

Public Comments March 23, 2023  
Board Study Session: Facilities Planning

Items Not on the Agenda

Name	Comment
Dorrie Markovits	Noise level of adding tennis courts and 50 meter pool

Study Session - Discussion, Information

Name	Comment
Benjamin Simon	PLEASE 'stake and ribbon' the proposed parking structure with tennis courts including fencing and lighting proposed at the current parking lot. The mass and scale of the proposed changes are difficult to visualize. Also, what are the proposed hours of use, both during the week and on the weekends? Finally, the proposed new District Office Building needs additional landscaping as well as being set back further from the intersection.
Evie Laptin	I support the building of the new aquatics facility for the High School.
Sonia Curtis	A new swimming facility is long overdue in the community of Laguna Beach. With multiple Waterpolo teams and Olympians coming out of Laguna, we should take pride in the fact that there will be a facility to accommodate A tournament or provide adequate swimming for Laguna Beach.

Carter McKinzie	Redoing or building a new pool is imperative in our community; Laguna Beach is an aquatic town that needs to have top of the line facilities to continue to support the high school's water polo program of excellence. A new pool would allow the teams to practice more. Additionally, the current pool is not even up to regulation for CIF, as not CIF games can be hosted there. Thank you for the consideration.
Ann Gamerl	Regarding the scope of District Expansion and effect on surrounding neighbors. As a long time resident residing near the High School, I have concerns about the size and scope of the project and the negative impact it will have on the surrounding neighborhood. The proposed hulking size of the building at the intersection of Park/Short/Legion does not fit the neighborhood at all. Secondly, the relocation and expansion of Tennis courts to the existing District lot just doesn't make sense. These intersections are already treacherous enough, adding a complex of that size will dwarf the surrounding homes and add unnecessary safety and noise risks to the community. Have you considered working with the city to utilize the existing St. Catherine's complex in South Laguna to meet some of the sports and aquatic center objectives? We ask that you bring the neighbors into the discussion so we can find a solution that works for the community and the district alike. Much appreciated.
Cherese Denny	I am in VERY much in favor of the updated plans for the Schools in LBUSD. But mostly the Aquatic facility. I had both my girls involved in the Swim Team program all

Public Comments March 23, 2023  
Board Study Session: Facilities Planning

	<p>4 years at High school and was the Swim Team Booster rep for 3 of those years. My youngest daughter has been involved in the Laguna Beach Waterpolo program since she was 10yrs old, and is now a Senior on the LBHS Varsity Waterpolo program. Having to deal with the very late nights for my girls when they were so young was tough as the pool was not big enough to sustain all the different age groups and Rec swim from the community. Late nights are not conducive to good academic grades. But more importantly when she upgraded to U16 there was no team at Laguna Beach as we didnt have enough pool space so our girls had to join a team that was 45 min away and deal with even later nights. I think the worst was, not being able to watch our own High School team play at our own High school as our pool does not qualify for the CIF requirements. Our Waterpolo team has produced some amazing athletes and having no facility to see these incredible athletes in action is really sad. Our town needs a bigger aquatics facility extremely badly, as we are a Beach town, having a great Aquatics center would be a big recruitment addition for our schools. I would like to think that once my daughter graduates, we can still come and watch local waterpolo games and swim meets as alumni and local Laguna patriots.</p>
<p>Marion A. Cameron-G ray</p>	<p>I wish to express my strong disapproval of the current plan for the high-school. It seems to disregard entirely the context of the community in which the HS is located. This would be fine as an urban plan but as currently constituted crowds out the charming and unique neighborhood. I would request the committee not create a plan where there is a winner and a loser. Surely a more contextual plan can be created, some more modest goals for the HS and more sensitivity to the community.</p>
<p>Nicole Stewart</p>	<p>I feel so fortunate to teach in a school district who continuously works to improve their school sites. Is there a timeline of how long it will take to complete these projects/which projects will be completed when?</p>
<p>Shannon Ticatch</p>	<p>Vote to approve all upgrades</p>
<p>Cama Stevens</p>	<p>Very disappointed this plan was never discussed with teachers at each site. We weren't given the opportunity for our input and what works/ doesn't work in a classroom and surroundings.</p>
<p>Nicole Anderson</p>	<p>Thank you for allowing me to comment. I am the President of the Laguna Beach Water Polo Foundation. I volunteer running this non profit youth club water polo program with Chad Beeler. We have approximately 90 participants and we practice at the pool from 6-9pm Monday through Thursday. Our youth program is the feeder program to the LB high school water polo program. Water polo is one of the most unique sports to Southern California. We are a top team in the country despite our small size and limited resources. Our program helps Laguna youth achieve greatness in and outside of the pool with many of our athletes going on to play and received Division 1 college scholarship and even participate in National competitions including the USAA National team and the Olympics. We are in desperate need of additional pool space. We have 10 year olds (4th graders) ending practice at 9pm which is too late, but we cannot start using the only pool until 6pm. Our limited use of pool space makes for overcrowding, inability to host regulation games &amp; inability to run a local program for all teams. This year we had to give another club (SET) our 14U girls team. We also have been unable to run a 16U and 18U team due to lack of pool space. This means our high school kids get split up and do not have the same</p>

