



## Don't roll out Rillito soccer balls just yet

The struggle between horse racing and soccer for space at Rillito Racetrack could be headed for a courtroom, instead of the ballot box as part of the next bond election.

### 1. Comment by George D. (gnpnaz) — April 20,2008 @ 1:54AM

Ratings:   -10 +21 This comment has been reported as possibly being in violation of the StarNet User Guidelines and is under review.

**Ratings: -6 +18** In a way I agree with Moore, Pima County and the tax payers should not be paying to build ANYTHING for these clubs that hire professional coaches. Just like they should not build aANYTHING for the baseball clubs with their multi million \$ spoiled brat players. NEVER at the expense of the tax payers. The taxes need to be used for the benefit of all not special interest groups.

IN FAVOR 22  
NET IF-11

### 2. Comment by Ken T. (desertratfrombackeast) — April 20,2008 @ 4:03AM

Ratings:   -21 +10

George - explain to the readers how horse racing is NOT an elite special interest!

I think that, per capita, you'd find that the soccer field complex is a BETTER use of tax money.

Just because it's *old* doesn't mean it's *beneficial* to the community!

Full Disclosure Statement: My son last played organized soccer back in 2001, with promises made ten YEARS before that on those fields at Rillito.

[Report this comment](#)

OPPOSED 11  
NET IF-11

### 3. Comment by George D. (gnpnaz) — April 20,2008 @ 4:49AM

Ratings:   -9 +19

#2 Never said it wasn't but it has been there since 1943 and is still there much to the dismay of those that want it to go away.

And one thing that is not talked about in these articles on the racing is that the UofA has an interest in the racing here. Bob Bafford, of Triple Crow Horse Racing fame, is a graduate of the U's horse breeding/training program that is based at Cambell and Roger Rds. Not that that should make a difference but by doing away with the racing you are also doing away with a program of study at the U. Next nearest track is in Nogales. As Tucson is always looking for added income from tourists, do you want that income to go to Nogales?

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IN FAVOR 20  
NET IF-10

### 4. Comment by Ken T. (desertratfrombackeast) — April 20,2008 @ 4:59AM

Ratings:   -13 +13

Excerpts stolen from [http://cals.arizona.edu/rtip/about\\_us/history.html](http://cals.arizona.edu/rtip/about_us/history.html)

During the early 1970's , a group spearheaded by the late Frank Vessels, Jr. of *Los Alamitos Race Course [in California!]*, embarked upon the concept of a collegiate program to train young men and women to become future leaders in the racing industry.

As the RTIP has grown in size and scope, the staff has expanded from a single instructor to four instructors, an administrative assistant, a graphic designer and a number of student office employees.

OPPOSED 14  
NET 0

So, your program is about a hundred people. A facility like that for a hundred people.

How many kinds *and* adults play soccer?

The number I recall from 2001 was about twenty *thousand* people.

Again, where's that taxpayer money being better spent? Oh, yeah, horse racing - of course, that's tax revenue NOW, not FUTURE tax revenue.

How thoughtless of me.

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**5. Comment by George D. (gnpnaz) — April 20,2008 @ 5:30AM**

Ratings:   -9 +17

IN FAVOR 18

NET IF-8

How many parks, ball fields, high schools, jr high schools have soccer fields on them? Answer that and then answer why do they need any more and not just use the money to improve the ones that are there.

My kids played soccer too, many yrs ago now, but they played at city parks and school fields. Both the race track and the soccer fields can be there. There is no reason that they can't and no reason that one has to be torn down for the other.

But too to use your own statement;How many kinds and adults play soccer?

The number I recall from 2001 was about twenty thousand people

Is that figure all that play soccer in the US or just those that play in Tucson? If it is all in Tucson does this include all that are from out of town for the soccer shoot outs? And where is the tourest income from it?

Racing, like the spring training, is an income generating venture from the snowbirds. Many are from horse racing states and spend big bucks both at the track and in businesses here while they are here.

But lets get back to the city park usage for soccer fields that is going on now. How would you like it if citizens groups started complaining that they could not use the parks because of the soccer going on and the city/county decided that in the interest of the other 980,000 people in Tucson it would be best to get rid of those fields? 20,000 is a very small number when you talk about ALL of Tucson and the income generated to taxes and wages.

[Report this comment](#)

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**6. Comment by Mike P. (vino) — April 20,2008 @ 6:38AM**

Ratings:   -3 +8

IN FAVOR 9

NET IF-5

let the horses play soccer.

