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(3 pages)

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PLANNING DEPARTMENT

To: County of El Dorado County Planning Services  
C/O Aaron Mount, Associate Planner  
2850 Fairlane Court  
Placerville, CA 95667

From: Seth Griffin MSN, CRNA  
Rescue Raceway Manager  
Rescue Community Center Board Member  
218 Wellfleet Cr  
Folsom, CA 95630

March 19, 2013

**RE: Rezone 712-0004/Special Use Permit s11-0007/Rescue Community Center**

Dear Planning Commissioners,

I am writing you to urge your support for the Rescue Community Center (RCC) and the Rescue RC Track.

The Rescue Community Center has been the foundation of the City of Rescue for more than six decades. For nearly 20 years it has also hosted the Rescue RC Mini Speedway (now the **Rescue Raceway**) providing the community of Rescue and the greater Sacramento area with a high quality remote control related events. In turn, the track has provided the RCC with the financial stability to provide an affordable event facility to Rescue and the surrounding community ranging from baptisms to weddings to wakes. The RCC also donate the facility to groups such as boy scouts and quilting clubs.

I am not a competitive RC car racer, but a casual user who simple enjoys the hobby. My personal involvement with the RCC began in March of 2012 when I became informed that the track had been closed. I had been using the track for a couple of years and had never seen any races or other track representatives there. At that point, all care of the track seemed to be being performed by local RC enthusiasts that used the track and were donating their time and energy to maintain the facility. I contacted the RCC, offered to help, and have since become deeply involved.

The current opposition to the operation of the RC track is based on historical precedent. Through great effort by the community center, we have addressed many, if not all, valid concerns with the changes we are planning for the RC track. Let me explain.

The first and most important change is the involvement of the RCC board in the events and goings on at the track. They have created a new board member position titled 'Track Manager', which will report directly to the board and be a liaison for the community of Rescue. This new arrangement ensures that the track will maintain its focus of supporting the community of Rescue and the RCC. The Rescue Raceway will largely involve a volunteer based force, with those that use the track maintaining the facility and donating their time and energy.

There is a list of more specific concerns put for the by some members of the community and I will try to briefly address them here.

1. **Noise:** Historically, the track has primarily held events using gas powered remote controlled cars. There was also a PA system for announcing the races. This was loud because it needed to be heard over the sound of the gas cars. The new track will be electric RC vehicles only. This will substantially decrease the sound created during practice, races, and any necessary PA usage.
2. **Camping:** Camping will no longer be permitted.
3. **Sanitation:** Two portable bathrooms have been located at the RC track during racing season and were regularly maintained. Garbage bins are available throughout the facility and emptied regularly.
4. **Historical Precedent:** The Rescue Community Center was established in 1951. Any persons moving into the area since that time were well aware that the community center held a wide variety of events. As with any community facility that hosts community events, it is reasonable to assume that there will be some noise or other irritant that may occasionally be heard by, or effect surrounding properties. For example, prior to the RC track, the Rescue Horseman's Association utilized the facility for their events. They too used a PA system for announcements. Other noise producing public facilities also reside in the general vicinity of the community center, such as a fire station, church, and school.
5. **Financial Constraints:** It has been stated by those opposed to the RC track that the Rescue Community Center does not financially need the track. The board members of RCC strongly disagree. The lack of resources that the race track provided has caused great strain. This has resulted in projects and updates being placed on hold, and support to other community members and organizations being reduced.
6. **Enforcement:** The proposed changes to the RC track at the Rescue Community Center quickly bring about the logical question of how the new standards are enforced. This is multi-faceted. It begins with clearly stated rules and penalties. Signage at the Rescue Raceway will contain the most important rules set forth by the RCC, community of

Rescue, and El Dorado County. We would like, not only to include the rules for public use of the track, but associated county ordinances and fines involved. Also, rules will be clearly stated in detail on the Rescue Raceway website and in its social media formats such as Facebook. Traditionally, members of the RC community are extremely good at self-policing, but if there are any users found to be in repeated violation of the rules, the RCC is prepared to pursue legal banishment from the premises.

In conclusion, the Rescue Raceway will be a very different RC car track than it has been in the past. It will continue to respect any concerns made by the citizens of Rescue, but it will do so with a new model of personal representation and accountability by the Track Manager on the RCC board. Volunteers from the RC community have been cleaning and maintaining the site, even though it is currently closed. As a non-profit, this volunteerism will continue to help maintain the integrity of the facility and support the RCC and community of Rescue. When the Rescue Raceway re-opens, it will be the only public outdoor, off-road, RC track in the greater Sacramento area. The local RC community is already buzzing with excitement that the rescue RC track will open again as an electric only facility under new management.

I urge your support.

Sincerely,

Seth Griffin

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Seth Griffin", written in a cursive style.



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**Fwd: EDC PC Hearing**

1 message

**Aaron Mount** <aaron.mount@edcgov.us>

Wed, May 1, 2013 at 7:48 AM

To: Charlene Tim &lt;charlene.tim@edcgov.us&gt;, Peter Maurer &lt;peter.maurer@edcgov.us&gt;

Aaron Mount, Associate Planner  
El Dorado County Development Services Department  
2850 Fairlane Court, Placerville, CA 95667  
530-621-5355 530-642-0508 FAX  
aaron.mount@edcgov.us

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Seth Griffin** <sethgriffin@yahoo.com>  
Date: Tue, Apr 30, 2013 at 4:39 PM  
Subject: Re: EDC PC Hearing  
To: Aaron Mount <aaron.mount@edcgov.us>

Aaron,

I, and the Rescue Community Center, would like a continuation of Planning Commission approval until June 13th, 2013.

Thank you,  
Seth Griffin

Sent from my iPhone

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Thank you.