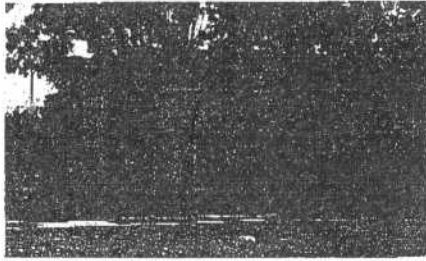


#25

**Los Altos United Church of Christ**

5550 Atherton Street • Long Beach, CA 90815

Tel. (562) 596-6718 Fax (562) 596-5528

www.losaltosucc.org

Long Beach City Council
333 W. Ocean Blvd.
Long Beach, CA 90802

September 1, 2008

City Council Members:

Both the Los Altos United Church of Christ and the LAUCC Preschool (5550 Atherton St.) are opposed to granting Great Mex Grill located at 5530 Atherton St, a conditional use permit for the sale of alcoholic beverages at this time. The Church and Preschool are located within 500 feet of the restaurant and neither the Church nor the preschool has received written notice from the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control, the City of Long Beach or the applicant, Michael Adair Babcock. Also, we believe that public notice was not posted at the location until August 29th. We respectfully request that the city council postpone their decision on the conditional use permit for an additional thirty (30) days.

Thank you for your consideration.

Robin Erickson
Los Altos UCC Co-Moderator



Our school has been serving a fundamental need to our community for over 40 years. We welcome any business that will enhance the community for our families. However, these businesses should be responsible and appropriate.

We appreciate your consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Malki Moonesinghe".

Malki Moonesinghe
Administrator



September 2, 2008

Department of Alcohol Beverage Control
Long Beach/Lakewood District Office
3950 Paramount Boulevard, Suite 250
Lakewood, CA 90712
(562) 982-1337

To whom it may concern:

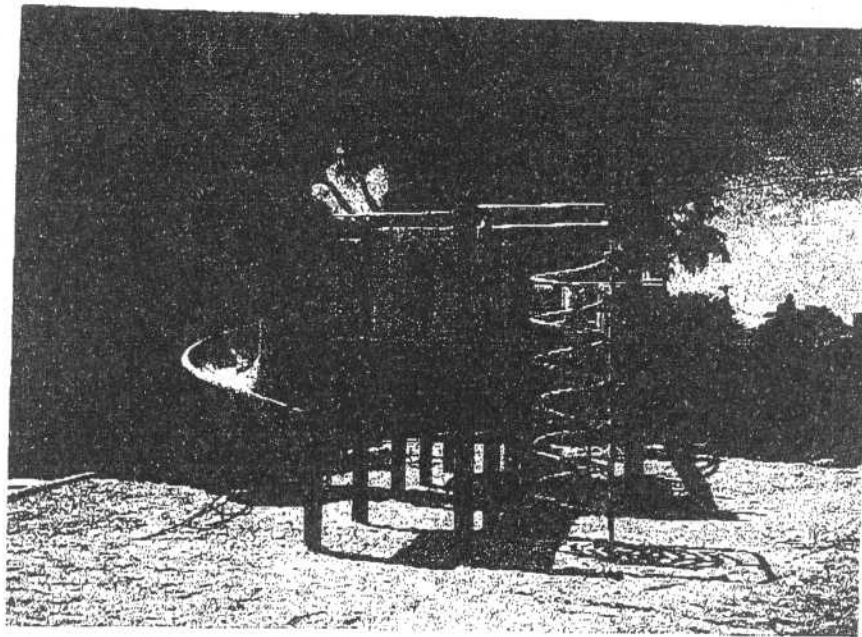
We are writing in response to the Great Mex Grill's application to sell alcoholic beverages. The proposed location of the business is 5530 Atherton Street, Long Beach, CA 90815. We are located at 5550 Atherton Street. We are well within the 500 foot radius of the proposed location.

We are a school that has children ages 2 ½ to 12 years of age in attendance. Our hours of operation are from 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., Monday to Friday. The proposed hours to sell the alcoholic beverages directly conflict with our hours of operation.

