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ATTACHMENT 3

September 11, 1995

Dr. Curtis I. Rethmeyer
Superintendent
Culver City Unified School District
4034 Irving Place
Culver City, CA 90232

Dear Curt,

I just received a call from Norm Herring, City Attorney, regarding playing of the sport of soccer on public facilities.

All of Culver City's public parks do not prohibit children from playing soccer, unless it interferes with other patrons using the public parks (i.e. picnickers, scheduled events, and other normal or specific activities). At the present time, just about every public park--from Coombs Park (1/8 of an acre) to Culver City Park (41 acres)--has soccer activities.

In September of last year, after "Findings of Fact" were entered by the Human Services and Park Commission, adult soccer was prohibited at Culver West Park. The Findings of Fact related to that park was as follows:

"The practice of unregulated adult soccer play at Culver West Park has a detrimental effect on all other recreational activities. When adults engage in soccer play at Culver West Park, the playing of softball, or general recreation, is impossible due to the danger of collisions with adults running after soccer balls, or participating in soccer play. As discussed above, soccer play at Culver West Park is incompatible with other recreational uses for which the park is suitable."

Culver West Park, although very small in size, accommodates numerous other activity areas which are heavily used day and night by general park users.

As a result of this nexus, adult soccer play was prohibited at other public parks that had similar conditions (i.e. Tellefson Park, Coombs Park, Maxella Park, etc.).

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At El Marino Park/School complex, a chain link fence was constructed by the Unified School District which closed off the small adjacent municipal park from the school site. Therefore, adult soccer play was prohibited at the small adjacent park site.

To clarify the prohibitions of soccer:

1) There is no prohibition on any of Culver City's public parks for children or youth under the age of 18 from playing soccer, unless it conflicts with the aforementioned activities.

Because of the insatiable demand for soccer playing space, you might want to visit some of the parks, and particularly our central park, Veterans Memorial Park, where you will see scores of children playing soccer with the Recreation Leaders monitoring this program with other multiple activities that take place in the park.

2) Adult soccer (over the age of 18) is not prohibited on public parks, unless it poses a threat to the safety of other park users, or has been shown to disrupt other recreational users.

Of the school properties to which we have joint powers agreements, the Unified School District has a prohibition of all adult soccer activities at the High School and Junior High School area. This has negated the Adult Municipal Soccer League that was administered by the Recreation and Leisure Services Division for a number of years.

El Marino Park, under the joint powers agreement, provides adult soccer activities without restriction to adults or children.

If there is any clarification you may need on this subject, please do not hesitate to call me.

Sincerely,



Syd Kronenthal

SK:ls

cc: Norm Herring, City Attorney
Jack Nakanishi, Recreation and Leisure Services Manager