

**ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENCE RELATED TO ITEM 6B FIRE RINGS
RECEIVED AS OF 2/6/12**

From: Barbara Peters [mailto:barbaraannpeters@gmail.com]

Subject: Remove the Fire Rings at Big Corona

Dear Members of the Parks, Beaches and Recreation Commission,

Between Christmas and New Years day, I went to the funeral of my Breakers Drive Neighbor, who sadly died too soon from lung cancer. On January 5, 2012, I returned home with my family to Breakers Drive at about 8pm and we saw HUGE bonfires at the fire rings at Big Corona. The air was filled with thick black smoke as SUV after SUV arrived to throw more Christmas trees onto the bonfires.

We see bonfires like this at the fire rings throughout the year. I've seen people burn entire bureaus, covered with paint or lacquered chemicals, and various forms of plastic trash. But even when they are burning clean wood, they are filling our air with toxic chemicals that are known to cause cancer. Please take a look at this link, www.aqmd.gov/rules/doc/r445/general_faq.pdf, to learn why the AQMD has banned new indoor or outdoor wood burning devices, effective in our area as of November 2011.

The EPA tells us:

Wood smoke is 12 times more carcinogenic than equal amounts of tobacco smoke and attacks our body cells up to 40 times longer than tobacco smoke.

We don't let people smoke a cigarette on the beach for health and safety reasons. How can we continue to allow the fire rings that generate enormous quantities of wood smoke, known to be far more dangerous to our health?

My husband's mother also died during the holidays of respiratory distress. She suffered asthma attacks when she visited our home. Did you know that the tiny particles of wood smoke are so small that windows and doors cannot keep it out?

"Inhaling wood smoke particulate matter increases the incidence, duration and severity of respiratory disease, striking hardest at children, the elderly and those with lung or heart disorders. The EPA warns that there is no safe level of these carcinogens".

(www.burningissues.org/endorsed by the National Safety Council)

There was something painfully wrong to say goodbye at Christmas to a loved relative and a good neighbor, both of whom died from lung disease, and then to see people burning Christmas trees filling the air we all must breathe with carcinogenic smoke particles. The experts at the American Lung Association, the EPA, the SCAQMD, and many agencies around the world all agree: WE SHOULD ALL AVOID BREATHING BURNING WOOD! And they mean all year long, not just at Christmas.

Please, do everything in your power to remove the fire rings from Big Corona. Thank you.

--

Barbara A. Peters

barbaraAnnPeters@gmail.com

(949) 230-7409 cell

Hello,

As a long time resident of Corona del Mar, I strongly urge you to remove the beach Fire pits. I understand that historically they have provided family fun and barbeques. However, now, they attract gangs, crime, drugs and most importantly are a health hazard to local and non-local residents. In addition, the maintenance and cleaning is costly according to the maintenance people we have talked to over the years. They have also claimed that the particles used in the fire making and nails, injuries, etc is atrocious. The smoke in the air lingers daily and leaves soot and ash on homes, parks and cars. In addition, the air quality is affected. Please consider these items in your review.

thank you very much,

Tom and Jill Schriber

From: **Deborah Jeffs** <djeffs@progressivebenefitmgrs.com>

Date: Thu, Jan 26, 2012 at 5:57 PM

Subject: Big Corona Fire Rings

To: cocoh1@roadrunner.com, NPBTom@yahoo.com, JMMarston@roadrunner.com, ronwcolenb@gmail.com, boxing77@aol.com, phillip.lugar@sce.com, jack@beachsports.org

Dear Members of the Parks, Beaches and Recreation Commission of Newport Beach,

My name is Deborah Jeffs, and I live at 417 Dahlia in Corona del Mar. I'm writing to you to add my voice to the residents who would like to see the Big Corona Fire Rings removed from our community to protect the health and safety of those who live here.

As a professional in the health care insurance industry, I pay careful attention to health risks, such as the effects of breathing wood smoke. For my own sake, I don't want to breathe in the chemicals in smoke, and I'm also concerned with the costs to our health care system and the potential for diseases that studies show are connected to breathing the particles of wood smoke.