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**7. Comment by fernando s. (mando1) — April 20,2008 @ 6:51AM**

Ratings:   -11 +9

IN FAVOR 10

NET OPP-2

there is NO good reason the horses cant keep racing at rillito. its only 2 weeks a year . there are many many school play grounds in tucson. let the bling wearing moms take their kids there. ONLY 2 WEEKS A YEAR. !!

[Report this comment](#)

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**8. Comment by Ralph A. (CactusBob) — April 20,2008 @ 7:07AM**

IN FAVOR 21

NET IF-12

Ratings:   -8 +20

I think the county and good old uncle chuck have pulled the classic bait and switch. "Agree to this deal and we will build you a new track in marana." Sure you will.

Why should we spend between \$6 to 35 million to replace a track we already have??

Doesn't make sense. My kids play soccer, I don't race horses and haven't been to the track in years. But, I still don't want it torn down.

[Report this comment](#)

**9. Comment by Christine J. (sarong) — April 20,2008 @ 7:22AM**

Ratings:   -6 +11

IN FAVOR 12

NET IF-5

If both sides have the resources to continue fighting each other for Rillito, then they can certainly compromise to continue HORSE RACING and SOCCER at Rillito for all Tucsonans and visitors to enjoy. Please do not pander to wealthy self-interests on either side. Find a way to keep horse racing and soccer at Rillito to promote SPORTSMANSHIP over MONEY!

[Report this comment](#)

**10. Comment by Rich B. (rabalcer) — April 20,2008 @ 7:23AM**

Ratings:   -15 +12

OPPOSED 13

NET IF-3

Wow, what a stunning display of childishness by Moore. He seems to be willing to say and try anything to get his way. Heaven forbid a new sports complex is built at Rillito. The County needs to keep propping up Moore's one month hobby(it was 6 weeks but the season had to be shortened). The horse racing facilities at Rillito are in a shambles, the reason, racing is not successful enough to even maintain them. Guess who is maintaining this white elephant for the indulgence of a few Tucsonans?

[Report this comment](#)

**11. Comment by Scott B. (sberman) — April 20,2008 @ 7:30AM**

Ratings:   -10 +12

OPPOSED 13

NET IF-2

The one thing I've noted about people who keep citing historical facts, is that they tend to live in the past. The truth is, whether we like it or not, soccer is in a logarithmic growth phase in this country. It is a simple economic decision. A soccer complex in Tucson will generate millions (I conservatively estimate \$20 million) of revenue annually. The Rillito Complex is the most logical (key word logical, not emotional) site in town due to its central location and proximity to Tucson businesses that will benefit from thousands of tourists for each tournament (restaurants, hotels, malls). As far as preserving the historic landmark, I'm all for it. The grandstand can be converted into the centerpiece of the soccer complex with a snack bar, club offices, soccer shop, lockerrooms, and strength training facility-all revenue generating for the county. This is a simple decision if all the emotion is set aside and we apply good business sense. The racing facility, on the other hand, is better suited at the fairgrounds for all the same reasons. It is certainly simpler to navigate all the heavy equipment associated with horse racing directly from the interstate including the horse trailers and big rigs that come with Budwiser. I'm not sure there would be too many broken hearts in the racing community not having to deal with central traffic. The wind doesn't seem to bother the horses at the fairgrounds now that compete in Hunter-Jumper and Dressage events. And the fan base is local, not tourists who bring economic growth to the community.

In the spirit of full disclosure, I am both a horse person and a soccer person, but more importantly a 16 year Tucson resident who would like to move on in this issue.

[Report this comment](#)

**12. Comment by jon h. (#3807) — April 20,2008 @ 7:43AM**

Ratings:   -7 +13

IN FAVOR 14

NET IF-6

rillito race track is one of tucson's remaining icons. preserve it! we tore down the el con hotel for a shopping center that could have been placed anywhere. think what a treasure the hotel would be now. we have so little left that made tucson special. it once was quaint yet quite cultured, particularly in the late 50's and early 60's. when i travel and see the evolution of cities like seattle, san diego, denver and yes, even phoenix during the same time period it is saddening and maddening. we have not evolved and preserved, we have devolved and destroyed. thank you ed moore!

[Report this comment](#)

**13. Comment by Ralph A. (CactusBob) — April 20,2008 @ 7:50AM**

Ratings:   -7 +14

IN FAVOR 15

NET IF-8

we are paying millions to create a "historical site" downtown, but are going to level a real life one for soccer? Doesn't make sense.

