

Good evening families,

As you are aware, we had been in talks with the city regarding them canceling the contract we entered into in 2008 for the use of the Redlands Sports Complex. We, as a region, through registration fees, invested \$500,000 to the build-out of the field, and Redlands took care of the rest with grants and funds from the city. We agreed to an annual fee plus in-kind services through our amazing volunteers. When the city was having difficulty financially, the region stepped in and made significant contributions to continue the long-term maintenance of the complex. In 2021, the city decided they wanted to cancel the contract, and we fought back. The topic went away and 6 months ago, it was brought back up, and the city informed us of their intention to terminate the contract effective December 14th, 2022.

Many of our families showed up to the council meeting, sent emails to the city clerk, and used social media as a tool to let the city know this wasn't ok. Prior regional commissioners came back to help deal with the issue, and the region truly came together. During the first hour of public comment, Mayor Paul Barich said in an open forum his intention to table the agenda item. Many of us in the audience thought this was a small victory and would allow us additional time to negotiate the issues.

The council went to closed session, and when they returned, Mayor Barich made a statement regarding our region, and he said we would get a year's of usage of the field at the same cost but made no additional statements about canceling the contract. At the end of the meeting, the council and mayor voted to terminate the contract effective December 14, 2022, and issue the region a refund. We were taken aback by the change from the Mayor, and we will never know what the discussion was in the closed session that changed the Mayor's statement.

Assistant City Manager Chris Boatman has been difficult to deal with through this process, and we would like to have quality discussions with the city decision-makers to try and address the issues. Please know we are working hard behind the scenes to ensure our kids continue to play soccer without interruption, and we will continue to work hard on your behalf. AYSO is a family and embodies the Redlands community. The actions to date of the City are not in the community's best interests.

As our families, you can continue to reach out to your city council members and the mayor to let them know your displeasure with their decisions. Keep tagging the city council through social media, letting them know what AYSO means to you and your family. Additionally, non-Redlands residents are also encouraged to email as express what the program means to them and how this affects their lives.

1. If you are a resident of the City of Redlands, contact your City Councilmember to express your concerns. Ask the City of Redlands to honor the contract with Redlands AYSO. (Even if you a non-resident you can also email)

Go to <http://www.cityofredlands.org/city-council> and email your Councilmember, or call (909) 798-7533

Mayor Paul Barich (elected: Mario Saucedo) District 3
Mayor Pro Tem Eddie Tejada District 2
Council Member Mick Gallagher (elected Paul Barich) District 5
Council Member Denise Davis District 1
Council Member Jenna Guzman-Lowery District 4
City Manager Charles Duggan cduggan@cityofredlands.org
City Clerk Jeanne Donaldson jdonaldson@cityofredlands.org

Thank you very much for your time and support.

Sincerely,

Redlands AYSO