

Mayor Kevin Faulconer
11th Floor
202 C Street
San Diego 92101

Dear Mayor Faulconer,

I am asking you to serve your voters by ensuring that the 93 acre fenced, leash-free area on Fiesta Island remains intact. The tax-paying citizens who use this area are asking that they be recognized as valid recreational users of public parklands, just like the other existing users of the island, and be allowed to retain their current space without roads and parking lots bisecting the area that they use 365 days a year.

This part of the 485 acres of Fiesta Island is the only fenced leash-free area in San Diego County large enough to allow humans to exercise with their dogs. We ask that the city recognize this fact: that this is not about the dogs but about the thousands of active humans who currently use this area as a place to exercise. It's about what these humans want and need - a refuge from the stress of urban living. Other smaller existing fenced leash-free parks throughout San Diego do not allow this type of use. This large 93 acre contiguous area allows us to walk, run, and bike with our dogs. Once it is destroyed it can never be replaced.

While the dog owners are the largest number of users over the course of the year, they are the only group that is losing quality space. Current plans call for a road to bifurcate our area to access a swimming beach and boat storage shed; thereby, creating three smaller dog parks with little beach access for the dog owners. Swimming beaches of Mission Bay are used only seasonally; another beach that will stand empty the majority of the year should not displace those of us who use this area year round. Per presentations by Park and Recreation at various city meetings, they indicate that there is no alternative site for the paddle storage area. However, South Shore was never evaluated as a possible location for this use, despite the paddlers previously stated willingness to consider the South Shore location. South Shores has existing infrastructure already in place (parking lots, restroom, etc) and by utilizing that area, a tremendous amount of money would be saved as the road, a bridge, fencing, restrooms and other improvements could be deleted from the fenced, leash-free area in the Fiesta Island plans.

Please, in the interest of your citizens and fiscal responsibility, do not let our area be destroyed when there are logical and simple solutions available.

Sincerely,

Signature

(Please print name)

Address

CC:
City Council Members