[Report this comment](#)

**14. Comment by Julie N. (JulesBird) — April 20,2008 @ 8:21AM**

Ratings:   -12 +8

OPPOSED 9

NET IF-4

Tucson and Pima County in general are the laughing stock of the soccer community. We cannot possibly bring a truly quality tournament to a bunch of tiny venues like Townsend Middle School and Udall Park, or even Golf Links.

Tempe, Chandler, Scottsdale and Phoenix are all building or have built premium soccer venues and they are raking in the dough! Fine tournaments can be held at those sites and those communities make big bucks from them. Las Vegas has no less than two giant venues of 11 and 13 fields each with others of 5 to 7 each. That's how you support soccer and all the money that comes with it.

Presently our fields are too small, too beat up and undermaintained. There are too many teams practicing to ever rest them for maintenance and quality control.

The number of teams with professional coaches in town is under thirty. The number with volunteer coaches is in the hundreds if not over 1,000. For all its longevity and fame, the Coldwell-Banker Shootout is not an event for the teams with professional coaches, it is a purely recreational event. It has to use venues across the entire city and many of the visitors complain about that because if they have two kids in two age groups playing they are spread from Jacobs Park on Fairview in the West to Mehl Park on River Rd. near Dodge in the East. That is not the way to welcome visitors!

Soccer is for people from age 5 to 55. There are teams at all ages and ability levels. They are forced to overuse the present facilities so they are almost worthless for tournament play.

Let's support the wider group in this area and build fine, large multiuse sports complex that can be used for soccer, lacrosse, and football!

[Report this comment](#)

**15. Comment by Gene M. (#5430) — April 20,2008 @ 8:46AM**

Ratings:   -6 +8

IN FAVOR 9

NET IF-2

What the heck are we even talking about spend MORE of MY MONEY on another sports facility when we have spent TENS of MILLIONS on TEP!!!!!!

Baseball is gone, Thanks to Grijalva and Chucky Huck, so send these rich soccer kids there to play.

We've already sunk MILLIONS into that black hole why not save the money and use it for something other than a For Rent sign.

[Report this comment](#)

**16. Comment by sam a. (low gear) — April 20,2008 @ 8:50AM**

IN FAVOR 12

NET IF-4

Ratings:   -7 +11

There is something real class in having a horse racing and stabling facility in an urban area. Being rustic enhances the charm. Executive sky boxes are not always the answer. The wind at the fair grounds can make racing an unpleasant experience and who wants to go to Marana? In years to come Rillito will be come more and more unique in the landscape whereas soccer fields will become more of the same.

[Report this comment](#)

17. Comment by Wilma W. (Wilmawilcat) — *April 20,2008 @ 8:52AM*

Ratings:   -10 +9

OPPOSED 10

NET 0

Ed Moore is out of office; a lot of people wanted him out, and with good reason. He's an arrogant guy who never learns.

Quoth Ed Moore: "Mistakes were made."

And he made them. Apparently, he is still making them.

[Report this comment](#)

18. Comment by Peter K. (Sweet Pete) — *April 20,2008 @ 8:59AM*

Ratings:   -6 +15

IN FAVOR 16

NET IF-10

We've let the Sidewinders start packing. We're basically throwing out Spring Training Teams, shutting the gate on Horse Racing. I know, lets put signs up on I-10 at Houghton and Tangerine that read "Winter Visitors Are Not Welcome! There's Not A Darn Thing To Do Here So Keep On Going To Phoenix And Spend Your Dollars There!"

[Report this comment](#)

19. Comment by Kia K. (Sunset) — *April 20,2008 @ 9:09AM*

Ratings:   -10 +5

OPPOSED 6

NET IF-5

Ed Moore continues to be the playground bully of Tucson - and nothing good ever comes out of his rants except wage fights and negativity.

Now he's fighting with the kids and attacking the adults who can speak on their behalf.

**"Just because they can trot out a bunch of kids in uniform doesn't make it the right thing for the community." Ed Moore**

This comment is right in line with Moore's traditional way of thinking. We are talking thousands of kids who would benefit from such a sports venue.

Children's sports vs. gambling. One (playing fields) would provide a safe playing atmosphere for thousands of children and also bring revenue via many types of tournaments; the second (horse racing) would be for the sole purpose of providing a gambling place for 4 weeks a year.

