From: Ken Bode
To: MVN Environmental;
Subject: Coconut Beach Must Live On
Date: Wednesday, May 13, 2009 10:21:09 AM

Dear Mr. Owen,

I was just recently informed of the Army Corps' intention to acquire some, if not all, of the land currently operated by the owners of Coconut Beach. I feel compelled to contact you to tell you the importance of Coconut Beach to both myself and the community. Coconut Beach has served as a place of relaxation and enjoyment for as long as it has been around. Coconut Beach offers an opportunity for everyone, family and friends, to go out and engage in activities that are only possible at Coconut Beach. There is not another beach volleyball complex in this city. If you take this from us, you are taking away one of the truly unique businesses in this area. Coconut Beach not only serves as a haven for the people who play there, but they also play a major role in charitable giving. They raised over 1 Million dollars for Children's Hospital which operates solely as a non-profit organization. Coconut Beach is the base to a solid foundation that is important to both the citizens and businesses of the community. If you take Coconut Beach out, the rest will fall.

So, Mr. Owen, my plea to you is this: Do not take the Beach away from me. Do the work necessary to find a way for both Coconut Beach and the Pumping Station at the 17th Street Canal to peacefully co-exist. I want the Army Corps to show its dedication to the citizens of the local community by listening to our voices and heeding our concerns. I know I am only one person, but I am not the only person. Please save the Beach!

Sincerely,
Ken Bode