From: Matthew Payne
To: MVN Environmental;
Subject: Coconut Beach Volleyball Complex
Date: Wednesday, May 13, 2009 2:21:21 PM

Dear Mr. Owen,

I understand that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers may take 10-100% of Coconut Beach for the construction of a new pumping station. The safety of New Orleans is indeed the paramount concern for residents as well as the Corps, and I applaud the Corps' efforts to improve New Orleans' flood protection.

Please know though that Coconut Beach has become an establishment here in New Orleans. People of many varying backgrounds enjoy friendly competition and exercise in a pleasant environment. Families have come to Coconut Beach for years, and I've personally played at Coconut Beach both before and after Katrina. It has been impressive how quickly Coconut Beach returned after Katrina, but I believe Coconut Beach's return was necessary for many residents to return to their lives much as they lived them before Katrina.

Please take these sentiments into account as the Corps makes these difficult decisions.

Very best regards,
Matthew Payne