CITY OF ANAHEIM
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

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September 11, 2013

Michael R. Markus, P.E.
General Manager
Orange County Water District
P.O. Box 8300
Fountain Valley, CA 92728-8300

Subject: Ball Road Basin Property

Dear Mr. Markus:

We are contacting you regarding the proposed action that will be considered by the Orange County Water District (OCWD) Board of Directors during closed session tomorrow morning to pursue a lease at the Ball Road Basin with a private company for the purpose of constructing a power plant on the land. The City of Anaheim is very interested in entering into discussions with OCWD for the purchase of the land for open space purposes, specifically the development of a sports complex that would address a shortage of sports fields in our City and the surrounding communities. The City is certainly aware of OCWD's desire to obtain a fair market value for the land.

Anaheim's park system is widely acclaimed for its many diverse amenities that provide recreational opportunities ranging from hiking and picnicking, to programmed recreational and passive play activities. However, due to the demand for sports league and tournament opportunities, combined with a dramatic increase in the popularity of both youth and adult soccer, Anaheim does not possess park acreage capable of holding a large sports complex. Such a complex could contain multiple lighted fields and other related amenities including a children's tot lot, restrooms and concession/team room buildings, and associated parking. Due to the scarcity of vacant land of this size within the City, the Ball Road Basin is very unique and if developed into a park it would serve to meet a distinct need.

We respectfully request that you work with Anaheim city staff to look at an alternative site for the proposed power plant which would enable the Ball Road Basin land to be developed for park purposes. The City has long appreciated the respectful, cooperative working relationship that we have developed over the years with OCWD that most recently resulted in the construction of the very popular Anaheim Coves at Burris Basin project. We would greatly appreciate the opportunity to continue that partnership to protect this parcel for open space to meet the needs of the residents and surrounding communities in Anaheim and Orange.

Sincerely,

Kris Murray
Council Member
City of Anaheim

Jordan Brandman
Council Member
City of Anaheim

cc: OCWD Board of Directors

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