Public Comments March 23, 2023  
Board Study Session: Facilities Planning

	<p>resources to play together like most high school teams. For example, Newport and J Serra have their high school players play together in their club team pre and post season. Thank you</p>
<p>Claire Sonne</p>	<p>Hello, I am the girls water polo head coach at Laguna Beach HS. I am also LBHS Alumni. I won a CIF Championship as a player and now I have the opportunity to lead the team as their coach. As I'm sure you are aware, there is an incredible history of success in aquatics and specifically Laguna Beach HS girls water polo. The teams through the years have found a way to be successful despite not having a regulation sized pool. This has meant that the team is unable to host many home games as it is a competitive disadvantage to play in a pool of this small size. The program has produced 3 women's water polo Olympic gold medalists (2 of those are 2 x gold medalists) and has sent countless players to high level universities like Stanford, Harvard, UC Berkeley, etc. The water polo community deserves to have an aquatics facility that facilitates success rather than hindering it. I hope that you can all agree that the young water polo athletes of our community deserve better and I hope we can commit to helping them with this amazing new aquatics facility as soon as possible. Thank you for considering my perspective.</p>
<p>Carmen</p>	<p>I reviewed the Facilities Master plan with some interest especially in regards to the pool. It is obvious that our current pool needs to be revamped. It is in bad shape for sure. I support the need for a proper aquatics facility in the city and hope that the design will accommodate the students as well as the adult community members that depend on it for exercise and rehabilitation. Our whole family uses it. It is a wonderful and undervalued part of our town. This plan looks pretty good. Please do incorporate large shallow areas for non-swimming aquatic exercises. Please also advise on the timeline. How long will the community be without a pool according to this plan?</p>
<p>Katsura Bassett</p>	<p>Hello. I have served as Booster Representative for LBHS Boys Water Polo program from 2019 through 2022 Fall season, and I am in support of the plan for the new aquatic center and parking structure to be built at the high school. I strongly urge the Board to approve the plan. The existing swimming pool is simply too small. It is not regulation size for high school water polo games, and as such our varsity players have not been able to have home League games and have had to travel far (other school pools; Los Alamitos HS in the 2022-2023 season) for our "home" games, taking precious studying time from the student athletes and affecting the number of fans who could be in the stands to cheer them on. The proposed Aquatic Center with an Olympic-sized pool and a 25-m pool will not only allow our amazing Water Polo program as well as the swimming program to develop and grow at the high school and the age-group levels. What's more, our age group water polo program would be able to offer 16U and 18U teams for the high school students during their off-season (= non-high school season) months; this would be a win-win situation for the students as they would not have to travel out of town to practice water polo during off-season months AND they would be able to train with their teammates year-round, making their team more bonded, cohesive, and stronger. Lastly, the bigger facility, I think will give the community more time to swim, too. Please approve the plan. Thank you.</p>
<p>Mark Evans, Cindy</p>	<p>THIS IS OUR NEIGHBORHOOD, NOT A RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT</p> <p>Dear Board Members,</p>