Many agencies have determined that wood smoke is highly injurious to our health. According to the American Lung Association, "a growing number of published studies are associating wood smoke with asthma, other lung problems, and heart disease" (*A Burning Issue: Scientists Take a Hard Look at Wood-Stove Emissions, May 14, 2010*) They say that burning wood forms thousands of chemicals, including toxic and carcinogenic substances. The EPA tells us that there is no safe level of these carcinogens. The air quality specialists at the SQAMD have said that even limited exposure to smoke can be harmful to human health and they adopted Rule 445 to reduce wood burning. The experts seem to agree, wood smoke is as bad, or worse, than second-hand tobacco smoke.

It only makes sense that cigarette smoking be banned in areas where others are forced to breathe second-hand smoke. Yet, those who live in our community are forced to breathe the toxic wood smoke. We can't escape it even if we close our windows. Corona del Mar is a residential neighborhood, and it should not be the location for bonfires where people freely burn all sorts of noxious trash and plastics, even beyond the health risks of burning wood.

Newport Beach can make a decision to promote wellness and to protect its residents from the harmful health effects of smoke, soot, and ash that are directly created by the use of the fire rings at the beach. There is plenty of evidence to support your decision to remove these dangerous fire rings as soon as possible.

Thank you.

Deborah L. Jeffs
PROGRESSIVE BENEFIT MANAGERS
3419 Via Lido, #306
Newport Beach, CA 92663
[\(949\) 723-1411](tel:(949)723-1411)
Fax [\(949\) 723-1429](tel:(949)723-1429)
DJeffs@progressivebenefitmgrs.com

Attention:
City of Newport Beach
Parks, Beaches and Recreation Commission

This letter is to urge you to remove the fire rings at Big Corona Beach. They are a fire hazard for those of us who live on Breakers Drive and nearby. On several occasions we have had burning embers blow onto the deck of our home. Smoke blowing into our home has set off our smoke alarms.

There is dry brush and native plants by Ocean Boulevard and the driving access ramp. Beach goers throw papers cups, wrappers, and trash and other flammables in our yards and the plant areas.

We and some of our neighbors do not leave our homes on July 4th and other days when the fire ring use is heavy for fear of our homes catching fire. The fire rings are a fire hazard. The situation is a problem waiting to happen.

Sincerely,



Marena Larson
Breakers Drive Resident



Daniel J. Leonard
3124 Breakers Drive
Corona del Mar, Ca. 92625

January 26, 2012

Mr. Tom Anderson
Parks, Beaches and Recreation Commission
City of Newport Beach
3300 Newport Blvd.
Newport Beach, Ca. 92663

Dear Mr. Anderson:

I am writing to you on behalf of the Breakers Drive Homeowners Association (BDHA) and all its members who reside on both Breakers Drive and on Ocean Blvd. The residents urge you to remove the fire rings from Corona del Mar State Park beach. Many residents have communicated with you and I include copies for your review. Some of the reasons the BDHA requests removal of the fire rings are:

- A number of residents and family members contracted breathing disorders and lung diseases, some being fatal.
- The fire rings can and have caused burn injuries to children.
- The fire rings attract individuals who are involved in gang activities and their sole purpose is to cause trouble including fights requiring police response.
- The BDHA residents suffer from dirty air, excessive ash, and soot and burn residue from the fires on the beach. This is often exacerbated by breezes off the ocean.

The many letters attached address the health aspects of wood burning. It is just plain UNHEALTHY. Now is the time to clean our air, not only for local residents but also for all people enjoying the beaches.

Please remove the fire rings.

Daniel J. Leonard
President
cdm fire rings issue

To Whom It Concerns:

On behalf of my household on Breakers Drive, the "frontline", I would like to express my concerns for the fire rings on Big Corona State Beach. My family has lived on this street for the last 3 to 4 decades and for me it has been the last six years. There are two major issues with having the fire rings here.

