

HAND OUTS

CITY COUNCIL

SPECIAL

MEETING

SEPTEMBER 21, 2022

Thank you, Mayor Evans and Council members for giving me this opportunity to share my opinions on the Coral Mountain project. My name is Carol Berg & I'm a full time La Quinta resident, recently moved here after over 5 decades in the Bay Area, where I was born & raised. We left the Bay Area & came to La Quinta precisely because of all the major, massively negative changes in the Bay Area over the last 50 years due to over development. Traffic, pollution, noise, cost of living, infrastructure support struggles, etc. Let's please NOT let that start happening in little, bucolic, La Quinta.

I would like first to address the electrical consumption problems the Coral Mountain project will put on our area. The developers have offered to put in a new substation as a way to offset any possible electrical issues caused by the extra load the park will bring. An extra substation only puts the park & nearby area in a MORE advantageous position when the brown outs & blackouts come. A new substation DOES NOT add any extra electricity to the system to support the city of La Quinta. It DOESN'T CHANGE the EXTRA load the park will take out of the grid. The Kelly Slater technology has been acknowledged by the Artificial Wave Community as requiring the most electrical energy to operate its machinery which needs to create waves which push 150 Million Pounds of Water. The required substation will just put them in a more advantageous position when the strain does happen. It will use millions of additional kilowatts on a daily basis during the summer that would otherwise be allocated for the rest of La Quinta. We need to be clear on exactly how that will work with an aging electrical infrastructure.

CVWD Vice President ***Cástulo Estrada spoke a month ago at a Water Conservation Workshop at COD attended by all the leaders of the California Water Boards and leaders of the Eastern Coachella***

Valley. He said, "Coachella Valley Water District is committed to managing a sustainable groundwater basin to support the local growing economy and to provide reliable services to our current and future customers." "The conservation actions we take today will encourage water-use efficiency and move us toward meeting the state's goal of a 15 percent overall reduction in water use and making water conservation a way of life." How does USING 20M gallons or more of water annually for this amusement park fit in with a commitment to a 15% overall REDUCTION in water conservation by the CVWD?

Especially when the residents of La Quinta are now being fined by CVWD every month for NOT cutting water use by 10%. What kind of message are you sending to the La Quinta citizens with the approval of a Surf Park project that will use 60M gallons or more of Colorado River water annually, water that WON'T go into the aquifer, when we're being fined for NOT conserving water?

This year the federal government as well as the CA government weighed in on the severity of the local drought issue. In July, 2022 federal bill S.2693 sponsored by Senators Dianne Feinstein & Alex Padilla of CA & Kyrsten Sinema of AZ passed the Senate.

This is a bill to amend the Reclamation Projects Authorization and Adjustment Act of 1992 to authorize additional \$100-\$250M for projects related to the Salton Sea, and for other purposes, to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources. Upon introduction of this bill to the floor, Mr. PADILLA said: This legislation ensures that Reclamation can address both the public health and environmental crises at the Salton Sea caused by the current, unprecedented drought crisis. Funded projects will improve air and drinking water quality, restore fish and wildlife habitats, and improve public health at the Salton Sea.

So again, what kind of message is sent to local citizens & frankly the state of CA & federal government when \$250M of taxpayer dollars are being allocated to address critical drought related issues just 12 miles down the road, & we're thinking of approving the building of exclusive, ritzy, fractional ownership buildings & wave park, that will USE up millions & millions of gallons of water AND electricity every year for very frivolous reasons? We're awaiting formal comments from both Governor Newsom & Senator Feinstein on the Coral Mountain Surf Park in light of the passage of this recent federal bill, as well as recent developments in other nearby cities with the approval of projects for other water wasting water park developments.

And finally, you know that in 2033, the City will start receiving the property tax revenue from all the properties in the Thermal Redevelopment Zone. If we don't include new houses in construction right now, that's approximately \$1.8M/annually of property tax revenue guaranteed on a total property value of \$2.2B. With the buildout of Coral Mountain set to extend up to 20 years, as per the developers plan, the guaranteed revenue stream and not the STVR revenue, are the safer way to generate future income for city improvements.

By the way, the Laurian Club, which is a luxury, equity investment, residence club, that allows you to co-own a portfolio of high value, revenue generating luxury homes, is already highlighting Coral Mountain on their web site. This is NOT fractional ownership, because you co-own a portfolio of homes, it's obviously not short-term vacation rentals. Is the developer trying to by-pass transient occupancy tax this way?

That would make any revenue projections less likely and you would just get plain old property tax from the site after 2033 if that is your primary

reason for considering approval of a Surf Club in the face of all this
opposition to such an incongruous idea in such an obviously BAD place.

Thank you.



By Chas Smith
September 20, 2022

BEACH GRIT MAGAZINE

**PROFESSIONAL SURFERS FIGHT
BACK TEARS, SURF FANS VOMIT
AS KELLY SLATER'S DEEPLY
UNPOPULAR SURF RANCH IS
REINTRODUCED TO WORLD SURF
LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIP TOUR!**

"Like a dog to its barf..."

Professional surfers woke this morning and rubbed their eyes once then twice, first to remove sleep, next to stop as tears from flowing as ducts began to sting. Surf fans gripped stomachs as bile began to churn, threatening to make its way up from belly and out of mouths. Both groups reading the same breathless press release from the World Surf League.

"Following the incredible momentum and milestones we've hit in 2022, we will continue to build our global platform to progress and elevate professional surfing," said Erik Logan, WSL CEO. "We experienced the redesign in its entirety for the first time this year, and we will further strengthen the sport through next year's fully-combined Championship Tour, which will also qualify the first 18 athletes for the 2024 Olympic Games."

The 2023 CT will include 10 regular-season events in seven countries, starting in January for the Billabong Pro Pipeline. The Mid-season Cut will come into action following the Margaret River Pro, Stop. No. 5. The WSL CT will return to the Surf Ranch, the world's largest high performance, human-made wave 100 miles from the ocean in Lemoore, Calif., as the sixth stop on the calendar. The 2023 Rip Curl WSL Finals will be held in Lower Trestles in San Clemente, Calif., where the men's and women's Top 5 surfers will face off for the World Titles.

Lower Trestles back, again, to decide that Brazil's Filipe Toledo is the 2023 World Champion but, worse, that Kelly Slater's Surf Ranch will, again, host an event at the top level.

The "world's largest high performance, human-made wave 100 miles from the ocean in Lemoore."

The Surf Ranch Pro, as it is called, is *extremely* unpopular. Professional surfers, generally taciturn, have let their ire leak, claiming that only safety surfing is rewarded and that it is dumb. Fans, less conservative, have publicly hated for years with the late great Longtom summing up, "When you strip out the ocean and the possibility of anything that adds unexpected drama to pro surfing, a Medina brain explosion, lulls, a heat-winning ride in the final seconds, sharks, coral etc etc, it boils down to a bland formula. For the viewer, a dull ache of unrealised desire at the deathless sight of that impossibly perfect wave that fades with each wave to be replaced with niggling boredom and a jarring resentment." i.e. barf.

The Surf Ranch Pro was mercifully disappeared last year but is back again and what does this sort of face slap say about the World Surf League, its "robust growth" and "extreme health?"

Or have I read the tea leaves wrong? Do you adore the stink?