

April 2009

Dear Fellow Joinville Swimmer,

As some of you may have heard already, due to the current economic crisis and the City of San Mateo's projected \$8 million budget deficit for the fiscal year 2009-10, it has been proposed that the aquatics budget be cut by \$140,000 and, consequently, that Joinville Pool operations be reduced from a year-round pool to a summer pool only. **This measure would eliminate ALL year-round adult fitness and competitive swimming, and eliminate spring and fall swim lessons! Joinville Pool would likely be open only June through August.** There will be two rounds of budget cuts and Joinville would fall under the second round of cuts with closure implications occurring as early as December 2009. The City has proposed two tax measures to be placed on the November 2009 ballot, i.e., a ¼ cent sales tax increase, and a 2% hotel tax increase. If these measures fail, then Joinville would be converted to a seasonal pool.

Given the current economic climate, it is highly unlikely that these tax measures will pass. As passionate swimmers and Joinville Pool regulars, we are not willing to sit back and let Joinville close without a fight, and without exercising some creative thinking and suggesting practical solutions. Joinville Pool and the services it provides draw a large number of people, many of them regulars who have been swimming here for years or even decades. We believe that Joinville Pool and the aquatics programs it offers are well-loved by many and not easily replaceable. We are fervent in our campaign to save Joinville as a year-round pool, and hope to rally support from other swimmers like you!

We have decided to gather names and contact information of like-minded swimmers in order to a) organize ourselves and be able to contact all swimmers effectively, b) keep the swimmers informed of updates and changes as this campaign progresses, c) give the swimmers the opportunity to voice their own ideas and engage in discussions with us, and d) invite anyone interested to Town Hall meetings (to be scheduled in the near future) which we hope to arrange with the pool staff and the City officials. We also plan to form a committee that will engage on behalf of the swimmers in discussions with the Pool and City officials, and that will work on creative and acceptable solutions.

All personal contact information that we will gather from the swimmers will be used exclusively for the above purpose and will be kept confidential!

Please join us in our fight for saving Joinville Pool!!!

Respectfully,

Anna Woods and Radi Julina

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