From: Amy Romero
To: MVN Environmental;
Subject: COCONUT BEACH
Date: Wednesday, May 13, 2009 4:08:52 PM

Dear Mr Owen

I want to explain to you the impact Coconut beach has had in my life, not only has the place itself impacted me, but the people that go there everyday is a huge part of my life and everything I stand for... Bruce has been a tremendous impact as well.... You take away our beach you take away our air pretty much... Yes we understand that there needs to be a pumping station, but quite frankly mother nature is nature and she will do what she wants when she wants, and there is no stopping her or preventing substantial damage... it is what it is

I′ve played ball all my life and thru college and started playing at coconut after college, before Katrina, but the place was so huge and I wasn′t well known there, then Katrina hit everything was destroyed but it took a bunch of great people & support to rebuild our coconut beach community..

then I was able to play again, and worked my way up to the better courts, and then I started to come out of my shell, and met more and more people, but lil did they know what was going on in my life.... Bad marriage and mom struck w/ Cancer... all in the same year... one day bruce came up to me and asked if I wanted to ref, and based on my separation and life happenings at the time, seemed perfect, gave me something to do, something else other than life to concentrate on...

Bruce coming to me meant a lot b/c it meant that I′ve done something right, in this life, b/c he doesn′t just pick anyone, or just let anyone ref. specific characteristics of each employee out there makes coconut along w/ the players and owners..

So here I am a ref where I can make some money, but it was never about the money still isn′t about the money, it′s the people who are there, From Bruce, to the other refs, bartenders, and players, Coconut has been my safe Haven when I needed it the most.... It has not only improved my game, but it has also helped

me grow as a person, not only physically, but mentally and emotionally... I look forward to every afternoon during season b/c I get to see my other family..... the friendships developed would of course remain, but sooo many of us come together for various different reasons and we are all there as one, to get away from the rest of life.. Coconut is the reason why I Will Not move, I have had plenty chances to move out of state, but I don't trust any other complex or anyone else to run it the Bruce can.. I've never seen a man be soo involved and know so many people and care as much a/b a place than this man, taking this away would be taking a life... a bunch of lives, as one community...

Coconut beach is Mercy's playground an escape from a hard days work or a fight w/ a significant other or a health club for most people or just plain fun for everyone.. I've had some hard times in the last 3 years and coconut beach has been my backbone... I learned soo much, and would love to help see others grow, and gain the experience, of what it means to be a community... people believe communities is where you live, not all of the time, well some of us doo live at coconut... but still we are a tight nit group, I even schedule my vacation around my games.... Some of us are there for leisure, but some of us compete all over the gulf coast this our practice field... its not fair... sure there is more in the city to protect, but Katrina took a lot away from many people, some of us ONLY have Coconut Beach left from before Katrina, you take this away you take our livelihood!

There is always another way... please consider taking other measures, to have the permanent pumping station elsewhere...

Thank you!

Amy Romero,

Upload Specialist &

HMDA Coordinator

Ph. 504.841.7367

Fax. 504.841.2891