Public Comments March 23, 2023  
Board Study Session: Facilities Planning

<p>Evans</p>	<p>We are mystified why this project was not brought to our community's attention sooner with a chance for us to offer input.</p> <p>We the neighbors of Virginia Park, are all against this plan of installing a tennis court and all of its attendant activity, noise and traffic, right up against our homes; the one point of ingress and egress for parking would be a nightmare for everyone in the Mystic Hills community.</p> <p>This project study proposes a drastic change to our little neighborhood; it's an incredibly heavy-handed insult to assume we would be perfectly happy to acquiesce.</p> <p>Has anyone done a study regarding the loss in property values to the homes that are situated next to this project? Or was this something the board really wasn't concerned with? We're willing to bet there's no plan to compensate.</p> <p>We would also like to know about any restrictions regarding the donated building that is on the existing site; this is a historic building. Who has studied this?</p> <p>Are you going to ask the city to help finance a project that the surrounding community is against? A project that will destroy the peace and character of our neighborhood?</p> <p>It breaks our hearts that you would consider doing this to our community.</p> <p>Mark and Cindy Evans 640 Virginia Park 435 Hilledge Drive Laguna Beach, CA 92651 Bearflag1@aol.com <a href="mailto: Bearflag1929@gmail.com">Bearflag1929@gmail.com</a></p>
<p>Trish Sweeney</p>	<p>Our family is opposed to spending \$100-150 million for the facilities upgrades as proposed. Enrollment in the district has been falling for years. According to its own data, a drop of 5.5% was reported within the last two years. Fewer families appear to be enrolling and Laguna's population has actually declined. Today, it is 22,661. Additionally, the city's purchase of St. Catherine's opens an opportunity for a second community pool in South Laguna. There may be an opportunity to use office space and classrooms with modifications. It was a school after all. Replacing the current district office with a 2 story building with a similar footprint would provide needed office space. We also support upgrading the theater and field. However, the elaborate plans for elevated courts, multiple pools and multiple structures is not warranted under the current circumstances.</p>
<p>Tom &amp; Stephanie Berryman</p>	<p>We live down Blumont St from the district offices. We moved to Laguna over 40 years ago. Our four children all went to TOW&gt;Thurston&gt;LBHS.</p> <p>It's incredible to us (and every one of our neighbors we've spoken with) that district management could even imagine bringing something like this to the public.</p> <p>We received no notice of any of this. We heard rumors about it and managed to get a</p>

Public Comments March 23, 2023  
Board Study Session: Facilities Planning

	<p>copy of the email sent to “LBUSD families”.</p> <p>The magnitude of the projects would be stunning even in a district with stable or growing enrollment. LBUSD it’s the opposite: declining over the last several years and projected to continue. How can a project of this scale be justified?</p> <p>“Updates to the Facilities Master Plan were informed by feedback from two board representatives, several community partners and staff...That’s all? Were any of the “community partners” people who live physically adjacent to the sites of proposed major construction?</p> <p>The demolition of a perfectly good pool and tennis courts (which underwent a complete rebuild just a few years ago) is, quite simply, egregiously wasteful.</p> <p>The proposed district parking structure on the current district/LBHS lot is clearly an attempt to backdoor additional parking for visitors to the city, not to serve district needs.</p> <p>It’s so disappointing that LBUSD has taken this sneaky approach. In a sense you’ve already commenced demolition: you’ve dug a hole of mistrust before you’ve even started.</p>
Sonia Curtis	<p>Swimming facilities are long overdue, this is such a positive and wonderful skill going forward for this community in particular. My son is now a lifeguard and is going to college to swim water polo.</p>
William Kelly	<p>I support the building of the new aquatics facility. Through incredible memories and participation as an aquatics athlete in Laguna Beach and Laguna Beach High swim and waterpolo alumni, I find it shocking this plan wasn’t past 10 years ago. Clearly the aquatic sports here prove to be the top at the school and that is because of the Incredible coaching and community people choose to stay. On the other hand, a large hand of great athletes avoid Laguna Beach because of this poor aquatics facility. It’s not enough to support and grow the team so these athlete join clubs and other high schools that know will have the resources to grow their children in the sport.</p>
Peony Chua	<p>Please only have resident parking on Virginia Pk Dr</p>
Allan Feker	<p>Please only have resident parking on Virginia Pk Dr</p>
Tracy Lineback	<p>Build a new pool!!!!</p>
Sarah Kelly	<p>Re:Pool! Having personally navigated the current pool since before parenthood as a rec swimmer myself to having two children participate in LBHS swim and polo I can say our community would not only benefit from the proposed larger pool, but we need it. Being beach adjacent, our town attracts those who love water sports. Swim lessons is one of the first public rec activities Laguna littles experience so they can safely enjoy our beaches. Naturally this love of water translates for many into organized swim and polo, requiring practice and competing space. Our current pool does not support these needs. We need a regulation pool so we can host and practice in the correct size pool. As a parent with a child on the "Laguna Beach" age</p>

