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Peter Watry c/o CROSSROADS II

Chula Vista, CA 91910

RE: Olympic Training Center (OTC)

Peter,

I agree with your Letter to the Editor in the Star News, about the need for the OTC to become self-reliant financially. When I was one of the original developers of Eastlake in the early 1980s, I met with Peter Ueberroth (the head of the USOC) at the 1984 Summer Olympics in Los Angeles. After many years of discussions (and a lot of red tape), we finally donated the land for the OTC to the USOC in 1988.

At the time we donated the land, it was understood that development of the OTC would also include public facilities for youth sports, not just for elite athletes. That did not happen. In the past 20 years since the OTC was built, I have been very disappointed that the vision which Peter Ueberroth and I had 32 years ago, of a facility with public youth sports venues, has not happened. I have had this discussion with every Chula Vista mayor since 1988.

I agree that the financial responsibility for the OTC should not fall upon the City of Chula Vista's general fund. It needs to be self-sustaining. I have made a preliminary proposal to the city to re-position the OTC (including the vacant land) into facilities for youth sports. I have a coalition of well-known national professional athletes who run "for profit" baseball/softball, soccer, and basketball facilities. We would build the new facilities at no cost to the city. The facilities would be maintained by the Youth Sports Complex company, at no cost to the city. We would lease the land from the city. During the week, youth sports leagues would rent the fields/courts. On weekends, there would be youth team tournaments with teams from SoCal, Nevada, and Arizona. All of these events will generate revenue, instead of having the taxpayers subsidize the OTC.

I hope to be making a formal presentation to the city in approximately 60 days on this Youth Sports Complex. I'd like to meet with you in advance and get your input. I'll look forward to meeting with you.

egards.

cc: Pat Aguilar