

Pacific Raceways president appeals for aid before King County hearing

Below is a letter that Jason Fiorito, president of Pacific Raceways, recently sent to all of the track's users, sponsors and vendors in advance of an Aug. 23 public hearing before the King County Council on his plans to expand and improve the racetrack.

"I would really appreciate it if you would take the time to chime in with our council members (email addresses are listed below) and forward this to any e-mail list you have so that positive input about the proposal far outweighs the negative they have been receiving," Fiorito says. "We are in front of them again in a couple of weeks, so getting them in quickly is important. If you could cc me on anything you send, I can keep track and have a record of what they are receiving. Thank you in advance for your help!"

As you probably know, Pacific Raceways has been working to gain approval of our redevelopment plan, which would provide new racing surfaces, increased safety measures and a new motor sports industrial complex to serve the racing community. This has been a hard and drawn-out effort, and while we are inching closer, now is the time we could really use your help.

While those of us in the motor sports industry understand the positive economic impacts associated with our businesses — the jobs we create, the taxes we pay, the services we provide, the hotels we fill, the businesses our racers and spectators frequent — many of those in government do not understand just how many jobs and businesses are associated with the industry in King County and the greater Puget Sound region. I need your help in educating them on the motor sports industry and how important it is to have race facilities in our region to serve all of our customers.

If you could take a moment and contact the folks below — you can click on the email addresses — and write a brief note to them in support of Pacific Raceways and our proposed redevelopment efforts, that would go a long way in helping us in achieving our goal making Pacific Raceways a world-class racing facility.

Here are a few things you may want to let them know:

How many people you employ because of the racing industry in the Puget Sound.

How long you have been in business.

How a world-class racing facility will increase your business and create new jobs.

Please consider having your employees, friends and families contact these government officials as well.

Right now, the only people the government leaders are hearing from are those who oppose racing. We need to let our elected officials know that there is a strong and vibrant motor sports industry that is dependent on facilities such as Pacific Raceways that creates jobs, brings in money to the region and should be supported.

Messages can be short — even if it is only a couple of sentences — or as long as you would like. The important thing is that they hear from you.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Jason Fiorito, president

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You can speak out

The hearing before the King County Council will be held at 9:30 a.m., Tuesday, Aug. 23, in the council chambers on the 10th floor of the King County Courthouse, 516 Third Ave., Seattle. Those who wish to speak before the council at the hearing will be given two minutes to give their testimony.