Public Comments March 23, 2023  
Board Study Session: Facilities Planning

	<p>group, rarely were we able to practice at our own pool do to lack of pool space and availability. As a parent of a child on the high school team, Newport or CDM would be our "home" pool for games? Our pool needs to match the pride we have of our polo program, if we ignore this we will lose our players to other schools and teams, now is the time to act to support our aquatic teams that has been a huge source of pride.</p>
<p>Simon Sproule</p>	<p>Regarding the proposed project at Laguna Beach High School, would like to get clarity on the following: impact assessment for local residents in terms of noise, construction debris / dust, traffic management and duration of construction. What plans are being put in place to mitigate the impact of this project to residents within the immediate vicinity of the construction site up to and including financial compensation. Second, once the new tennis courts are operational what are the proposed access hours and how will the city manage light pollution from the courts impacting local residents.</p>
<p>Mark Weeks</p>	<p>Looks like a fantastic plan! I fully support this...our schools desperately need these improvements!!</p>
<p>Josh Hall</p>	<p>We are parents of a 13 year old diver here in Laguna Beach. For the past two years in the 12-13 age group, our Diver has achieved national ranking (top 25 on 1 meter springboard, and top 50 on on 3 meter springboard). We commute to practice three to four times a week out to the Laguna Niguel Community Pool to train with the Crown Valley Divers club, as there is no club, nor pool facility that can support diving in the town of Laguna Beach. In recent years there has only been a single competitive diver to represent Laguna Beach High School at all of the CIF events, adding points and ranking for the overall Swim &amp; Dive team standings. I believe that we could dramatically increase participation in diving (and benefit the LBHS swim &amp; dive program) by increasing the awareness of diving as a competitive sport, and having a local facility that could support diving with 1meter and 3meter springboards.</p>
<p>Silas Richland</p>	<p>As a current high school student, my friends and I believe the current design of the building planned for the district offices on the corner of the high school will seriously impact (ruin) the character of the Laguna Beach High School campus and take away lots of what we knew the high school to be in the past. This seems like a huge use of money and we have countless other issues students have voiced to the high school that we would prefer to be fixed, rather than re-arranging our entire campus and creating a building for offices. I support keeping the main campus buildings how they are, and keeping the separation with the district across the street from the school.</p>
<p>Jim Clarke</p>	<p>Quite shocked by this potential ginormous project and the expense of it all. Seems like a lot for Water Polo.... and tennis? (it's a dying sport, look it up). After that shock wore off, I am very concerned how it effects my neighborhood (Virginia Park). Parking, noise, building aesthetics, etc. I will be very concerned going forward if this project remains in its current proposal.</p>

Public Comments March 23, 2023  
Board Study Session: Facilities Planning

Paul Markovits	I find the project proposed to be completely out of scale with the neighborhood. Currently the neighborhood is composed of mostly small homes and small streets with very limited parking. The scale of this project is something I would expect to see in Irvine or somewhere on a very large property like a college campus or private school like Sage Hill School separated from the neighborhood. This project is placed right in the neighborhood. I am concerned about the noise, the lightening, traffic, and parking problems that will negatively impact the neighborhood.
Anne Laptin	I fully support the building of a new aquatic center. It is long overdue and a wonderful investment for all ages and the entire Laguna community
Amy and Rick Fulford	<p>New Parking Lot B, Lower Level. We are concerned with the increase of total parking from 132 to 254 spaces (Lots A &amp; B) and more specifically the increase from 19 to 63 spaces (Lot B) from a traffic congestion, gridlock and safety perspective:</p> <p>1) Traffic volume: in the area is already extraordinarily high creating a daily traffic jam on Park stretching from PCH up to St. Ann's. The increase in traffic and gridlock associated with the addition of 122 new parking spaces will be untenable</p> <p>2) Blockage and gridlock on Manzanita (at intersection of Park): Placing the lower level parking Lot B exit on Manzanita where it intersects Park will create a traffic nightmare. It is already the case that drivers exiting Lot B onto Manzanita create gridlock blocking through traffic. Again this will be untenable with a 3 fold increase in parking spaces in Lot B. This also places a large burden on local residents seeking to simply come and go from their homes or for parents picking up their children from school</p> <p>3) Safety Issue: The increased traffic, largely by inexperienced teenage drivers poses a significantly increased safety risk for the students crossing the street, local residents as well as young children at Anneliese school on Manzanita</p>
Jennifer Seybold	I am in support of the new and expanded aquatic facility.
Megan Hilliard	<p>I am an elementary school parent who enjoys and am thankful to have benefitted from the Laguna Beach Pool through the various stages of my child's life thus far. While pregnant, I swam countless laps at the LB pool in prep for the days ahead. As my child grew, I've cherished the images of a chubby baby splashing with his best bud in the "baby zone", nestled under the hills of Laguna. This is where he first gained comfort and experience in a pool. The images progress to the rounds of afternoon spring swim lessons with his preschool friends in the shallow lanes where swimming without a kickboard seemed distant. Now he is thriving in the pool, along with his peers, onto the local right of passage, successfully conquering the swim test toward the sea and junior guards. While at the pool we gaze in awe of the "big kids" whose success and endeavors in water polo are inspiring and motivating.</p> <p>I am grateful for the many joys the LB Pool offers. We're delighted by the proposed district plans and are in full support of them. My statement is with respect to the</p>

