

R-19 Correspondence – Raman Vasishth

From: Raman Vasishth [<mailto:RamanV@Charter.net>]

Sent: Tuesday, February 18, 2020 4:28 PM

To: Tom Modica <Tom.Modica@longbeach.gov>; Council District 5 <District5@longbeach.gov>; Mayor <Mayor@longbeach.gov>; Council District 1 <District1@longbeach.gov>; Council District 2 <District2@longbeach.gov>; Council District 3 <District3@longbeach.gov>; Council District 4 <District4@longbeach.gov>; Council District 6 <District6@longbeach.gov>; Council District 7 <District7@longbeach.gov>; Council District 9 <District9@longbeach.gov>; Stacy Mungo <Stacy.Mungo@longbeach.gov>; Valerie Davis <Valerie.Davis@longbeach.gov>; Steve.Scott@LongBeach.gov; CityClerk <CityClerk@longbeach.gov>

Subject: Exception taken to item 19 El Dorado Park Artificial Turf Soccer Field

-EXTERNAL-

Hello City Clerk, City Manager and Elected Officials,

I would appreciate your help in adding this e-mail to Item 19 of today's 2/18/19 agenda item.

I and residents in CD5 are overwhelming against artificial turf soccer fields in El Dorado Park or anywhere in their district. It doesn't matter what type of turf is used, but rather the fact they prefer grass for multipurpose uses and aesthetics.

In addition to the e-mail below, I would like to state since the original budget approval of this effort, the LBUSD has built numerous Artificial turf soccer fields near to the El Dorado location. Per state law, non-profit organizations such as the AYSO 177 that is the major user of the El Dorado Soccer field, are allowed to apply to use the soccer fields in which the LBUSD has provided written confirmation they would consider if the league would submit an application which they have not.

In speaking with AYSO 177 President Michael Twitchell, he has stated that the because he has seen a great decline in membership, he sees no need for the use of artificial turf soccer fields for his league in the foreseeable future for at least 10, irrespective of using the artificial turf soccer field of the LBUSD of which more are expected to come on line for every school in LB.

Additionally a PRA for the city was made by residents in which the city has admitted that he has not performed any analysis to which Councilwoman Mungo or Staff or the Parks ever considered the El Dorado Park location for artificial turf soccer fields. Furthermore the city has also admitted in another PRA request by residents that it has not performed any legal estimates or analysis to if artificial turf is a financial beneficial to the city. A 3rd PRA has also revealed that in spite of the fact that Maintenance Manager Hurley Owens stating to the public that he knows the maintenance cost of artificial turf in Seaside an Admiral Kidd parks, which artificial turf was installed, the city has no records or knowledge to what it costs the city to maintain the artificial turf it has installed in its parks.

A survey of the parents of the AYSO 177 and coaches show all, but one parent prefer the current natural grass over artificial turf. To date the only rationale the city has provided residents to considering artificial turf are documents I've included in attachments A & B. These were documents the District 5 office admitted were fraudulent and contained false information where the Public Works and Parks Director were fired or forced to retire over as well as the Deputy City Attorney.

R-19 Correspondence – Raman Vasishth

Residents were promised corrective action would be taken and grass soccer fields would be installed and artificial turf would never and there would be a public outreach to how the parks monies would be spent. Towards this the CD5 Councilwoman Mungo and CD4 Councilman Supernaw passed the following measures to signal to residents they would work to keep natural grass as their preferred turf which was estimated to be \$800K.

Item #7 Outreach <https://longbeach.legistar.com/LegislationDetail.aspx?ID=3128365&GUID=6E7FD623-B06C-4007-9DC5-CDC1059AF1DC&Options=&Search=>

If you listen to the Video you will hear CD4 Councilman Supernaw clearly state they were both supporting corrective action to give residents greater say in allowing outreaches and preventing rigging of outreaches where both Mungo and the city manager and parks director were caught doing.

Also attached is a City Council agenda item that also passed and also never follow up on requesting status on alternatives to artificial turf. See attachment C.

Finally Councilwoman Mungo has contact only pro-artificial turf activists and not allowed community leaders to participate in providing input to the type of fields for the park. She and the parks directors have told all leagues they cannot subcontract soccer fields to out of city league, but are allowing it for the AYSO 177 and allowing them to squat on the fields. The Community leaders view this later effort as a civil rights violation in providing favorable treatment to a soccer league over others.

It should be noted that as a standard practice if soccer leagues need additional fields, they first try to spend money in going to private schools and churches to build working fields with their own money rather than forcing the city to pay for them. This is actually a practice the AYSO 114 has taken.