First are the health problems they can cause. I am sure there is plenty evidence that wood smoke can create health concerns. It is clear how serious the smoke is when you awake the next morning and there is ash on your car along with the sand. Also having the front sliding glass doors open during warmer seasons create this same problem, but for our furniture. For instance my mother has to wipe down our counters and leather seating in the living room and kitchen from the ash. It is very clear that wherever the sand is blown, ash is blown as well in the same fashion. The point here is that we can prevent the continuation of the ash layer from entering our homes and our lungs. I am sure that if it is coating our cars, windows, and interior of our homes then it is certainly finding refuge in our respiratory system. This is year around and obviously increased dramatically in summer months.

Secondly, the public safety is at risk. Our city and beaches attract thousands of visitors from all over Southern California and beyond. These fire rings allow an extension on their stay. Unlike normal beaches, having fire rings allow these visitors to stay into the dark hours. I cannot say crime is increased, but it makes it easier when there is darkness to commit such acts. The correlation is that if we did not have fire rings, people would be far less likely to stay around the beach after sunset and therefore there is less possibility of crime.

My goal here is to point out that unlike state parks and beaches, residents surround Big Corona. This means the fire rings have a direct impact on the daily lives of residents on Breakers Drive, Ocean Boulevard, and neighboring streets. Putting fire rings in state owned areas tend to have open land and no permanent guests, which makes the smoke concern of little importance. I would stress to all government entities involved in this discussion to understand and support the views of the local residents that live with the decision every day of the year.

Sincerely,

Justin Edson
3030 Breakers Drive
Corona del Mar, CA 92625
949-375-1862

From: **Charlotte Stephens** <rostkop@gmail.com>

Date: Mon, Jan 30, 2012 at 9:55 AM

Subject: Big Corona Fire Rings

To: cocoh1@roadrunner.com, NPBTom@yahoo.com, JMMarston@roadrunner.com, ronwcolenb@gmail.com, boxing77@aol.com, phillip.lugar@sce.com, jack@beachsports.org

Dear Members of the Parks, Beaches and Recreation Commission,

My name is Charlotte Stephens and I am the owner of 3014 Breakers Drive, Corona del Mar, Ca. My property is very close to the fire rings at Big Corona. I would like to see the fire rings removed.

My granddaughter suffers from asthma. She is now a young mother herself, but when she was growing up, she would visit me often. We couldn't even enjoy a summer evening, as we would have to close all the doors and windows to try to keep the smoke out. Visiting her grandmother brought on painful asthma attacks, directly because of the smoke from the fire rings. Now, I know that closing the doors and windows was of no use because the particles of wood smoke are so tiny that they came through anyway.

Waking up in the morning was hardest of all. As you may know, we often have a marine layer near the beach. The marine layer seemed to trap the smoke and smells of the fire rings and my next door neighbors said it would set off their smoke alarms. The smell in the morning, as we opened our deck doors, was horrible. The marine layer dampens the ashes, but the stench is horrible with all the soot and ash of things they shouldn't burn. We would see ash and soot on our decks, furniture, and roof. It would linger in our home and make us feel sick.

So many experts and scientists around the world have provided proof that wood smoke increases the problems with asthma and lung disease and many other health problems, especially with children and elderly people. The EPA, the American Lung Association, and the AQMD all say breathing these carcinogenic particles is very bad for us. I know this is true, because my granddaughter suffered so much whenever she visited me. My granddaughter now has a child of her own, and I hope that you will remove these deadly fire rings so that my granddaughter will be able to come to my home without fear of being unable to breath, or fear for the health of her child.

Thank you.

Charlotte Stephens

Tod and Peggie Parrott
3130 Breakers Drive
Corona del Mar, CA 92625
949-673-2876
Peggieparrott@gmail.com

November 2, 2011

Newport Beach City Council
Nancy Gardner, district six
Mark Harmon, dir.of Municipal Operations
3300 Newport Blvd.
Newport Beach, CA 92663

Dear City Council,

I am writing to express my husband and my concern regarding the fire rings at the Corona del Mar State beach. As I grew up on Breakers Dr., I have seen many changes since 1953. Years ago the fire rings were populated by families roasting hotdogs and marshmallows. Today I see a minimal use by families and a surge of young adults trying to leap over the roaring bonfires as a passage of manhood. The lawyers are already out to represent and benefit from the unfortunate ones as we see in Huntington Beach.

Please consider removing these for the safety of our community.

