

October 8, 2003

Mr. Allan Roeder  
City Manager  
City of Costa Mesa  
77 Fair Drive  
Costa Mesa, CA

RECEIVED ATTACHMENT 3  
CITY CLERK

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CITY OF COSTA MESA  
BY \_\_\_\_\_

Dear Mr. Roeder:

As suggested during the September 2, 2003 City Council meeting, the residents of the south side of Swan Drive have organized. We would like to pursue discussions with the City regarding the purchase of the land behind our properties on Swan Drive.

As we await further information from City staff regarding next steps in the purchase process, we have conducted a survey of our neighbors who boarder the Fairview river channel. The response to conducting discussions with the City to purchase the property behind our homes was overwhelmingly positive. Once costs, timing, etc. are known, the specific position of our neighbors on this issue will become clear.

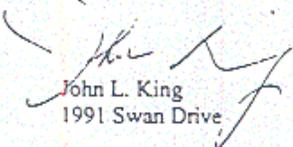
As you know, our plan is in line with the precedence set by the residents in our neighborhood who live on the river side of Sandpiper. They negotiated with Orange County and were able to purchase the county land between the Santa Ana river channel and their homes.

The County property behind Swan Drive was purchased by the City of Costa Mesa in 1986. It is a narrow sliver of land that backs up to the river channel. This land has limited access, and is not attached to the greater Fairview Park. This property is basically unattended by the City. Initial and subsequent property owners have established and maintained fence lines, and generally taken care of this land since 1965.

Dave Alkema, former Parks Project Manager, identified the land as, "A buffer zone and of no value to the city." This strip of land has not been included in city plans for development of any kind.

Our position is to not deplete existing park land, rather to release the city of responsibility and liability for property which does not serve the citizens of Costa Mesa. It is our belief that a sale would benefit the city. We look forward to working together with the City in our desire to establish an equitable resolution to this matter.

Sincerely,

  
John L. King  
1991 Swan Drive

cc: Mayor G. Monahan, Mayor Pro Tem C. Steel  
Council Members: L. Cowan, A. Mansoor, M. Scheafer

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