

2024-03-05 CC AGENDA PACKET
PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS RELATED TO ITEM D9 - PLUNGE #3

From: Richard Chabrajez <richardchab@att.net>

Date: March 4, 2024 at 11:23:19 AM PST

To: ALL ELECTED OFFICIALS <ALLELECTEDOFFICIALS@elsegundo.org>

Subject: Plunge

My family was part of El Segundo from its inception. I watched as the proud history of our little hometown has been destroyed by rampant greed and commercialization; raping it's historical significance. Historic landmarks like the Plunge deserve restoration to their original glory. It honors the people, the players and their place in international history. Any other "cost effective" alternative is a testament that Gundo deserves better than you. Shame on you.

Richard Chabrajez

From: Markayla Quane <markayla.quane@gmail.com>

Date: March 4, 2024 at 12:45:59 PM PST

To: ALL ELECTED OFFICIALS <ALLELECTEDOFFICIALS@elsegundo.org>

Subject: I support the Plunge Renovation - Agenda item D9

Dear El Segundo City Council Members,

I am writing to express my strong support for agenda item D9, the Urho Saari Swim Stadium/Plunge Renovation Project. The Plunge is an integral part of our community that provides year-round aquatic programming for individuals of all ages. I am a lifetime resident of El Segundo who learned how to swim at the Plunge, swam and played water polo as an Eagle and went on to play collegiate water polo at UCSD for four years. My journey is coming full circle as I begin to look for local pools where my 2 year can now learn how to swim. I believe that investing in the renovation of the Plunge is not only a preservation of our city's history but also a commitment to its future.

The Plunge holds a special place in the hearts of many residents, offering vital aquatic programming such as life-saving swim lessons. Its heated, indoor pool provides a safe and accessible space for generations of children to learn how to swim, a skill that is invaluable for their safety and well-being. Moreover, the Plunge serves as a hub for youth, adult, and senior programming, fostering a sense of community and belonging among residents of all ages.

The proposed renovation project presents an exciting opportunity to revitalize the Plunge, ensuring its continued relevance and accessibility for future generations. By modernizing its facilities and enhancing its amenities, we can attract more visitors and foster a sense of pride and belonging among residents.

While El Segundo already boasts a competition pool for competitive swim and water polo programs at The El Segundo Aquatic Center (ESAC), the Plunge fills a crucial gap by providing year-round swim lessons and programming for individuals who may not be interested in competitive sports but still seek to engage in aquatic activities for recreation and fitness.

By supporting the renovation of the Plunge, the City Council has the opportunity to not only preserve an important part of El Segundo's history but also to ensure its continued relevance and accessibility for future generations. I urge you to prioritize funding and resources for this essential project, recognizing its significance in promoting health, safety, and community well-being.

Thank you for considering my input on this matter. I look forward to seeing the Plunge renovated and revitalized as a cornerstone of our community's future.

Sincerely,

Markayla Quane

From: Mark Shoemaker <markshoemaker@msn.com>

Date: March 4, 2024 at 12:51:59 PM PST

To: ALL ELECTED OFFICIALS <ALLELECTEDOFFICIALS@elsegundo.org>

Subject: The Plunge

Dear Council Members,

I encourage you to move ahead with the plans to renovate the Plunge within the existing footprint with the already prepared plans, and approved funding. There are others who prefer a brand new pool; the brand new Da Vinci pool is already used by ES students, and can host Water Polo games and Swim Meets. The existing Plunge was good enough for Water Polo teams to train in and go to the Olympics, and win numerous Water Polo titles. The Plunge is a local Community resource for children and adults to enjoy - it has been closed for too many years, and any plans to build a brand new "stadium" will far exceed the costs to renovate, and further delay public access. There are also other considerations that favor renovation over building new that involve access and parking that aren't suitable for the Plunge location. Let's move ahead with the Plunge renovation project as planned, and let the Community continue to enjoy the gem they have. If others want another new swim stadium, and can raise the money to do it, I recommend looking at Hilltop Park - it offers more space and a great view.

Best regards,

Mark Shoemaker
310-322-0123 (since 1948)

From: Maggie Kelch <Maggiek@k2networks.com>
Date: March 4, 2024 at 12:57:15 PM PST
To: ALL ELECTED OFFICIALS <ALLELECTEDOFFICIALS@elsegundo.org>
Subject: El Segundo Plunge Renovation

Hi,

I am the parent of 4 children that have been through (1 currently enrolled) in the aquatics programs here in El Segundo through the High School and through club teams as well.

When the plunge closed after my sons Sophomore year we were incredibly disappointed, but at the same time excited for the new aquatic center that was being built.

However, we quickly realized the aquatic center had a list of concerns and disappointments:

1. The pool is a LONG way from the high school.
2. The school does NOT provide any transportation for practices or meets or tournaments etc...
3. The distance & lack of transportation discourages new athletes to try any aquatic sports.
4. We share the pool with not only the club teams but the Divinci school (time in the water can be limited)

Our El Segundo Community is one based on family values and I as well as my fellow community members value the history of the plunge. I also see that the Plunge is out dated and unusable to the community unless you are a recreational swimmer. There is no opportunity to have any competitive aquatic sports at the Plunge due to the depth restrictions.

It would be amazing to continue to use the plunge for not only recreational swimming for our community, but to also include and appreciate all our aquatic programs that need a space to host water polo games and swim meets. The high school aquatics program should be highly considered in the plunge renovation discussion. I understand the renovation of the Plunge exceeds the total cost of building our top notch Aquatics Center at the other end of town but doesn't accommodate our local HS swim and water polo programs. It doesn't make sense to me to spend that much money to just put a band aid on a structure that continues to **exclude** our youth aquatic programs here in town! Our High School kids deserve to walk across the street like they used to a few years ago to attend swim or water polo practice and host water polo games and swim meets.

I also think it is a major disservice to the community that we are spending or have spent millions of dollars on pool facilities that DO NOT include a springboard or platform diving opportunity as well.....

I would appreciate the city council considering including ALL of the community members, especially the high school youth that play water polo and enjoy swim team when deciding how the plunge renovation will take place. I think we need to be a competitive and admired city that boasts incorporative aquatic programs and facilities for our entire community.

I am an excited supporter of the outdoor concept for the renovation of the plunge.
Thank you for your time and consideration of including our whole El Segundo Community in the thought process of the Plunge renovation.

Maggie Kelch
443 Whiting Street
Parent of 4 Swim/Water Polo children