From: Barry Guillot
To: MVN Environmental;
Subject: Coconut Beach
Date: Thursday, May 14, 2009 12:43:05 PM

Mr. Owen,

New Orleans is not known for its healthy lifestyle. I consider Coconut Beach to be one of the few healthy activity destinations in the entire New Orleans region. The size of the complex allows people of all ages and skill levels to participate in a sport that many would dismiss as too extreme. The expertise and dedication of the Coconut Beach staff make this a place that is accessible to all. It is a recreation complex unlike all of the rest because it doesn't just cater to the best - it really gives a chance to all of the rest.

Besides being a healthy activity, it also serves as a team building activity for many of the businesses in the New Orleans area. My team is all middle school teachers. Last week we played a military team. there are teams representing many of the area's businesses.

I was shocked to see the news the other night that the idea of shutting down Coconut Beach was still an issue. In an area that looks like a bomb went off, where all of the landarks that we grew up with have disappeared, Coconut Beach remains as a comforting presence. Seeing so many people out there everynight of the week gives confidence to me and the anyone else who experiences this that there is hope that this area can once again thrive as it did in the past.

Losing Coconut Beach would be devastating to to me and everyone else who looks forward to getting out there to relax and exercise. I do not know if there would be anywhere else land is available to offer resources to the amount diverse groups of people that now enjoy this facility.

We need to be building this place up and expanding it - not tearing it down.

Please consider other options. this is a valuable area to the entire region!

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Barry Guillot