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THE COUNCIL
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Sunil K. Gulati
President
U.S. Soccer Federation
1801 S. Prairie Avenue
Chicago, IL 60616

Dear Mr. Gulati:

I respectfully ask that the U.S. Soccer Federation reconsider its recent decision to deny the North American Soccer League professional sanctioning at the Division 2 level.

The district I represent in the New York City Council includes Coney Island, home of the NASL's New York Cosmos. The Cosmos are one of American soccer's most successful and important legacies, and have been a welcome addition to Coney Island's rich cultural tapestry. American soccer simply would not be where it is today without the Cosmos, and the club has managed to revive some of that excitement since moving to Coney Island, attracting thousands to their matches.

The addition of the Cosmos has also helped develop the economy of this community. Since arriving in Coney Island, the Cosmos have created jobs and provided increased foot traffic for the neighborhood's restaurants, bars, and amusements, all while extending the crucial tourist season, to the benefit of Coney Island's small businesses.

The New York Cosmos name is legendary in New York, and that legend has been reborn in Coney Island. Denying the league they play in Division 2 professional sanctioning would be a significant blow to those who have become loyal Cosmos supporters (some of whom are being exposed to soccer for the first time), as well as to the local economy that is benefiting from the interest in the team. I urge you to maintain the North American Soccer League's Division 2 sanctioning and help keep the Cosmos legend alive in my community.

Sincerely,

Mark Treyger
Council Member, 47th District