SDG:elm

6420 Cleo Street San Diego 15, California 16 November 1955

The City Council of San Diego San Diego, California

Sirs:

As President of the San Diego Track and Field Association, I am writing to enthusiastically recommend the inclusion of a distance running course in the area south and adjacent to the Morley Field tennis courts and swimming pool.

In fact, a course is there already, one laid out by the coaches of State College, the City high schools and independent running clubs of San Diego. This year it was/is used weekly by the above mentioned organizations. Although in use - it is a rough course and in need of maintenance. The cost of initial repair and maintenance would be surprisingly cheap. The roadways and roadside paths now being used are already there; the surface, however, has "discomforting" stones and small boulders imbedded in portions of it. A bit of effort with one or two pieces of heavy equipment could remedy the situation.

Except for the surface, the course is considered one of the best in the Southland - and was lauded recently by a group of Los Angeles area college coaches whose teams competed in the San Diego State sponsored Aztec Invitational Cross Country Championship.

We must recognize that distance running is an integral part of track and field - a year around sport in California. The need for such a running facility in this area is a "must" if we expect our athletes, high school as well as college, to compete on an even basis with those of other areas.

Up until last year, the schools and clubs in the San Diego area used the courses at State College. Last year's course was the fourth in four years designed and laid out by "Choc" Sportsman, the Aztec coach. Each Fall since 1950 he was "evicted" by San Diego's rapidly increasing housing tracts. The land in that area is now depleted, and the only salvation for a decent course inside the city or county limits is the Morley Park area.

I might add that the present course interfers in no way whatsoever with other recreational facilities already in the Morley Park area -

and I honestly cannot forsee how it might interfere with any proposed expansions of the present recreational facilities.

Thanking you in advance for any consideration that might be given this matter, I am,

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Sincerely yours,

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Comm. from San Diego Track and Field Association requesting a facility for distance running in the recreation area south of and adjacent to the Morley Field Tennis Courts.

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