From: bakikuchi@aol.com
To: MVN Environmental;
Subject: SAVE COCONUT BEACH - MY SECOND HOME
Date: Thursday, May 14, 2009 7:43:36 PM

Please reconsider utilizing the land that Coconut Beach occupies!!! I would appreciate you leaving my home away from home alone.

In 1988 Bruce White had a dream...and with the assistance of Mike Drury, he built it and everybody came! So many of us have been a part of Coconut Beach since inception 21 years ago. I count on it as a place a refuge, a place to unwind, a place to compete and at the same time spend time with friends. Hurricane Katrina didn't defeat Coconut Beach or ruin Bruce's dream, it made it stronger. Currently the only thing that can weaken its strength is the Corps of Engineers. We don't want to be selfish, and we understand the absolute need for a pumping station but why does it have to rest on the land that brings so much to so many. Build the pumps further out at the entrance of the canal so that the surge can be handled prior to the flow being forced into the canal and possible breaching the levees. There has to be a better way to build this protection. If Coconut Beach was the best solution I believe the Corps would have made its decision a long time ago. There have been so many changes in the footprints of the project and that uncertainty makes us very uneasy. If Coconut Beach is commandeered and then later the whole process fails the opportunity will no longer be there to rebuild. Why are the current pumps considered temporary? Why would you build such a massive, expensive structure on a temporary basis? What a waste!

Please reconsider leaving our beach alone!

Kind regards,
Brenda Kikuchi
Lifelong Coconut Beach Volleyball Player

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