



## CITY OF COSTA MESA

CALIFORNIA 92628-1200

P.O. BOX 1200

ATTACHMENT 4

FROM THE OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

November 25, 2003

Mr. John L. King  
1991 Swan Drive  
Costa Mesa, CA 92626

Subject: Possible Sale of Fairview Park Land

Dear Mr. King:

Thank you for your letter of October 8, 2003, in which you indicate that the residents on the south side of Swan Drive, east of Placentia Avenue, have organized and are ready to pursue discussions regarding the possible sale of park property. Your efforts, and those of your neighbors, are appreciated, since staff envisions conducting the upcoming discussions with duly authorized representatives of your organization.

Over the last month or so, City staff has been developing a milestone schedule of events that must take place in order that a final determination can be made by City Council. In fact, staff envisions interim reports to Council in order to keep them informed, and to allow any adjustments to be made to the schedule as necessary. This milestone schedule will be finalized shortly, and then sent to your organization for review and comment.

I would like to clarify one reference that you made in your letter, which indicates a statement made by Dave Alkema, now retired Parks Project Manager. Please be advised that Mr. Alkema does not speak for City Council in any matters of land sale, land valuation, or the value of City-owned land as it relates to the public, in general. As you may know, and as directed by City Council on a number of occasions, City staff is continually looking for opportunities to purchase additional parkland in the City. This is a very difficult task, realizing the built-out nature of our City, and the cost of land. Therefore, City staff is not in a position to recommend sale of any existing parkland in the City unless there is an ability to purchase a like amount at no additional cost. Also, I am sure you will agree that all existing open space areas in the City, no matter how insignificant they may seem, have great value in our urban setting.

City staff looks forward to our discussions on the property, as directed by City Council. Mr. Bill Morris, Public Services Director, will be in contact with you shortly to go over the schedule, and to tentatively establish dates for discussion. Please contact him at (714) 754-5343 if you have any questions.

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Thank you for your patience in this matter, as I can assure you that much time and effort will be required to move this project to the point where final action can be taken by City Council.

Sincerely,



Allan L. Roeder  
City Manager

/ch

c: ✓ William J. Morris, Public Services Director  
Steven E. Hayman, Administrative Services Director