Many cities across the U.S. have invested in creating soccer venues and those venues bring in millions a year while at the same time providing a safe, clean playing atmosphere for all the community's children.

If it's the historic clubhouse designation that Moore cares about then I believe that poster #11 has the answer.

[Report this comment](#)

20. Comment by Steve G. (sgodwin) — April 20,2008 @ 9:13AM

Ratings:   -6 +10

IN FAVOR 11  
NET IF-4

Put a giant soccer complex in Marana. Keep the track.

[Report this comment](#)

21. Comment by t c. (trishiae) — April 20,2008 @ 9:18AM

Ratings:   -11 +6

OPPOSED 7  
NET IF-5

Typical Tucson-living in the past instead of moving forward. Trying to maintain a horribly dilapidated horsetrack to preserve a month's worth of revenue every year, rather than converting the space to a year-round venue that will generate revenue from the soccer clubs who practice there monthly and the out of town travelers who visit town for tournaments-does Mr. Moore also oppose the Ft. Lowell tournament and the millions of dollars it brings to the city each year-much more than horse racing!!

And, oh by the way, the only professional sport that could keep its seats full and generate revenue in Tucson is major league soccer. Not ice hockey, or baseball, as we keep seeing each team evaporate year after year. But, why would we want to establish Tucson as soccer-friendly to an MLS expansion team and generate more revenue like that? Better to live in the past with Mr. Moore.

[Report this comment](#)

22. Comment by david s. (waterdave) — April 20,2008 @ 9:51AM

Ratings:   -5 +8

IN FAVOR 9  
NET IF-3

there are enough open land the city and county owns that could be used for soccer fields leave the track alowne or face a private law suit in the billions.

[Report this comment](#)

23. Comment by Robert S. (rstar1) — April 20,2008 @ 9:51AM

Ratings:   -5 +4

IN FAVOR 5  
NET OPP-1

Here's an idea: now that spring training teams won't uss the brand new tax supported stadium we built for them and are leaving for more profitable waters and since most of the people playing soccer tend to be from that area of town, convert TEP to a soccer arena and kill two birds with one stone!

[Report this comment](#)

24. Comment by Sean P. (floppa) — April 20,2008 @ 10:35AM

Ratings:   -4 +7

OPPOSED 8  
NET OPP-3

"Let's see if the community really wants to tear down something that would cost \$38 million to replace so a bunch of high-paid soccer coaches can make more money," he said.

HUH? High Paid soccer coaches?? Lets do the math...15 players, 120 dollars a month each, comes out to almost 22 thousand dollars a year.

Now two practices a week at at least two hours a practice, uniforms, tournaments from Vegas, Phoenix, to San Diego. Gas, hotel expenses, food....you seeing where I am getting at? 22,000 dollars would probably mean maybe a 5 thousand dollar profit. Now is 5 grand worth putting up with some of these soccer parents....absolutely not!

I volunteer coach, and it takes a lot of time and money out of my work schedule, there is no way that you can make a living being a coach for a club team. Scare tactic from a guy that likes to bully people is what I am seeing from Ed Moore.

[Report this comment](#)

25. Comment by sam a. (low gear) — *April 20,2008 @ 10:40AM*

Ratings:   -2 +4

OPPOSED 5

NET OPP-2

Moore prided himself on his expertise of military history. Is he channeling Patton?

[Report this comment](#)

26. Comment by Gene M. (#5430) — *April 20,2008 @ 10:50AM*

Ratings:   -5 +5

IN FAVOR 6

NET 0

Robert S. is absolutely right.  
Use the tax funded Black Hole that is TEP!  
The baseball teams have left. It's empty now, use it for something other than Chucky Huck's dry cleaning.  
Save Racing in Tucson

[Report this comment](#)

27. Comment by Nicolas R. (Nick R) — *April 20,2008 @ 11:20AM*

Ratings:   -6 +7

OPPOSED 8

NET OPP-2

Ed Moore is the perfect advocate for the horse racing community because he closely resembles the rearmost portion of that animal.

Keeping this valuable midtown property set aside for horse racing a few weeks each year is a huge waste. Interest in horse racing is low and dropping. Horse racing can't pay its own way, and hasn't been able to for decades. The facility is a wreck and not worth spending money on. Moore and the horse racing community have been offered many other options, but Moore always finds fault with them.

As a taxpayer with no kids, I want to see this property used to its greatest community potential, and not just allowed to molder away for most of the year. Demand for field sports is increasing, particularly for soccer and lacrosse.