In closing CD 5 has nearly all the soccer fields in the city and residents have been asking why the city is continuing to try to change the splendor of CD5 regional parks against what they now are overwhelmingly against residents wishes and desires.

There are more people against artificial turf in CD5 than voted for the CD5 Councilwoman in her past 2 elections. Residents want to know why she and staff are continuing to push for artificial turf and break all promised made to residents in order to push their own agenda over city interests. We feel the money is better spent on streets and sidewalks rather than artificial turf for where there is clearly no need.

From: Tom Modica [<mailto:Tom.Modica@longbeach.gov>]

Sent: Thursday, February 13, 2020 7:03 AM

To: Raman Vasishth; Council District 5; Mayor; Council District 1; Council District 2; Council District 3; Council District 4; Council District 6; Council District 7; Council District 9; Stacy Mungo; Valerie Davis; Steve.Scott@LongBeach.gov

Subject: RE: 2nd request to acknowledge receipt of e-mail - Subcontracting/Permitting of El Dorado Park
Soccer Fields to other City Leagues

Thank you Raman, yes, we have received this. Thank you for your comments.

-Tom

R-19 Correspondence – Raman Vasishth

From: Raman Vasishth <RamanV@Charter.net>
Sent: Wednesday, February 12, 2020 11:07 PM
To: Council District 5 <District5@longbeach.gov>; Mayor <Mayor@longbeach.gov>; Council District 1 <District1@longbeach.gov>; Council District 2 <District2@longbeach.gov>; Council District 3 <District3@longbeach.gov>; Council District 4 <District4@longbeach.gov>; Council District 6 <District6@longbeach.gov>; Council District 7 <District7@longbeach.gov>; Council District 9 <District9@longbeach.gov>; Tom Modica <Tom.Modica@longbeach.gov>; Stacy Mungo <Stacy.Mungo@longbeach.gov>; Valerie Davis <Valerie.Davis@longbeach.gov>; Steve.Scott@LongBeach.gov; Tom Modica <Tom.Modica@longbeach.gov>
Subject: 2nd request to acknowledge receipt of e-mail - Subcontracting/Permitting of El Dorado Park Soccer Fields to other City Leagues

CAUTION: This is an EXTERNAL email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know that the content is safe.

Hello Stacy and Tom,

I see you have acknowledge receiving my last e-mail, but not my last e-mail that I previous requested.

Would you please reply to this e-mail.

From: Raman Vasishth [<mailto:RamanV@Charter.net>]
Sent: Friday, February 7, 2020 3:13 PM
To: 'Council District 5'; Mayor@longbeach.gov; District1@longbeach.gov; district2@longbeach.gov; district3@longbeach.gov; district4@longbeach.gov; district6@longbeach.gov; district7@longbeach.gov; district9@longbeach.gov; Tom.Modica@longbeach.gov; 'Stacy.Mungo@LongBeach.gov'; Valerie.Davis@longbeach.gov; 'Steve.Scott@LongBeach.gov'; Tom.Modica@longbeach.gov
Subject: Subcontracting/Permitting of El Dorado Park Soccer Fields to other City Leagues

To District 5 and Staff,

I would appreciate your acknowledgement that you have received this e-mail: This e-mail is indicating that the AYSO 177 has been subcontracting soccer fields in El Dorado Park West, for over 5 years to Los Alamitos Soccer teams. Also my neighborhood has spoken to and have friends that are playing in the North most soccer field in El Dorado Park. They have confirmed that most of the players are not from the AYSO 177 territory, none from the district and some are from out of the city and the AYSO 177 has lost approximately 1/3 of their membership over the past 5 years and seen declines in their membership in each of the 5 years at least.

From: Raman Vasishth [<mailto:RamanV@Charter.net>]
Sent: Friday, December 6, 2019 4:38 PM
To: 'Council District 5'
Subject: RE: Request for Reason & Financial Justification For Approval of Artificial Turf in El Dorado Park proposal - Update/Correction Revision A
Importance: High

Thank you kindly Kyle,

R-19 Correspondence – Raman Vasishth

I would appreciate your help in providing me the financial analysis and reason with back up documentation to support installation of artificial turf in El Dorado Park in El Dorado Park. I would also like to know if the Councilwoman is aware the AYSO 177 has been subcontracting the middle soccer field off Studebaker to the Los Alamitos AYSO for many many years and the organization has lost approximately 1/3 its members since the artificial turf during the time she was in office and was in declining membership mode prior to when the artificial turf project was conceived?

Warmest Regards,

Raman Vasishth
El Dorado West Park Ambassador
Neighborhood Leadership Program, 2019
CD5 Resident