

2024-03-05 CC AGENDA PACKET
PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS RELATED TO ITEM D9 - PLUNGE #5

From: John Thomas <jthomas@dslextreme.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 5, 2024 11:46 AM
To: ALL ELECTED OFFICIALS <ALLELECTEDOFFICIALS@elsegundo.org>
Subject: March 5, 2024 CC agenda item 9

I am writing you in support of your proposed rehabilitation project for the original URHO Saari Swim Stadium.

In 1940 the Works Project Administration (WPA) built the swim Stadium and it was named after the world famous swimming and water polo coach.

The building remains in excellent example of WPA programs that contributed to cities across America and should be protected and rehabilitated. The building retains its Streamline Moderne architectural style with character defining features including the bas-reliefs.

Protecting these wonderful contributions from the WPA New Deal era is extremely important.

Many New Deal Projects Not only created jobs but also allowed artists to participate in design and 'Art opportunities.

Thank you for your kind consideration.

John Thomas
Historic Preservation Consultant
Art Deco Dimensions
(562) 400-9803

Sent from my iPad

From: Sarah Sharp <sarahesharp2727@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 5, 2024 11:41 AM
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. As a resident of El Segundo, 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,

Sarah Sharp
sarahesharp2727@gmail.com
(310) 941-3266

From: Alex Heck <alex.heck5@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 5, 2024 12:45 PM
To: ALL ELECTED OFFICIALS <ALLELECTEDOFFICIALS@elsegundo.org>
Subject: Support for Agenda Item D9

Dear Mayor Boyles and Council Members,

As a lifelong El Segundo resident, I am writing to express my support for agenda item D9.

The Plunge, as planned, will be an outstanding facility, complementing well the array of pools within El Segundo. Our city and dedicated committees have invested significant time and resources into The Plunge renovation. I firmly believe D9 is the optimal choice for this space, aligning well with the commitment made to our residents when we closed Acacia – a promise to maintain a community pool. The Plunge, as designed, stands as a testament to fulfilling that commitment.

Hilltop, situated perfectly for tiny-tot summer splashing, and the El Segundo Aquatics Center (ESAC), hosting top-tier competitions, both play integral roles in our community. The reintroduction of The Plunge, in accordance with the proposed plan, will fulfill our community pool promise. An enclosed, climate-controlled facility will provide year-round programming to all user-groups, especially residents most affected by winter weather and summer sun. Additionally, The Plunge will alleviate impacted scheduling at ESAC, allowing for more flexible and manageable usage times. For instance, certain youth clubs currently face the challenge of practices ending as late as 9:30 pm.

I acknowledge there are concerns within the community regarding the cost of an indoor facility and the limited deep water at The Plunge, especially with implications for our high school water polo programs.

While I empathize with the desire for additional deeper water, it is crucial to maintain the primary purpose of The Plunge as a community pool. High school and adult water polo, although important, represent only a fraction of our diverse user-groups. Younger water polo players and swimmers of all ages will flourish in The Plunge. It's noteworthy that the ESHS polo programs thrived in The Plunge for decades, albeit without hosting CIF competitions. All other league games and practices were and will be permitted. For those desiring larger and deeper water, ESAC, though farther from the city center, has proven to be a catalyst for our high school's recent successes and an excellent site for CIF and national-level competitions.

Please honor the considerable investments of time, money, and expertise poured into The Plunge according to the proposed plan. Please honor the recommendations made by our city's committees, who possess intricate knowledge of both our town and aquatic needs. Please honor the commitments made to rebuild this community pool without further delay.

The Plunge, as planned, promises to be an excellent facility, benefiting all user-groups and contributing to the impressive continuum of pools within El Segundo.

What a privilege to find ourselves in such a pool-rich position!

Thank you for your valuable time, dedicated service, and thoughtful consideration. Your continued support for item D9 is highly appreciated.

Very best,
Alex Heck
Resident: 1450 E Palm Ave.
Teacher, Center Street School
Alumnus, ESHS
Coach, South Bay United Water Polo Club
Dad to two young swimmers

From: "Pirsztuk, Carol (Council Member)" <cpirsztuk@elsegundo.org>
Date: March 5, 2024 at 1:40:47 PM PST
To: Richard Chabrajez <richardchab@att.net>
Cc: ALL ELECTED OFFICIALS <ALLELECTEDOFFICIALS@elsegundo.org>
Subject: Re: Plunge

Thank you for your insights. Carol
Carol Pirsztuk

On Mar 4, 2024, at 11:23 AM, Richard Chabrajez <richardchab@att.net> wrote:

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