We really appreciate your addressing this issue at this time.

Warm regards,

Peggie Parrott

Dear Members of the Parks, Beaches and Recreation Commission,

Between Christmas and New Years day I went to the funeral of my Breakers Drive neighbor who sadly died too soon from lung cancer. On January 5, 2012, I returned home with my family to Breakers Drive at about 8pm and we saw HUGE bonfires at the fire rings at Big Corona. The air was filled with thick, black smoke as SUV after SUV arrived to throw more Christmas trees onto the bonfires.

We see bonfires like this at the fire rings throughout the year. I've seen people burn entire bureaus, covered with paint or lacquered chemicals, and various forms of plastic trash. But even when they are burning clean wood, they are filling our air with toxic chemicals that are known to cause cancer. Please take a look at this link, www.aqmd.gov/rules/doc/r445/general_faq.pdf, to learn why the AQMD has banned new indoor or outdoor wood burning devices, effective in our area as of November 2011.

The EPA tells us:

Wood smoke is 12 times more carcinogenic than equal amounts of tobacco smoke and attacks our body cells up to 40 times longer than tobacco smoke.

We don't let people smoke a cigarette on the beach for health and safety reasons. How can we continue to allow the fire rings that generate enormous quantities of wood smoke, known to be far more dangerous to our health?

My husband's mother also died during the holidays of respiratory distress. She suffered asthma attacks when she visited our home. Did you know that the tiny particles of wood smoke are so small that windows and doors cannot keep it out?

"Inhaling wood smoke particulate matter increases the incidence, duration and severity of respiratory disease, striking hardest at children, the elderly and those with lung or heart disorders. The EPA warns that there is no safe level of these carcinogens". (www.burningissues.org, endorsed by the National Safety Council)

There was something painfully wrong to say goodbye at Christmas to a loved relative and a good neighbor, both of whom died from lung disease, and then to see people burning Christmas trees filling the air we all must breathe with carcinogenic smoke particles. The experts at the American Lung Association, the EPA, the SCAQMD, and many agencies around the world all agree: WE SHOULD ALL AVOID BREATHING BURNING WOOD! And they mean all year long, not just at Christmas.

Please, do everything in your power to remove the fire rings from Big Corona. Thank you.

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED RELATED TO ITEM 6B FIRE RINGS RECEIVED AFTER 2/8 EMAIL

From: Mary Roosevelt [mailto:maroos@att.net]
Sent: Thursday, February 09, 2012 10:20 AM
To: Recreation; info@cdmra.org
Subject: Fire Ring Comments

I do not live on Ocean Blvd, so I am not directly affected by the fire rings. I have enjoyed using them, and I think that they do contribute to the attraction of our beaches. Recent rules have stopped folks from using barbecues, and this is a great improvement. I would like to keep the fire rings, but I do sympathize with those impacted by their use.
Mary Roosevelt

From: Doug Pasquale [mailto:dougpasquale@capstone-corp.com]
Sent: Wednesday, February 08, 2012 4:46 PM
To: Recreation
Cc: Recreation
Subject: FW: Fire rings

While I was unable to attend the Parks, Beaches & Recreations meeting last evening this is a topic in which I have great interest. My family has lived on Balboa Peninsula for about three years and the smoke is not only extremely unhealthy, and I know there is strong evidence to support the health implications, but it also negatively impacts the quality of life for the local residents, others taking advantage of our lovely beaches, enjoying the pier, and supporting our city by using local restaurants and shops. It is not difficult to appreciate that people enjoy building fires on the beach. However, these people's exposure to the harmful smoke is limited and they can position themselves around the fire such that they avert the harmful and foul smelling smoke. Others living and visiting the area can't extricate themselves from the smoke.

Although individuals in favor of the fire rings likely invoke the fun and memories of their experience to support keeping the fire rings, so might others recall the joy of riding a bike without a helmet or shooting dangerous explosive fireworks on the 4th of July. Others like to smoke cigarettes and cigars and would be indifferent to the harmful effects of second hand smoke if there weren't laws that protected those who would otherwise be unappreciative recipients of others' harmful actions. As societies gain wisdom, certain customs and activities have to change in tandem with increased knowledge.

