From: <u>Janice Keller</u>

To: Osborne, Jenelle (Mayor City of Lompoc); Cordova, Gilda; Vega, Victor; Starbuck, Dirk; Ball, Jeremy

Cc: <u>Haddon, Stacey</u>; <u>Jeff Malawy</u>

Subject: Protest to Ballot Measure to Discontinue the Use of the Ken Adam Park site as a Public Park

Date: Tuesday, May 14, 2024 2:54:24 PM

Attachments: Scan 20240512 (2).pdf

Scan 20240512 (2).pdf

To the Mayor and Lompoc City Council:

To quote a song by Joni Mitchell: "Don't it always seem to go that you don't know what you got 'til it's gone. They paved paradise and put up a parking lot." (from Big Yellow Taxi, 1970).

Unfortunately, I will not be able to attend the hearing on May 21. However, through this letter, I am voicing my protest to placing the discontinuance of Ken Adam Park (KAP) on the ballot this November or anytime in the near future.

Parks are essential to a healthy community and, although KAP may not be heavily used, it is beautiful open space with mature oak trees, picnic tables and a recreation area. The description of the City website states: Ken Adam Park is a 42-acre park located in northern Lompoc and lies off of Highway 1 adjacent to the Lompoc campus of Allan Hancock College. This beautiful park lies at the heart of the Lompoc Valley between Vandenberg Village, Mission Hills, and the City of Lompoc. This park, which re-opened to the public in 2000, is going through a renovation process and features a large group picnic area, a children's playground, individual picnic areas, horseshoes, volleyball, and restroom facilities. It is a perfect setting for a family or company picnic!

A key consideration which can be gleaned this description (which may be a bit out of date) is the location. Only City residents will be allowed to vote on this ballot measure. However, the location of the park provides much needed open space for Lompoc's neighboring communities as well as City residents.

Although this ballot measure proposal isn't specifically about the Pale Blue Dot Ventures (PBD) project, that entity has said repeatedly at its presentations that it plans to keep part of Ken Adam Park as a park. So, why then is the City proposing to discontinue the designation. PBD will then have no reason to

maintain any of the now park as a park.

Furthermore, the only rush to put this matter on the ballot appears to come from PBD Ventures, a commercial enterprise, which has been negotiating with the City since 2019. There will be far more important issues on the November ballot including, at least at the time of my writing this letter, a school bond measure to repair and maintain our aging schools. If PBD Ventures is really about education, why would they want to place a potentially conflicting measure on the same ballot?

Finally, the Council often speaks of transparency. The published notice of the May 21 Protest Hearing (see attached) was a sham. It made me think that the Council really doesn't want public participation. The font size was miniscule, and the published version was blurry.

Respectfully,

Janice Keller
Former Lompoc Councilmember and Planning Commissioner
1604 W. Lemon Pl., Lompoc, CA 93436
(805) 291-9777

Council Member(s): Victor Vega, Jeremy Ball, Dirk Starbuck, and Gilda Cordova. NOES: Council Member(s): None ABSENT: Council Member(s): Mayor Jenelle Osborne ACKNOWLEDGMENT /S/ Gilda Cordova, Mayor Pro-Tempore Communication of Virginia) City of Lompoc ATTEST: Councy of Arthogica) /S/ Stacey Haddon, City Clerk City of Lompoc I, the undersigned, a Notary Public in and for the Com Later undersegand, a Novemy Public in each too the Commongorable of Virginia, Country of Arlangton, whose commissions of such expires on the day of the later of the country of 19.44 do bereby certify that this day personally appeared before me in the said Attachments: Exhibit A: Site Legal Description and Map
Correction to Quitclaim Deed, recorded June 8, 1999 Communication of Virginia, Course of Astington, Loss it Coldente whose name is signed to the foregoing document duted the 21 they of 1920 and EXHIBIT "A" Legal Descriptor _1992_, and acknowledged the dame for and on behalf of the United States of Assertion FOR APPER SHORT THEY, SOLUTIONS THE LAND RESERVED TO REMEAN BELOW AS STRUCTED BY THE SETY OF LOWEST, SOURCE OF SHOP A SHOP AS Fairness of Lots 17: 19 and 16 of Francis Interior the Lat Purpose and Fairn Lat 16 of the Substance of the Receive Lampara and Market Vision of Marine on their testin Stock 1, Faigle 45 of Africa in the Child Lampar. School of Damie Stations, State 25 California, and Active particulars, resemble of Salaria. 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RESOLUTION NO. 6646(24)

A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Lompoc, County of Santa Barbara, State of California, Declaring that the Public Interest or Convenience Requires the Discontinuance of the Use of Approxis 82 Acres of City-Owned Land (APN: 095-070-008), including Ken Adam Park, as a Public Park; and Declaring the City Council's Intent to Call a Special Election to Submit the Question of Discontinuance to the City's Electors

WHEREAS, the City of Lompoc (City) owns an approximately 82-acre parcel (APN: 085-070-008) generally located south of Hancock Drive and west of Highway 1 (the Site), which contains open space and recreational uses and the area operated as a public park named Ken Adam Park; and

WHEREAS, a legal description and parcel map of the Site are attached hereto as Exhibit A

WHEREAS, the City acquired the Site by quitclaim deed from the federal government in 1984, recorded April 26,1985, in the records of Santa Barbara County as Document No. 1985-021446, which deed specified certain restrictions on usage of the Site. In 1999, pursuant to Section 2839 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 1998, Public Law No. 105-85 (111 Stat. 1629), a Correction to Culticlaim Deed was recorded on June 8, 1999 (attached hereto as Exhibit B) amending the usage restrictions to read:

The exact acreage and legal description of any property conveyed shall be used by Grantee
a) for educational and recreational purposes;

