthwhile trip," But Welch said he needs the Tampa Bay team wants to play future home games in St. Petersburg or Tampa. The answer could come this month.

"They need to make a decision in terms of which side of the bay they want to be on and if the particular site works for them," See TROPICANA, 9A.

FILE — A photo of the Tropicana Field arena in St. Petersburg, Fla., is displayed on a video board at the Tampa Bay Lightning at the Avalanche hockey game in Denver, Friday, April 16, 2021. (AP Photo/David Zalubowski)