

## ORCUTT BABE RUTH LEAGUE, INC.

P.O. Box 2172 ORCUTT, CALIFORNIA 93457

February 25, 2009

Dear Park Commissioners & County Supervisors,

Thank you for your ongoing support in regards to Ellis & Morrison Baseball fields located in Waller Park. In 2008 the county purchased a set of new bleachers for the 14-15 year old fields. The bleachers were assembled with the help of park and league volunteers. The new bleachers were used for last years regional and state tournaments and will continue to provide years of recreational use for the community.

There are now only one set of <u>old bleachers</u> remaining on the fields. These bleachers are the wooden seat type and do not meet current standards. Additionally some of the wood boards used for seating are rotting through or cracked and some of the metal frames are rusting. We have replaced several of the boards that were rotten, however, concerns regarding the metal framework and current safety standards are issues that we cannot continue to satisfy with repair and servicing. At this time there is not enough in our budget to replace these items.

We are asking for three large bleachers to replace the two existing wood bleachers on the 13 year old field and add a third large bleacher to the 14-15 year old field. The additional bleacher will allow extra space for tournaments, adult and interleague play on the 14-15 field. Currently we have two large bleachers and one small bleacher on the larger field. The additional large bleacher would provide a more balanced seating arrangement. I have attached an estimate and the specifications for the bleachers that we believe will best fit in our current enclosure. The assembly of the bleachers will be done by volunteer labor from the league or any available park volunteers. According to the attached bid the cost would be 4.89,729.83.

Orcutt Babe Ruth would like to thank the County of Santa Barbara, for their support as an active partner in this successful joint effort to benefit the teenagers in our community. The extensive work done by the county on the parking lot, restrooms and trees greatly improves the appearance of the facility and provides a safe and sanitary environment for family use and recreation. The fields are enjoyed year round by the public and used during the season by our league.

We currently are seeking assistance from the community for other renovation and improvement projects, including new scoreboards, infield clay and leveling the ground in the infields and outfields. The response from the community has been positive. Labor from a local landscaper (Humann Landscape) and a few thousand dollars from local businesses have already been donated and more

has been promised for this year. Given the difficult economic conditions we expect this to be a slow year for donations.

We believe that if we build a better program even more kids and adults will participate in the future. Thank you for your consideration of our attached request for facility improvements. Please don't hesitate to contact us if you have any questions.

Respectfully,

Jop Cox

2009 OBR President

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