Public Comments March 23, 2023  
Board Study Session: Facilities Planning

	<p>various uses, specifically in hopes the district takes into consideration a small pool space for the youngest of budding swimmers, the babies/toddlers. Continuing to have a small splash zone for babies, one that optimally incorporates a modern feature of reasonable size and aesthetic appeal (eg. water arch, mushroom or water spouts), would add value and interest for the many growing families in Laguna.</p> <p>Thank you</p>
Katie Houlahan	We support a new pool for the high school!!
Cara Abrahams	<p>The cities lack of pool facilities / shared facilities is hurting the children of Laguna Beach.</p> <p>Our ten year old son dropped out of water polo in Jan due to the late evening practice times and cold pool temperature this winter. Our concern is that when he turns eleven in Aug, his weekday practices will be even later due to the sharing of one pool for all ages in Laguna Beach. Some families have even decided to leave polo in Laguna and pursue other teams in Irvine and Newport as a result.</p> <p>The recommendation for 10-13 year old children is 10 hours of sleep a night. With an elementary school start time of 7:50am - it's impossible to even get 8 hours of sleep (best case scenario) if water polo practice goes until 9:30pm.</p> <p>Insufficient sleep can cause several problems including decreased brain development, learning problems and more frequent negative emotions. It can also contribute to weight management problems, growth issues and increased frequency of illnesses. No sport is worth jeopardizing the health and wellness of a young child.</p> <p>Let's keep the Laguna kids together and build an even better swim / polo program with access to an additional, newer, larger pool. St Catherine's also has the space for it!</p> <p>Thank you for your consideration.</p>
Derick Day	I support the new Aquatics Facility!
Katy Miller	I support the new aquatics facility.
Shannon Stringham	I support the aquatics facility.
Lauren Barry	We are a family with four children. All have come through the summer swim lessons at the HS pool, one is currently in water polo, one is currently doing swim prep for Junior Guards, and we always take advantage of the "open swim" hours during the hot summer months! We have felt, firsthand, the need for more pool space in Laguna! In so many ways for so many people in our community, an additional pool would do wonderful things!
Scott	I support the new aquatic facility proposal. Thank you!

Public Comments March 23, 2023  
Board Study Session: Facilities Planning

Kibbey	
Stuart Miller	I support the new aquatics facility
Lloyd d'Allmen	Aquatics facility
michelle struss	I support building a new pool in our community. It is much needed and over due.
Leilani Fitzgerald	<p>With regards to the potential community pool in development, I would like to urge our board to approve this plan. A new regulation pool is much needed. My husband played water polo for laguna beach all 4 years and went on to play in college. I think about how strong and well known the program is and how many from laguna beach have even gone on to play for the Olympic team. We have two boys in the program now and our 8 year old has practice from 5:30 to 7:15 (dinner time) and our ten year old has practice from 7:00-9:30 pm (past a normal bed time for a 10 year old) because this is the only time available. The pool is too small to run multiple programs. Laguna beach water polo has incredible talent (Our boys we're on the 10u team that got 3rd place at junior Olympics- that's in the country) and I'm sure more would be inclined to join if they didn't have to practice at dinner time or sacrifice a reasonable bedtime. I have memories of swimming against laguna beach when I was in high school and laughing about how outdated the pool was. It's time to invest in an updated pool. We love this community and it would be beneficial for everyone to update and expand the pool. Thank you.</p>
Dorrie Markovits	<p>I am writing in regards to the Facilities Master Plan that I reviewed online. My concerns are about the impact that the proposed larger pool and the tennis courts over the new parking structure will have on the neighborhood surrounding Laguna Beach High School. Park Avenue already gets backed up severely on the weekends in the summer and if Laguna invites all of the other schools for waterpolo competitions it will be a zoo. Also parking is difficult already on Blumont Street and Virginia Park Drive. The other issue I have with the proposal is the additional noise the 50 meter pool waterpolo tournaments will bring to the neighborhood with the whistle blowing and cheering so close to our homes. These kind of competition facilities should be located in more remote open areas like Alta Laguna Park. Overall, the cost of relocating the tennis court and pool seems extremely high for the amount of benefit only a few would get out of it. Creating more parking in the tennis court space or administration lot would be helpful for sure. Using or adding more courts at Alta Laguna park and just fixing the pool that already exists seems to make more sense in the budget.</p>
Pacita Ikonomou	<p>Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Facilities Master Plan. I hope the opportunity to comment continues as the plans develop and residents are notified of future meetings. My comments relate to the top priorities proposed for LBHS,</p>