Aside from the political pressure from what I wouldn't be surprised is a vocal minority, removing the fire rings should be an easy decision. We pay you and elect our leaders to make the right decisions. It is time to eliminate the fire rings.

From: bjjohnson55337@juno.com [mailto:bjjohnson55337@juno.com]
Sent: Friday, February 10, 2012 10:35 AM
To: PB&R Commission
Subject: Fire Rings at Beaches

I read with interest an article posted February 5, 2012 entitled, "Fire Rings Stir Passion, Divide Community," sent to me by a friend. I recently visited Manhattan Beach in Los Angeles and feel I must respond to the article.

After the sun set, we walked into a lovely restaurant called "Mama D's" and had a wonderful dinner. But, when we exited the restaurant we were surprised by all the smoke in the area. We wanted to walk around the lovely town and sight see, but we just couldn't tolerate the smoke and so cut our visit short. I don't know if there are fire rings on the beach there, but there were, I noted, many homes with chimneys. I really don't know where the smoke was coming from, but I am very aware of the dangers of wood smoke and I am concerned about how it is the "unrecognized and unacknowledged" pollutant in our communities - including mine. One person in the article actually said that the fire rings attract tourists. This tourist would like to stand on the beach and enjoy the fresh sea air - something we don't get in Minnesota. Knowing how dangerous wood smoke is to humans and animals alike, and to our environment, this tourist chose to leave the area. We didn't linger to have a drink in one of the outdoor bars or an ice cream for dessert. This tourist didn't spend any more money and this tourist will warn her friends about the area.

I hope, ultimately, your decision will prohibit these rings on beaches and that homeowners will be encouraged to change-out their wood burning fireplaces to gas. When air pollution is reduced, lives are saved.

Good luck at your upcoming meeting!

Feel free to use my email at your meeting, if you think it will add to the discourse.

Barbara Johnson
Burnsville, MN

**THE FOLLOWING CORRESPONDENCE WAS RECEIVED BY FED EX ON 2/14/12
RELATED TO ITEM 6B FIRE RINGS**

Daniel J. Leonard
3124 Breakers Drive
Corona del Mar, Ca. 92625

January 26, 2012

Mr. Jack Tingley
Parks, Beaches and Recreation Commission
City of Newport Beach
3300 Newport Blvd.
Newport Beach, Ca. 92663

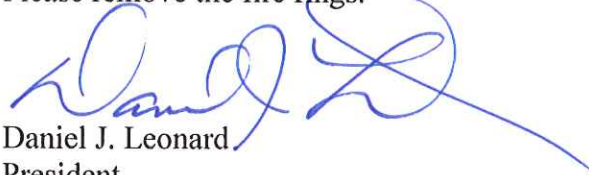
Dear Mr. Tingley:

I am writing to you on behalf of the Breakers Drive Homeowners Association (BDHA) and all its members who reside on both Breakers Drive and on Ocean Blvd. The residents urge you to remove the fire rings from Corona del Mar State Park beach. Many residents have communicated with you and I include copies for your review. Some of the reasons the BDHA requests removal of the fire rings are:

- A number of residents and family members contracted breathing disorders and lung diseases, some being fatal.
- The fire rings can and have caused burn injuries to children.
- The fire rings attract individuals who are involved in gang activities and their sole purpose is to cause trouble including fights requiring police response.
- The BDHA residents suffer from dirty air, excessive ash, and soot and burn residue from the fires on the beach. This is often exacerbated by breezes off the ocean.

The many letters attached address the health aspects of wood burning. It is just plain UNHEALTHY. Now is the time to clean our air, not only for local residents but also for all people enjoying the beaches.

Please remove the fire rings.



Daniel J. Leonard
President

cdm fire rings issue

Attention:
City of Newport Beach
Parks, Beaches and Recreation Commission

This letter is to urge you to remove the fire rings at Big Corona Beach. They are a fire hazard for those of us who live on Breakers Drive and nearby. On several occasions we have had burning embers blow onto the deck of our home. Smoke blowing into our home has set off our smoke alarms.

