From: Lauren Haro
To: MVN Environmental;
Subject: Coconut Beach Support
Date: Wednesday, May 13, 2009 3:46:08 PM

Hello Mr. Owen,

I received an email today about the unfortunate closing of all or part of Coconut Beach. As a former long time resident of New Orleans, this is upsetting. While I live in Baton Rouge, I still call New Orleans home. It is where my family is - my roots. I am there a lot! I have played on those very courts in my day and seen the Beach go through many transitions into what it has become. I have close friends in the leagues at Coconut Beach who look forward to their weeknights of play. It is a place for people to come together to be competitive, have fun and where work emotions and struggles of rebuilding are hushed, where camaraderie flourishes. To shut this place down would compromise the "rebuilding and rebirth" that, over the past 3.5 years, has become the definition of New Orleans - the lakefront community.

If there is to be a pumping station, it would only be fair to build a new facility - a new beach - within very close proximity to the original BEFORE building your station so that people involved in these leagues can still have a place to recreate and not have to look forward to something being built in the future or the disappointment of broken promises. Someone has to show that we can do things right in this city.

I realize that I am only one person and that you will probably receive hundreds of e-mails, but we should be heard. It is our community. SAVE IT.
Thank you for your time.

LH