Ed, your arguments have no merit. Please give us a break and fade away with some class.

[Report this comment](#)

28. Comment by Nicolas R. (Nick R) — *April 20,2008 @ 11:26AM*

Ratings:   -5 +4

OPPOSED 5

NET 0

19. Comment by Kia K. (Sunset) is right on.

"Ed Moore continues to be the playground bully of Tucson - and nothing good ever comes out of his rants except wage fights and negativity.

Now he's fighting with the kids and attacking the adults who can speak on their behalf."

Ed has been a bully and a blowhard for as long as I can remember. Does anyone recall his failed coup of the Board of Supervisors back in the early 1990s? That ridiculous foray coordinated by Mr. Moore cost the county MILLIONS of dollars in lawsuit settlements.

Shoot, if we had invested those millions, perhaps we could build the horse racing folks a new facility. Horse racers, you need to thank Ed for wasting the money that could have been used on a new track.

[Report this comment](#)

29. Comment by fernando s. (mando1) — *April 20,2008 @ 11:27AM*

Ratings:   -6 +5

IN FAVOR 6  
NET OPP-1

USE TEP FOR SOCCER!!!

[Report this comment](#)

30. Comment by Gene M. (#5430) — *April 20,2008 @ 12:50PM*

Ratings:   -3 +3

IN FAVOR 4  
NET 0

So what will Chucky Huck use TEP for? I heard he wants to have concerts and car shows, maybe the Tanque Verde Swap meet? TEP is a Black Hole for our tax dollars. Will all of baseball gone use it for kids soccer. I'm sure kids would feel pretty neat playing in that stadium. That is a better use than car shows and swap meets.

[Report this comment](#)

31. Comment by Scott B. (sberman) — *April 20,2008 @ 1:01PM*

Ratings:   -3 +8

OPPOSED 9  
NET OPP-5

All you guys calling for soccer to move TEP are showing your ignorance. The stadium is designed specifically for minor league BASEBALL. You cannot play soccer there. Not to mention, it's only one field. Have you seen the soccer fields adjacent to TEP/Kino? They look like a dirt bike tracks. That's the other part of the equation here folks, the county has not provided ANY, do you here me, ANY soccer facilities that come close to the premium venues in Scottsdale, Phoenix, Vegas and Southern California. Our fields in Tucson categorically suck. It's time to move on and make Tucson the soccer meca it should be cause it's a beautiful place that families love to visit and would flock to for tournaments if the facilites were not so sub-par. I'd be curious to know how much Tucson money goes to metropolitan Phoenix through families going there for their kids to play cause our facilities here are soooo bad.

[Report this comment](#)

32. Comment by Russell H. (#6229) — *April 20,2008 @ 2:40PM*

Ratings:   -5 +3

IN FAVOR 4  
NET OPP-2

Build a giant domed stadium. That is what Tucson needs. Indoor horse racing. Why not? Soccer in 110 degree heat is not in the best interest of the sport. Football indoors, Baseball indoors. Conventions indoors.

[Report this comment](#)

33. Comment by pat h. (mulder1010) — *April 20,2008 @ 2:55PM*

Ratings:   -3 +5

OPPOSED 6  
NET OPP-2

Total scare tactic. From 1995-1997 I coached competitive baseball in Denver and was paid to do that. The team consisted of 10-12 year olds and played a 60-90 game season, Feb-August. The team traveled mostly in the front range area. Each year I was paid \$1k. That basically offset my losses in my time from my real job and my food, gas, and hotel expenses in travel. I made more as a head coach at high school in Denver than coaching competitive teams for a shorter season.

[Report this comment](#)

34. Comment by Cash G. (#5931) — *April 20,2008 @ 5:01PM*

Ratings:   -2 +5

IN FAVOR 6

NET IF-3

Where ever the soccer fields are built someone needs to set up a plan to maintain them. The fields we have had built are disasters because of no money for maintenance.

If the area near I-10 was used, a sports authority could be established that could receive lease payments from the businesses that located near there ( hotels, restaurants, etc. )I don't think that is possible at the Rillito site. That money could keep the fields in top condition with out being a burden on the tax payers.