There is dry brush and native plants by Ocean Boulevard and the driving access ramp. Beach goers throw papers cups, wrappers, and trash and other flammables in our yards and the plant areas.

We and some of our neighbors do not leave our homes on July 4th and other days when the fire ring use is heavy for fear of our homes catching fire. The fire rings are a fire hazard. The situation is a problem waiting to happen.

Sincerely,



Marena Larson
Breakers Drive Resident



Dear Members of the Parks, Beaches and Recreation Commission,

Between Christmas and New Years day I went to the funeral of my Breakers Drive neighbor who sadly died too soon from lung cancer. On January 5, 2012, I returned home with my family to Breakers Drive at about 8pm and we saw HUGE bonfires at the fire rings at Big Corona. The air was filled with thick, black smoke as SUV after SUV arrived to throw more Christmas trees onto the bonfires.

We see bonfires like this at the fire rings throughout the year. I've seen people burn entire bureaus, covered with paint or lacquered chemicals, and various forms of plastic trash. But even when they are burning clean wood, they are filling our air with toxic chemicals that are known to cause cancer. Please take a look at this link, www.aqmd.gov/rules/doc/r445/general_faq.pdf, to learn why the AQMD has banned new indoor or outdoor wood burning devices, effective in our area as of November 2011.

The EPA tells us:

Wood smoke is 12 times more carcinogenic than equal amounts of tobacco smoke and attacks our body cells up to 40 times longer than tobacco smoke.

We don't let people smoke a cigarette on the beach for health and safety reasons. How can we continue to allow the fire rings that generate enormous quantities of wood smoke, known to be far more dangerous to our health?

My husband's mother also died during the holidays of respiratory distress. She suffered asthma attacks when she visited our home. Did you know that the tiny particles of wood smoke are so small that windows and doors cannot keep it out?

"Inhaling wood smoke particulate matter increases the incidence, duration and severity of respiratory disease, striking hardest at children, the elderly and those with lung or heart disorders. The EPA warns that there is no safe level of these carcinogens". (www.burningissues.org, endorsed by the National Safety Council)

There was something painfully wrong to say goodbye at Christmas to a loved relative and a good neighbor, both of whom died from lung disease, and then to see people burning Christmas trees filling the air we all must breathe with carcinogenic smoke particles. The experts at the American Lung Association, the EPA, the SCAQMD, and many agencies around the world all agree: WE SHOULD ALL AVOID BREATHING BURNING WOOD! And they mean all year long, not just at Christmas.

Please, do everything in your power to remove the fire rings from Big Corona. Thank you.

Dear Members of the Parks, Beaches and Recreation Commission,

My name is Charlotte Stephens and I am the owner of 3014 Breakers Drive, Corona del Mar, Ca. My property is very close to the fire rings at Big Corona. I would like to see the fire rings removed.

My granddaughter suffers from asthma. She is now a young mother herself, but when she was growing up, she would visit me often. We couldn't even enjoy a summer evening, as we would have to close all the doors and windows to try to keep the smoke out. Visiting her grandmother brought on painful asthma attacks, directly because of the smoke from the fire rings. Now, I know that closing the doors and windows was of no use because the particles of wood smoke are so tiny that they came through anyway.

Waking up in the morning was hardest of all. As you may know, we often have a marine layer near the beach. The marine layer seemed to trap the smoke and smells of the fire rings and my next door neighbors said it would set off their smoke alarms. The smell in the morning, as we opened our deck doors, was horrible. The marine layer dampens the ashes, but the stench is horrible with all the soot and ash of things they shouldn't burn. We would see ash and soot on our decks, furniture, and roof. It would linger in our home and make us feel sick.

So many experts and scientists around the world have provided proof that wood smoke increases the problems with asthma and lung disease and many other health problems, especially with children and elderly people. The EPA, the American Lung Association, and the AQMD all say breathing these carcinogenic particles is very bad for us. I know this is true, because my granddaughter suffered so much whenever she visited me. My granddaughter now has a child of her own, and I hope that you will remove these deadly fire rings so that my granddaughter will be able to come to my home without fear of being unable to breath, or fear for the health of her child.

Thank you.