- b) for open space, or, c) for the purposes described in subparagraphs (a) and (b)"; and

WHEREAS, the City has considered use of the Site for other educational and recreational purposes, or open space purposes, or both, other than the uses that currently exist on the Site and other than a public park, and the City is open to, and wishes to facilitate, exploring such other uses for the Site in the future; and

WHEREAS, for example, in July 2019, the City entered into a Memorandum of Understanding with Pale Blue Dot Ventures, Inc. (Pale Blue Dot) to undertake negotiations for a possible sale and development of the Site for a potential space-themed educational and recreational development; and

WHEREAS, no entitlement applications have been filed with the City for any such other-uses, and the City has not solidified any plans for use of the site for other educational and recreational, or open space, purposes; and

WHEREAS, the City wishes to further facilitate exploration of use, development, and/or sale of the Site for other educational and recreational purposes, or other open space purposes, or both, including a possible sale to Pale Blue Dot for development of a space-themed educational and recreational development; and

WHEREAS, in order for any non-public-park uses to be established on the Site, the voters of the City must approve the discontinuance of the public park use at an election;

WHEREAS, state law (Government Code section 38440 et seq) establishes a procedure, by which the City Council submits the question to the City's electors following notice and an opportunity for public protest and hearing; and

WHEREAS, voter approval of discontinuing the public park use of the Site does not require the City to cease operating the Site as a public park, or to approve or establish any other uses on the Site, or to sell or dispose of the Site, but rather allows for the possibility of non-public-park uses, such as the proposed Pale Bite Dot space-themed development, to be considered for the Site. Decisions whether to change the use of the Site, approve entitlements for any proposed use on the Site, to change the zoning of the Site, and/or to sell or dispose of the Site will remain solely within the discretion of the City Council even if the park use designation is removed from the Site.

OW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LOMPOC, CALIFORNIA DOES HEREBY RESOLVE AS FOLLOWS

SECTION 1. Recitals. The foregoing recitals, and the attachments to this Resolution, are true and correct and incorporated into this Resolution by this reference.

SECTION 2. Declaration. Based on the above recitals, the City Council hereby declares that the public interest or convenience requires the discontinuance of the use of the Site as a public park, and that the City Council intends to call a special election to submit the question of discontinuance to the City's electors.

SECTION 3. <u>Hearing</u>. The City Council shall hold a public hearing to hear and consider any protests from the public or persons particularly interested on Tuesday, May 21, 2024, in the City Council Chamber at the Lompoc City Hall, 100 Civic Center Plaza, Lompoc, CA 93436, at 6:30 pm or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard.

SECTION 4. <u>Certification: Publication.</u> The City Clerk shall certify to the adoption of this resolution and cause a true and correct copy of the same to be published in the manner required by Section 38445 of the Government Code.

SECTION 5. Posting. The City Manager shall cause notice of the adoption of this Resolution to be posted in the manner required by Sections 38446 and 38447 of the

The foregoing Resolution was proposed by Council Member Vega, seconded by Council Member Ball, and was duly passed and adopted by the Council of the City of Lompoc at its regular meeting on April 16, 2024, by the following vote:

AYES: Council Member(s): Victor Vega, Jeremy Ball, Dirk Starbuck, and Gilda Cordova

NOES: Council Member(s): None

ABSENT: Council Member(s): Mayor Jenelle Osborne

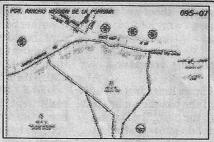


Exhibit "B"

Correction to Quitclaim Deed

ding Requested By & Recorded Return to:	Recorder Recorder Lerry Horsera		
en Stocking, City Clink OF LONG-OC loss 8008	Assistant 2:15pg 6-Jun-99	FURL	cc
ivic Contre Pisan oc, California 97438-8001			

No Fee per Gev. Code \$6103

CONNECTION TO QUITCLAIM DEED DATED October 23, 1984 (DOCUMENT NO. 1985-021446)

STATES OF AMERICA, Grance, acting by and through the Secretary of the Anny, under and nt to Section 2039 of the Plational Dullane Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 1990, Public Law No. 165-85 (111 Sun 1619), and the City of Longon, a California Municipal Corporation.

WITNESSETH THAT:

CITY

WHEREAS, by Cultainin Dond, duted Combar 23, 1964, recorded April 26, 1965, in the cords of Santa Barbara County as Document No. 1985-621-646, Grantor quitchianed a 145.98 new pured located near the United States Disciplinary Burnedin, Longoca, California, to the City of Longoca, pursuant to Section 854 of the Millinary Construction Authorization Act of 1985, Public Law, 98-487, which deed specified certain restrictions on usage, in part, as follows:

SUBJECT HOWEVER, to the following energy

2. The real property hereby engaged shall be used by Green

(a) for the Longest, California, Western Spaceport Moon Science Center as a sermanent sits for a space science to

(b) for educational and recreational purposes related to the purpo

(c) for the purposes described in subparagraphs (a) and (b).

NOW THEREFORE, pursuant to Section 2009 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 1996, Public Law 165-68 (111 Stat. 1629), the above referenced usage class of Quite laim Dard recorded April 26, 1985, is hemby currented to read:

> 1. The court acrosps and logal description of any property conveyed shall So issed by Grantos

(a) for educational and recreational purposes;

(6) the open space, or;

(a) for the purposes described in subparagraphs (a) and (b).

for all other respects Quitalaim Deed dated October 23, 1984 and recorded April 26, 1985. in Santa Burbara County or decument Plansher 1905-021406 remain in full faces and efficie.

IN WITHGESS WHEREOF, Granter has counted those presents to be executed on the day and year first above written.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

LOUIS CALDERA

CKNOWLEDGMENT