Public Comments March 23, 2023  
Board Study Session: Facilities Planning

	<p>specifically increasing the number of parking spaces and relocating the tennis courts.</p> <p>An increase in car parking spaces will encourage the use of private vehicles leading to increased traffic congestion and potential safety issues in the school zone and the surrounding residential neighborhood where the high school resides, in addition to increased noise, air pollution, and carbon emissions.</p> <p>The proposal conflicts with California's efforts to lead the country in reducing greenhouse gas emissions from cars (1).</p> <p>Instead, redirect the funds to build public transit infrastructure and walkable neighborhoods with cycle lanes, footpaths, and green space. This alternative will have a positive impact on overall student health.</p> <p>Create facilities for students to broaden their exposure and experience in various trades, which are currently gaining interest and can benefit a more significant proportion of students than the few students that will benefit from tennis and an additional pool (2).</p> <p>1) <a href="https://time.com/6217873/parking-lots-climate-change-california/">https://time.com/6217873/parking-lots-climate-change-california/</a> 2) <a href="https://www.npr.org/2023/02/14/1155405249/high-paying-jobs-that-dont-need-a-college-degree-thousands-of-them-are-sitting-e">https://www.npr.org/2023/02/14/1155405249/high-paying-jobs-that-dont-need-a-college-degree-thousands-of-them-are-sitting-e</a> <a href="https://cops.usdoj.gov/RIC/Publications/cops-p133-pub.pdf">https://cops.usdoj.gov/RIC/Publications/cops-p133-pub.pdf</a></p>
Christopher Ikonomou	<p>I am a Laguna Beach resident speaking out against the proposed plan to demolish the Laguna Beach District Office and erect a new two-story structure for the following reasons.</p> <p>For one, asphalt and parking lots are a direct cause of water pollution which is particularly dangerous so close to the beach. There's a reason why it's hard to find parking near the coast in our town. We are prioritizing the environment and community over our convenience. It's also part of the reason why there are no chains in Laguna: to preserve our home over interests that infringe on our quality of life for the benefit of a small group of people.</p> <p>Secondly, a massive two-story project will undoubtedly block our view of the ocean, the main reason why people move here in the first place. An unobstructed view raises a home's value by 9 to 12% according to real estate experts. As you know, California public schools are funded by our property taxes. Not only will this project plummet our home values by hundreds of thousands of dollars, but the amount of money going into the school upon resale will also plummet. Moreover, us residents need approval from the entire neighborhood before undergoing ANY major real estate developments or renovations, or even planting a tree. Why is the institution that relies on our money allowed to skirt this requirement when they're in our</p>

