From: Tuyl Fletchinger
To: MVN Environmental;
Subject: Coconut Beach
Date: Thursday, May 14, 2009 5:38:03 PM

Hi Mr Owen:

I am writing in regard to Coconut Beach. It is my understanding that there will be a pumping station to replace Coconut Beach. Admittedly, I do not understand all the details and plans. I do understand that Coconut beach is a landmark for Lakeview and Lake Vista citizens. It has been around since before my time, and I could bore you with hours and hours worth of memories there. I won't waste your time, but I would like to urge you to avoid full out replacement of Coconut Beach. I would insist on relocation if there are no other options for this pumping station.

I understand that flood preparation is top priority, but the tax-paying citizens should be damn well considered in the Corp's reconstruction of the city. I am a New Orleanian, born and raised in Lake Vista. I moved from New Orleans last year because I was tired of dealing with bureaucracy, government, and officials that disregard the well-being of citizens. I am returning to New Orleans in August because I've seen in Colorado that things don't have to work that way.

I think it would be ridiculous to rip away something that brings New Orleanians together, especially in such a healthy way. Coconut beach keeps people healthy, active, and having fun. It's vital to maintain those types of resources in today's New Orleans where people are still grieving Katrina losses, fighting insurance companies, and coping in any way they know how. It's one of the best outdoor venues in the city, and it's familiar in a city where familiarity has become rare and home can be unrecognizable. I think it's downright wrong, bordering on immoral, to take that away from New Orleans.

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