



El Segundo Aquatics Center

From Theo Haubner <theo_haubner@student.davincischools.org>

Date Tue 10/7/2025 4:06 PM

To Pimentel, Chris (Mayor) <cpimentel@elsegundo.org>; Baldino, Ryan (Mayor Pro Tem) <rbaldino@elsegundo.org>; Boyles, Drew (Council Member) <dboyles@elsegundo.org>; Keldorf, Michelle (Council Member) <mkeldorf@elsegundo.org>; Giroux, Lance (Council Member) <lgiroux@elsegundo.org>; *ALL CITY CLERKS <ALLCITYCLERKS@elsegundo.org>

Cc Ray Santiago <rsantiago@davincischools.org>; Jo Webber <jwebber@davincischools.org>; bmeath@davincischools.org <bmeath@davincischools.org>; rochoa@davincischools.org <rochoa@davincischools.org>; dboston@davincischools.org <dboston@davincischools.org>; lheimov@davincischools.org <lheimov@davincischools.org>; Laura Schaefer <lschaefer@davincischools.org>; Matthew Wunder <mwunder@davincischools.org>; rbanuelos@wiseburn.org <rbanuelos@wiseburn.org>; ngoldman@wiseburn.org <ngoldman@wiseburn.org>; rhcappy@wiseburn.org <rhcappy@wiseburn.org>; mlegaspi@wiseburn.org <mlegaspi@wiseburn.org>; nmartinez@wiseburn.org <nmartinez@wiseburn.org>; bsilvers@wiseburn.org <bsilvers@wiseburn.org>

Dear Honorable Mayor and City Council Members,

My name is Theo, and I'm a 14-year-old swimmer on the Beach Cities Alpha swim team. I'm a student at Da Vinci Science and live in Wiseburn. I'm writing because I'm really worried about the plan to take away our pool time at the El Segundo Aquatics Center.

The El Segundo Aquatics Center is the main place nearby where I can train with my team and get better at swimming. If we weren't able to have access to the non-rec pool, I, along with several other residents, would have to travel significantly farther for practices. If we lose access to the competition pool, it will be really hard for me and other swimmers to train properly and compete at our best.

Many of us have school and other activities, so having a regular, close place to swim is important. If we have to travel farther or practice late at night, it could affect how well we do in school and swimming.

As a Wiseburn Da Vinci swimmer who will be representing my school at CIF, being able to practice in my home pool, whether it's with my school team or my club team, makes me feel comfortable and confident for when the school swim season starts.

Please think about how important the pools are to us swimmers and help us keep our time at the El Segundo Aquatics Center.

Thank you for listening and for caring about the kids in El Segundo and Wiseburn. My fellow Wiseburn Da Vinci swimmers and I will be attending the City Council meeting tonight.

Sincerely,
Theo Haubner
Da Vinci Science '29
Beach Cities Alpha swimmer
Wiseburn resident

City Council Meeting 10/7 | Aquatics Business Plan

From Brian Buckland <bcuckland@gmail.com>

Date Thu 10/9/2025 1:54 PM

To Pimentel, Chris (Mayor) <cpimentel@elsegundo.org>; Giroux, Lance (Council Member) <lgiroux@elsegundo.org>; Baldino, Ryan (Mayor Pro Tem) <rbaldino@elsegundo.org>; Boyles, Drew (Council Member) <dboyles@elsegundo.org>; Keldorf, Michelle (Council Member) <mkeldorf@elsegundo.org>; Truax, Susan (City Clerk) <struax@elsegundo.org>

Cc Mancini, Aly <amancini@elsegundo.org>

Dear Mayor and Members of the City Council,

I attended the City Council meeting on the 7th and left feeling disappointed by the tone and behavior displayed by some members of the Council.

After parents and children spoke to express their concerns about the proposed aquatics business plan and its potential impacts, they were met with criticism that lasted several minutes. When reviewing the July 1st meeting, I noticed a very different tone—speakers at that time, who voiced similar concerns regarding lane allocation and pool access, were thanked for their input and treated respectfully. This contrast was disheartening and gave the impression that some Council members may hold animosity toward the swim community.

While I understand that some individuals may have acted inappropriately in the days prior to the meeting, what occurred during the public session did not warrant the response that was given—especially considering that many of the attendees and speakers were children. As Councilmember Giroux noted, members of the Council are also **adults** as well as community leaders, and should act as such. During National Anti-Bullying Month, I would have hoped to see more patience and empathy extended toward our youth and residents.

When community members come forward with concerns, I believe the focus should be on solutions rather than assigning blame or expressing resentment. Comments suggesting that others now see what it's like to practice late in Torrance felt dismissive and unproductive. A more constructive response might have been to acknowledge the concerns and commit to ensuring that all programs—swim, water polo, and public use—have fair and reasonable access to pool facilities.

While I recognize that lane allocations may fall under staff implementation, the proposed business plan clearly outlines an increase in prime-time usage for water polo. To suggest that the Council has no influence over this process seems inconsistent with the oversight role you play. To be clear, this is not meant to oppose water polo programs having appropriate access. Rather, I believe no child—whether a swimmer, water polo player, or otherwise—should be forced to train at unreasonable hours.

It is clear that the City has a very dedicated, caring staff, and I am confident they can develop solutions. With the reopening of The Plunge, our community's pool capacity will increase significantly. While prioritizing public access is important, perhaps dedicating a few prime-time hours each week for organized youth programs could help ease some of the strain. Those hours could potentially be offset by using the instructional pool at ESAC for lessons or open swim, as it does not meet the requirements for competitive athletes. This could maintain accessibility while also supporting

cost recovery goals. As shown in prior business plans, these aquatic programs generate significant revenue and community engagement, both of which contribute to the city's broader objectives.

In short, I am not asking for special treatment for any one group. I simply ask that the Council approach this issue with fairness, transparency, and collaboration. The goal should not be to shift burdens from one group to another, but to find sustainable solutions that serve all community members.

At the end of the day, we all share the same objective: to ensure that every young athlete in our city—regardless of program—is treated with fairness, respect, and equity.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully,

Brian Buckland

Concerned Community Member