



THE ASSEMBLY
STATE OF NEW YORK
ALBANY

PAMELA HARRIS
Assemblymember 46th District
Kings County

Sunil K. Gulati
President
U.S. Soccer Federation
1801 S. Prairie Ave.
Chicago, IL 60616

Dear Mr. Gulati:

I'm writing you regarding U.S. Soccer Federation's (USSF) decision to deny the North American Soccer League (NASL) professional sanctioning at the Division 2 level for the 2018 season. I respectfully ask that you reconsider this decision.

My community of Coney Island is home to the New York Cosmos, a storied club that has seen some of soccer's best wear the jersey, including Pelé, one of the sport's most gifted and talented players of all time. The club's rich history has contributed to a vibrant atmosphere with thousands of fans cheering on the Cosmos every game, and those fans deserve to keep their team. Our community has embraced the club and it has become a staple of our neighborhood.

Additionally, the Cosmos have positively impacted our local economy and continue to bring tourists to Coney Island. Their games have helped strengthen local businesses, create jobs, increase demand for restaurants and other attractions and extend the tourist season well past the summer.

The decision to downgrade the NASL Division 2 status will have a ripple effect in Coney Island. Not only will the league and teams suffer, but more importantly, the fans, who have embraced this team and the sport of soccer will suffer. New Yorkers and fans from far and wide are invested in the fate of the Cosmos. I urge you to allow this landmark team to continue its legacy and maintain the NASL Division 2 status.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Pamela Harris".

Pamela Harris
Member of Assembly
46th Assembly District