Public Comments March 23, 2023  
Board Study Session: Facilities Planning

	backyard? Third of all, this change will cause an incredible increase in traffic. Now, every weekday from August to May will have backed up traffic
Tamer Salib	I fully support the aquatics facility proposal. There are many health benefits to having aquatic Center for our kids and community.
Kathy Rose	We need a larger aquatics facility in laguna
Stacy Seminoff	Without turn lanes into the parking lots/structures, how do you prevent bottlenecks on single lane roads. Especially roads that are main thoroughfares.
Craig & Elaine Brashier	<p>We are long time residents and supporters of all local schools. We live directly behind the district offices. We are very concerned about the mass and scale of the proposed plan. Here are our comments and questions:</p> <p>Prioritization and how it affects all students' education and well being.</p> <p>Why do you need a new pool? Current pool size vs. minimum standards for varsity competition. Is it a need for high school or a want to be able to funnel more kids through the programs and host more weekend tournaments to make money.</p> <p>How is it going to be funded?</p> <p>Noise, traffic and light pollution is of major concern including height of the fencing and lighting around the tennis courts.</p> <p>Impact on surrounding homes' property values.</p> <p>We would like to know how future plans and redesign will be communicated with those outside the school and district community.</p>
Michelle Tingler	<p>YES, for the new pool facility! LBHS has the smallest pool with arguably the best girls water polo program in the country - the water polo program has given our girls so many incredible athletic and academic opportunities, but it is limited only because our pool is not regulation size. It's been great for the developmental programs, but the older girls have outgrown the facility and because of the prestige of the program, the demand for another pool is great. Our entire community should be proud of all the girls that have passed through Laguna Beach High School Water Polo and gone on to higher education programs in the finest Universities in the country. The girls are grateful and thank you for your consideration.</p> <p>As a parent of a former LBHS water polo student athlete, I fully support the construction a new aquatic facility. The existing pool is much too small and unable to to accommodate a highly competitive match so LBHS is forced to play its "home" water polo games at other venues. Over the last decade, LBHS has been one of most dominant high school water polo programs in the country and deserves the facilities needed to maintain this level of success. Thank you.</p>
Amber	As a LBHS alumni and parent to 3 future LBHS students, I do not support the

Public Comments March 23, 2023  
Board Study Session: Facilities Planning

Offield	<p>proposed design of the district office/high school admin office being combined by creating a 10,060 building. The proposed district office is too large in scale and the architecture design does not match the rest of the high school campus.</p> <p>I spoke with Jason Vloria in detail about my concerns and requested the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Review an alternative rendering and cost comparison keeping the district office where it is now, by reorienting the tennis courts as needed. It would make it feasible to keep the scale of the high school admin building across the street on the slope smaller and in proportion.</li> <li>2. Discuss the impact of having the district staff on site with the high school staff and students. Organizationally, it would be better to keep the district office in a separate building as it is currently. Reasons include, autonomy for the high school principal and staff. Maintaining the causal and approachable space for the students since they are going to be using the space too. It would be overwhelming for the students to feel confident/comfortable to share school space with a large district staff on a daily basis.</li> <li>3. Analyze the spending impact, this is an obscene amount of money to consider spending for a public school district. The district office is projected at 20 million dollars alone.</li> <li>4. Architecture sub committee to make sure any new construction design is appropriate.</li> </ol>
Jessica Tuchinsky	<p>Making LBHS a modern facility will enhance our community. This is an incredible design that actually might be everone's needs.</p>
Kori peters	<p>We support the approval of the new aquatics facility.</p>
Gary Kasik	<p>Why was there no community involvement at the feasibility phase of this planning? At the Sept '22 meeting a board member requested community involvement on the facilities master plan ad hoc committee but it was rejected by the Superintendent saying "it would be premature to have that voice (neighbors) in the room." Deferring neighborhood involvement until the actual project implementation is not an effective way to treat a major stakeholder in the district's planning. It's important to know what options have been considered and the result of conceptual impact studies (safety, noise, traffic, view, parking, etc) PRIOR to the level of detail being presented today. The appearance is one of "let's decide what WE want to do then involve the other stakeholders."</p> <p>I'm opposed to any further movement on the initiative until more information is presented and ALL stakeholders interests are considered.</p>
Tyler Rootlieb	<p>I'm in support of the new aquatics center.</p>