Charlotte Stephens

Dr. Jack B. Larson
3024 Breakers Drive
Corona del Mar, CA 92625

Parks, Beaches and Recreation Commission
City Of Newport Beach
3300 Newport Blvd.
Newport Beach, CA 92663

January 17, 2012

RE: Fire Rings at Big Corona Beach

Dear Parks, Beaches and Recreation Commission,

This letter is to express my support for the removal of the fire rings at Big Corona Beach. The rings should be removed as they are a potential hazard to beach-goers and a significant liability to the city without adding to the quality of life to residents or visitors.

In fact the smoke and embers from the fire rings at Big Corona create toxic smoke polluting the air for both people and wildlife in the area. It seems beyond comprehension that the State of California requires automobile smog checks and discourages smoking cigarettes in part due to second hand smoke but allows the amount of smoke that emanates from the beach fire rings to go unabated. The toxic ash from the rings spreads to and into nearby homes, including my residence on Breakers Drive, and ends up in the ocean after rain storms turning the ocean into the city's ash-tray. Additionally, the fire rings pose risks for injury and burns to small children that may be at the beach which would be a tragedy and a significant liability to the city.

Due to these significant problems I am urging the Parks Beaches and Recreation Commission to remove the fire rings from Big Corona Beach to benefit the residents, visitors and our environment.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dr. Jack B. Larson". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Dr. Jack B. Larson

Tod and Peggie Parrott
3130 Breakers Drive
Corona del Mar, CA 92625
949-673-2876
Peggieparrott@gmail.com

November 2, 2011

Newport Beach City Council
Nancy Gardner, district six
Mark Harmon, dir.of Municipal Operations
3300 Newport Blvd.
Newport Beach, CA 92663

Dear City Council,

I am writing to express my husband and my concern regarding the fire rings at the Corona del Mar State beach. As I grew up on Breakers Dr., I have seen many changes since 1953. Years ago the fire rings were populated by families roasting hotdogs and marshmallows. Today I see a minimal use by families and a surge of young adults trying to leap over the roaring bonfires as a passage of manhood. The lawyers are already out to represent and benefit from the unfortunate ones as we see in Huntington Beach.

Please consider removing these for the safety of our community.

We really appreciate your addressing this issue at this time.

Warm regards,

Peggie Parrott

To Whom It Concerns:

On behalf of my household on Breakers Drive, the "frontline", I would like to express my concerns for the fire rings on Big Corona State Beach. My family has lived on this street for the last 3 to 4 decades and for me it has been the last six years. There are two major issues with having the fire rings here.

First are the health problems they can cause. I am sure there is plenty evidence that wood smoke can create health concerns. It is clear how serious the smoke is when you awake the next morning and there is ash on your car along with the sand. Also having the front sliding glass doors open during warmer seasons create this same problem, but for our furniture. For instance my mother has to wipe down our counters and leather seating in the living room and kitchen from the ash. It is very clear that wherever the sand is blown, ash is blown as well in the same fashion. The point here is that we can prevent the continuation of the ash layer from entering our homes and our lungs. I am sure that if it is coating our cars, windows, and interior of our homes then it is certainly finding refuge in our respiratory system. This is year around and obviously increased dramatically in summer months.

Secondly, the public safety is at risk. Our city and beaches attract thousands of visitors from all over Southern California and beyond. These fire rings allow an extension on their stay. Unlike normal beaches, having fire rings allow these visitors to stay into the dark hours. I cannot say crime is increased, but it makes it easier when there is darkness to commit such acts. The correlation is that if we did not have fire rings, people would be far less likely to stay around the beach after sunset and therefore there is less possibility of crime.

My goal here is to point out that unlike state parks and beaches, residents surround Big Corona. This means the fire rings have a direct impact on the daily lives of residents on Breakers Drive, Ocean Boulevard, and neighboring streets. Putting fire rings in state owned areas tend to have open land and no permanent guests, which makes the smoke concern of little importance. I would stress to all government entities involved in this discussion to understand and support the views of the local residents that live with the decision every day of the year.

Sincerely,

Justin Edson
3030 Breakers Drive
Corona del Mar, CA 92625
949-375-1862