

RANCHO DEL MAR ASSOCIATION

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April 30, 2024

By Email: Terra.Lawson-Remer@sdcountry.ca.gov

Supervisor Terra Lawson-Remer

District Three

County of San Diego

1600 Pacific Hwy

Room 335

San Diego, CA 92101

April 28, 2024

Re: Surf Del Mar Sports Complex

Dear Supervisor Lawson-Remer,

I am the president of The Rancho Del Mar Association (RDMA), a volunteer homeowner association including approximately 120 homes in a community known as Rancho Del Mar, situated on the north bluff overlooking the Del Mar Horse Park and the Polo Fields on Via de la Valle, all within your San Diego County District Three.

The main roadway for ingress and egress for our community is Via del Canon, north of Via de la Valle. The Polo Field property, the subject of this letter, is located directly across Via de la Valle to the south and is within the city limits of San Diego.

We understand that Surf Cup Sports, who leases the Polo Field property is applying for a permit to develop a large Sports Complex at that site, including indoor gyms, outdoor pickleball courts, basketball courts and other uses and outdoor lighting to allow for evening use.

RDMA opposes the construction of the planned Sports Complex at the Polo Field property for the following reasons.

If permitted to go forward, the construction of the planned Sports Complex will exacerbate an already untenable situation for our residents.

Over the past few years, the RDMA has received complaints from homeowners situated on the bluffs above Via de la Valle, about the traffic, noise and bright lights emanating from the current activities being conducted by Surf Cup Sports on the Polo Field property it leases from the City of San Diego.

(We understand that the current use of the Polo Field property exceeds that which is permitted under the lease and is the subject of separate litigation.)

Via De La Valle is a one lane country road originally designed to reach horse farms and the community of Rancho Santa Fe. While the construction of homes in the area has caused its own set of traffic issues, the traffic congestion on Via de la Valle has been severely compounded by the rapid growth of Surf Cup Sports and its near daily activities and numerous evening events.

The evening events staged by Surf Cup include loud music, excessive acceptable noise levels and the bright lights appear to be in violation of the rules under the County “dark sky” zone guidelines. The night lights are so bright they shine into the windows of many of our homes on the bluffs.

We are not opposed to the planned Surf Cup Sports Complex per se. We know our children need outside locations to play sports. We are simply opposed to permitting them in a location which will have such a negative impact on the quiet enjoyment of the surrounding residential communities, especially during the evening and nighttime hours. There needs to be a balance between providing such opportunities for the kids and the rights of nearby residents.

On behalf of the Rancho Del Mar Community we seek your assistance in helping us protect our right to the quiet enjoyment of our homes and community.

Specifically, we would urge your support as our District Three Supervisor to ensure that the following due diligence steps are taken prior to further consideration of the planned Surf Cup Sports Complex at the Polo Fields.

1. Conduct an Environmental Impact Assessment to include a traffic study for Via de la Valle, which is currently an over-used two- lane road.
2. Assess the noise levels which will be generated by the planned sports complex and its impact on the nearby residential communities.
3. Review the proposed lighting plan for compliance with the San Diego County Guidelines for Dark Skies and Glare, which include references to the State CEQA regulations and the San Diego County Light Pollution Code. See the following link: https://www.sandiegocounty.gov/content/dam/sdc/pds/ProjectPlanning/docs/Dark_Skies_Guidelines.pdf

Members of our Board of Trustees would be happy to meet with you at your convenience to discuss this matter further. We believe it is of utmost importance to our community, and other adjoining communities, that the planned Surf Cup Sports Complex as currently planned, not be permitted to move forward at this site.

Very truly yours,

The Trustees of the Rancho Del Mar Association



By: _____
Erwin J. Shustak, President

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