

**Martha Alvarez, MMC**

---

**From:** Mark Burton <markburton@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 27, 2023 2:55 PM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Fwd: Renovate Begg Pool  
**Attachments:** Renovate Begg Pool.docx

**EXTERNAL EMAIL:** Do not click links or open attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear City Council:

The smart decision, and the decision that is in the best interests of our residents, is to renovate Begg Pool. At that site, Begg Pool is the most appropriate size with the most appropriate intensity of use given that it is directly adjacent to a residential neighborhood.

If you decide to explore Option 2 with a new aquatics center with two pools with more support buildings, you will most likely have the same experience as El Segundo in trying to build an aquatics center. See Attached.

The residents of our community don't need, nor will they support, an aquatics center with two pools, **one being a 35 meter competition pool**. Just imagine the traffic and parking demands! Its scale and intensity of use are entirely inappropriate for a residential neighborhood in Manhattan Beach.

The South Bay already has a world class aquatics center. Of course, it is located in a commercial zone. You can't believe the increase in vehicular traffic and the parking necessary to support an aquatics center!

Finally, it may be foolish to move forward with exploring Option 2 with a new aquatics center if you plan to ask the residents of Manhattan Beach to vote for an increase in storm water fees.

Please vote for Option 1 to renovate Begg Pool. Voting for Option 1 would also cost less than exploring Options 1 and 2.

Kind regards, Mark

p.s...Manhattan Beach residents who use public pools prefer to use Begg Pool, 2 to 1, rather than other local public pools including a world class aquatics center. It just needs updating, that's all.

## Renovate Begg Pool

No doubt, it is challenging to build an aquatics center in Manhattan Beach. This is especially true since we are a residential community that places a premium on protecting our residential neighborhoods.

The experience of El Segundo to build an aquatics center is instructive. Their initial proposal was an aquatics center adjacent to residential neighborhoods. That proposal was rejected by the voters.

The City of El Segundo soon realized that in order to build an aquatics center it needed to be built in a commercial zone, away from residential neighborhoods, and they needed to partner in such an endeavor. El Segundo ultimately partnered with the Wiseburn School District, ESUSD and South Bay Sports, Health and Recreation to build an excellent aquatics center.

Manhattan Beach should replicate the success of El Segundo by partnering with the City of Redondo Beach and South Bay Sports, Health and Recreation to fund and build an aquatics center in Aviation Park. The location is ideal since it is in commercial area with ample parking.

Since building an aquatics center is expensive, Manhattan Beach and Redondo Beach would have a hard time going it alone. So, partnering in such an endeavor is mutually beneficial. Also, South Bay Sports, Health and Recreation would probably welcome the

opportunity fundraise for another excellent aquatics center in the South Bay. Importantly, South Bay Sports, Health and Recreation already has the support of all major donors in the South Bay.

Say No, to an aquatic center in Polliwog Park. Say Yes, to an aquatic center in Aviation Park. Or, better yet, just renovate Begg Pool.

## Martha Alvarez, MMC

---

**From:** Mark Burton <markfburton@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, July 29, 2023 9:08 AM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Renovate Begg Pool

**EXTERNAL EMAIL:** Do not click links or open attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Honorable City Council:

Please consider this email as a follow up to my previous email supporting your adopting Option # 1 Renovating Begg Pool at Tuesday's City Council meeting. In that email, I also stated that Option # 2 Aquatics Center was a nonstarter. Here is further support for that conclusion.

As a regular visitor to Polliwog Park, there are certain facts that may be obvious to me but not to you or someone who doesn't regularly visit Polliwog Park.

Here is what is obvious to me:

1. The Begg Pool parking lot is the only parking lot for Polliwog Park. The Begg Pool parking lot is used by those who want to go to Begg Pool, the playing fields north of that parking lot, the dog run, Polliwog Park and, most importantly, the families and their children and grandchildren that want to use the new playground. For this reason, Option #2 Aquatics Center is a nonstarter. This option requires a great deal of more area, including the Begg Pool parking lot space. And, this option requires a great deal of more area for parking.
2. Peck Avenue is the only means of ingress and egress to Begg Pool, the Begg Pool parking lot, the dog run, MB Botanical Garden, Polliwog Park and, most importantly, the families and their children and grandchildren that want to use the new playground. There is only so much traffic that Peck Avenue can support. If you are familiar with the significant increase in traffic that results from building an aquatics center, then you know that Option # 2 Aquatics Center is a nonstarter since it will significantly increase traffic on Peck Avenue; in fact, it will overwhelm Peck Avenue with a traffic it wasn't designed to handle.

In closing, I urge you to approve Option # 1 Renovating Begg Pool at Tuesday's City Council meeting. Also, since building a pool is expensive, you may want to consider partnering with Beach Cities Health District and the fundraising organization South Bay Sports and Health.

Kind regards, Mark

--

(310) 562-7897

Email: [markfburton@gmail.com](mailto:markfburton@gmail.com)

## Martha Alvarez, MMC

---

**From:** Jill Lamkin <jill@downtownmanhattanbeach.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 1, 2023 11:40 AM  
**To:** List - City Council  
**Cc:** Grace Adams; Kevin Barry; Greg Cicchino; Kristin Coia; Kris D'Errico; Linda McLoughlin Figel; Lori Ford; Sylvie Gabriele; Paula Gruttadauria; Molly Hobin; Maureen McBride; Kelly Oelschlager; Chandra Shaw; Mike Simms; Mike Zislis  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Support For Roundhouse Loan Forgiveness  
**Attachments:** Letter to Council - Roundhouse Loan Forgiveness.pdf; ATT00001.htm

**EXTERNAL EMAIL:** Do not click links or open attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.



August 1, 2023

Mayor Richard Montgomery  
Members of City Council  
City Manager Bruce Moe

Subject: COVID-19 Business Loan Forgiveness

Dear Mayor Montgomery, et al,

The Roundhouse Aquarium, which is managed by the non-profit group, the Oceanographic Teaching Stations, Inc. (OTS), is an important asset to the city of Manhattan Beach. It serves as an iconic symbol of our community.

The Downtown Business and Professional Association of Manhattan Beach supports OTS' request to forgive the \$10,000 COVID-19 Business Loan previously awarded to them by the city of Manhattan Beach. The Roundhouse Aquarium draws hundreds of thousands of visitors to Manhattan Beach annually, which in turn supports our Downtown shops, restaurants, and other businesses. Supporting the Roundhouse Aquarium also means supporting our businesses in downtown Manhattan Beach. The waiver will help them maintain the aquarium and serve the community through its educational programs on ocean science while regaining pre-pandemic visitor and donation levels.

We strongly urge the City Council to approve OTS' request to forgive its COVID-19 Business loan. It would go a long way to supporting their important work in the community as they continue to welcome visitors from around the world and educate them about the wonders of the ocean.

Grace Adams, Executive Director for the Roundhouse Aquarium, is an elected member of our DBPA Board of Directors and serves on our Marketing Committee to ensure collaboration between our two organizations. To recognize our continued relationship with the Roundhouse and OTS, the DBPA commits to an annual \$3,000 Community Partner donation beginning today. All of Manhattan Beach has a shared responsibility to help maintain the Roundhouse Aquarium as a pillar of our community. The DBPA hopes the City can find a way to forgive the \$10,000 loan that was so desperately needed during the COVID pandemic.

Respectfully,

DBPA Board of Directors

Jill Lamkin  
DBPA Executive Director