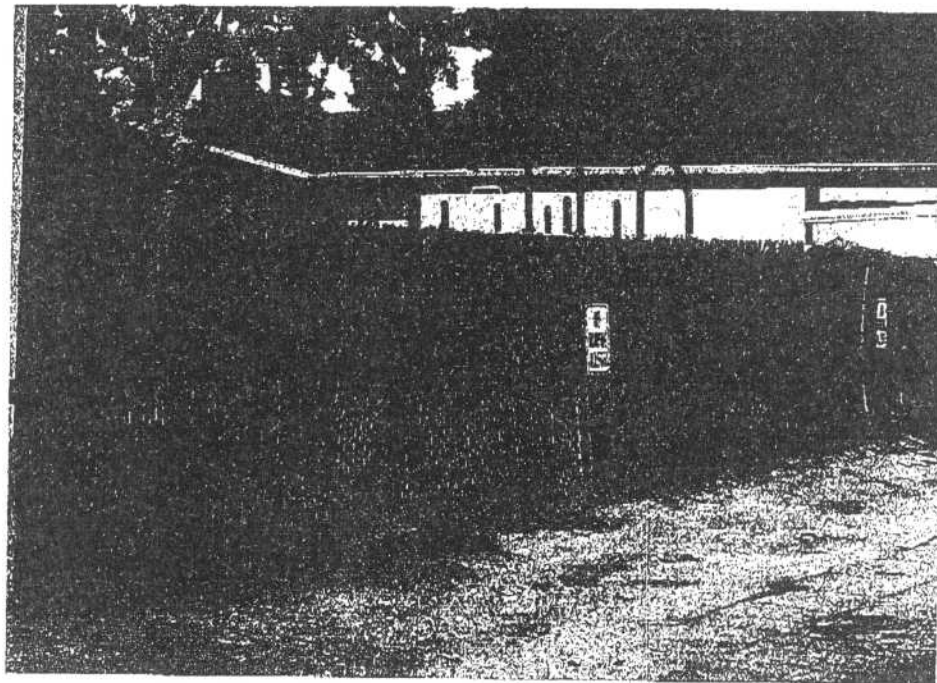
Our concerns deal directly with the safety and welfare of the children and staff. Having alcoholic beverages available for patrons during early morning hours does not set a good example for impressionable children. Our playground is directly opposite of the Great Mex Grill parking lot. Though the patrons may be consuming the alcoholic beverages while inside the location, it does not guarantee the safety of those outside of it.

We are also concerned with the potential parking situation. A majority of our children are picked up in the late afternoon and early evening. The proposed "Happy Hour" may attract patrons who spend a lengthy amount of time at the location. This may cause a major inconvenience to our parents trying to pick up their children. It also causes another safety concern. In recent years, two people have died within the vicinity due to automobile related accidents. Exposing patrons to alcohol and then having the risk of them driving in an area that is already a high traffic one just increases the risk of death and injury.

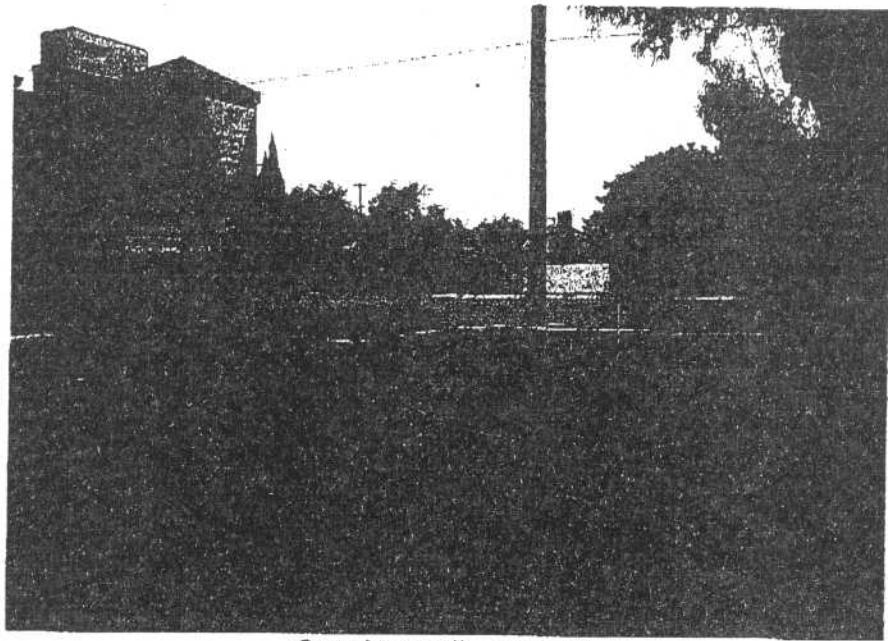
Further, whenever alcohol is served and sold at a location, to such location, it tends to attract alcoholics, criminals, and other undesirables. We are certain to see an influx of alcoholics, criminals, and other undesirables in our neighborhood if Great Mex Grill's application is granted to sell alcohol.



Montessori Children's House playground
View from playground



Los Altos United Church Preschool playground
View from alley



Great Mex Grill parking lot