

April 6, 2021

To Whom It May Concern:

We all know that exercise and outdoor activity often play a significant role in one's quality of life, but now more than ever I ask that you give strong consideration to immediate investments in parks and recreation initiatives. As Ben Franklin once famously stated "an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure". I am reminded of this as we navigate this period of Covid. Of course, we must respond to the current health crisis and assist those who have been adversely impacted by the pandemic, but I ask you to consider the sound investment of helping to keep residents healthy. Great parks and recreational opportunities are key to helping accomplish this.

We all want things to return to normal as soon as possible, but we don't know how long it will take and the reality may be that it may not happen as fast as we'd like. I think we all agree that it's wonderful that the kids are once again able to play the sports they love. I coach youth running and I see firsthand the impact outdoor exercise has on both the kids and their parents. Without parks, we'd have nowhere that is safe to run or workout. The opportunities provided by parks are among the safest and as a result the closest we can get to normal at this time. For our mental and physical well-being, we all need this. Please consider that investments in parks and recreation help our community on many levels... especially now.

Sincerely,

Seth Gottesman