Public Comments March 23, 2023  
Board Study Session: Facilities Planning

Michelle Foley	<p>I am the parent of a division 1, collegiate water polo player who went through a Laguna Beach water, polo ago group and the HS program, and I also have an eighth grader who also plays the sport. Our pool is so small that we can no longer host any official games, Our children need to drive to El Toro, Laguna Hills, and beyond for practices in HS because we don't have enough space. Every single game in high school is held offsite so parents need to drive all over just to watch their student play the sport that they dedicate so much time to. As it is and there are so many kids in the Pool during my sons U 14 practice that they can't get a great practice in because they're bumping into each other. Considering how many athletes have come out from Laguna Beach to the Olympics and play Division I water polo, our pool facilities are in embarrassment to this town. When the school was built the demographics in the town, were much different and as our program continues to grow and grow, so are the needs. We finally have an opportunity with the requirement of Saint Catherine's to relocate the administration building and use the space for a new pool. Laguna Beach has rebuilt the football and baseball fields, yet WaterPolo has more athletes that go on to lead successful collegiate and professional careers after they leave Laguna Beach. Many have come back to help coach at Laguna Beach Water Polo foundation.</p>
Dawn Knepper	New pool
Melissa Gregg	<p>I am a strong proponent of new pool facilities in Laguna Beach. There are several reasons- my oldest son swam competitively for three years- which had to take place in Laguna Niguel; he had to stop swimming competitively related to it being too difficult to get him to practice 5 days/week; he now plays waterpolo...until 9pm. There is a strong need for a community pool(s) in Laguna Beach. It would be nice to have facilities that support our youth sports, as well as, for those that like to use the facilities for health and recreation.</p>
Jena Offield	The proposed 20 million dollar spending and relocation of the district office to the high school campus needs to be analyzed further for function, design and campus impact
Mike Gruba	<p>I am in support of the proposed new aquatics facility and improving the current City/HS pool to allow youth and high school water polo, youth and high school swimming and community pool use to flourish. The fact our historic water polo community does not have a pool that can host HS games and the youth water polo program has 10-14yo kids practicing till 9pm each night speaks to the over crowding and sometimes dangerous swimming (8-9 per lane) conditions for our youth. Community involvement in the planning to optimize the needs of our youth sports and community needs.</p>
Wyatt Peabody	I submitted a letter via email on behalf of the Pool Committee

Public Comments March 23, 2023  
Board Study Session: Facilities Planning

Steven R Chidester	<p>The District Office project as planned is much too large and is extremely insensitive to its negative effects on the homes of the long time residents surrounding Laguna Beach High School</p> <p>If tens of millions of taxpayer dollars are to be spent the money should be spent on modernized classrooms for LBHS students and NOT on fancy administrative offices !</p> <p>The project as planned will also worsen the already gridlocked traffic and parking problems around LBHS and the surrounding neighborhoods</p> <p>As nearby residents to LBUSD District Office and LBHS we are extremely disappointed that we have not been previously notified and believe this indicates a serious lack of transparency on the part of the LBUSD and the District's Board and also that you know that this project is too big and too expensive and were unwilling to tell us until you absolutely had to</p> <p>This is Laguna Beach NOT Santa Monica !</p>
Ashley Woravka	<p>I am against artificial turf fields at our elementary schools. They become scalding hot in the sun, are full of toxic rubber pellets that stick to kids clothing and hair and contribute to more injuries than a real grass field. Our kids deserve real grass, not more plastic to play on. I have more to say on this topic but wanted to get my general comment in before the noon deadline. Thank you!</p>
Ryan Blahnik	<p>I'm writing about the proposed changes to the District's property near the high school. My property is likely the property that will be most affected by this project, and the changes will significantly affect the use of our house and backyard. I am greatly opposed to the proposal. I am also deeply frustrated that no one from your architecture or planning team reached out to us about this project. No one reached out to share or gather our feedback, and no one reached out to mitigate the obvious effects to our home. It's very disappointing. The proposed development will affect our property, significantly, on three sides- the east, south and west. Under the proposal, cars parked in the structure will shine lights directly into our home (currently we are 30' above the parked cars on a hill). The noise from the pool will not be mitigated. The lights and fence from the new tennis courts will effect my City ordinance protected view.</p> <p>I am an Urban Planner by profession with a Master's Degree in Urban Planning and would like to provide further input to your design team about this plan. The plans as they exist do not take mitigate any effects to my home.</p> <p>I am strongly, strongly opposed to this project as proposed.</p>
Robin Williams	<p>I am opposed to the new plans for the "AQUATICS FACILITY AND TENNIS COURTS" on the grounds that a price tag of +\$88 million is egregious for such a small improvement to these facilities. This amount of money should be spent</p>

Public Comments March 23, 2023  
Board Study Session: Facilities Planning

	<p>towards public safety first. Only until the Laguna Beach city government can declare "we've done everything we can to improve public safety in our city" can such a large expense be justified on such a small improvement for a recreational purpose, especially considering the global economic crisis that we are entering. Thank you.</p>
<p>Tara O'Connell</p>	<p>I strongly support plans that incorporate increased pool space and aquatics facilities for the high school, youth and community members at large. Please consider a new pool. I would support funding and any actions for a new aquatic area.</p>