[Report this comment](#)

35. Comment by George D. (gnpnaz) — *April 20,2008 @ 5:02PM*

Ratings:   -4 +6

IN FAVOR 7

NET IF-2

Even if it is only 1 month per yr for the horse racing and longer season for the soccer what it boils down to is what draws most of the tourist, (tourist as in snow birds not tourist only here for one tournament), activity here in Tucson? With the spring training leaving and now the soccer moms and dads wanting to do away with the horse racing what besides Old Tucson and the other tourist traps does Tucson have to hold the snowbird interest and \$\$\$'s? Nothing. Soccer is a sport that does draw attention and crowds, but not what the soccer moms and dads would like you to think. And when those crowds are here it is only for one weekend at the most. Then the leave and don't come back until next yr. Sure there is inter city play, Tucson vs Phoenix etc but that really does not generate much in revenue for one day of play per weekend. Bigger money draw from the track with the races and stabeling and feed of the horses, not to mention he cut from the income taxes from bets, (better NOT be any betting on he soccer games or there will be no soccer games anymore as it is illegal do do so).

But as has been said already why not leave the race track alone and go to other lands in the city/county ownership and develop them for the soccer. use the money wisely, (hard for city and county to do I know), and have both.

[Report this comment](#)

36. Comment by George D. (gnpnaz) — *April 20,2008 @ 5:06PM*

Ratings:   -1 +7

IN FAVOR 8

NET IF-7

If the area near I-10 was used, a sports authority could be established that could receive lease payments from the businesses that located near there ( hotels, restaurants, etc. )

What area around I-10 are you talking about? Most of the area around I-10 on the south side is privately owned/developed land and so on all the way to Marana. Good luck getting lease payments from land owners for THEIR land.

[Report this comment](#)

37. Comment by MAC M. (#83753) — *April 20,2008 @ 6:12PM*

Ratings:   -3 +6

IN FAVOR 7

NET IF-3

It's easy to sit back and call active citizens "bullies" especially when most of the naysayers don't do much of anything but sit on their tushes when things could be done to prevent mistakes by city planning officials before the mistakes happen. Those who think that everything old is ugly and needs tearing down are the same ones who wander the streets of downtown Tucson today and wonder what ever happened to the charm and history that used to make central Tucson a beautiful and historic place to visit. The erection in the 70's of huge chunks of concrete like the eyesore La Placita complex downtown obviously destroyed blocks and blocks of barrios of history that would have been much more enjoyable today if they had been restored instead of being destroyed to make way for questionable "progress". It lookis like the same thing is still happening nearly 40 years later. The Rillito track is a piece of early Tucson history. Rather than spending just meager amounts to fix up storm damage issues, the city could be developing a class restoration that would improve the racing facility into something first class and really nice. This kind of investment would not only help preserve Tucson's image of being an early American Western community that did have ties to horses. Restored properly, the now eyesore

track could become a special destination that could attract visitors that would much rather see a beautiful historic restoration instead of a bunch of soccer fields that could actually built in several other locations. We might even increase the racing season; and really getting behind something unique that this city needs badly to attract people to see we can build things that look a little more attractive K than a Walgreens and a Circle k on every single block of this grid-ugly town.

**38. Comment by Cash G. (#5931) — April 20,2008 @ 7:08PM**

Ratings:   -1 +3

IN FAVOR 4

NET IF-2

Actually there is a large plot of land owned by the city and the county near I-10 and El Camino Del Cerro. No use has been proposed for over 80 years. Now that it might be a viable spot for a large soccer complex as well as ball fields, We see the proposal for the bus station to go there.

It's obvious to me that if Rillito goes it's only a matter of time before some developer gets their hands on that area and damm the soccer community.

The bureacrats know they can't buffalo the horse people. They also know that the soccer community does not have the political know how to keep the fields when it's time for development.

Folks, for those of you who are opened minded enough ,that is the rest of the story.

[Report this comment](#)

**39. Comment by christopher p. (aswho) — April 20,2008 @ 7:49PM**

Ratings:   -4 +5

IN FAVOR 6

NET IF-1

Screw lousy soccer! Horse racing has been there for years! Its way more entertaing than watching a bunch of fools running after a ball that ends up with a score of 1 to 0!

[Report this comment](#)

**40. Comment by diane m. (dmro) — April 20,2008 @ 9:28PM**

Ratings:   -4 +2

IN FAVOR 3

NET OPP-2

Rillito Race Track pays rent TO the county, for use of the facility. Soccer costs the taxpayers.

Rillito EMPLOYS residents, provides entertainment for thousands of people each day the track is open, and on its closing day this year, had a head count of over 9,000 people through the gates, The same day the county hosted the Tucson Rodeo Finals and a championship golf tournament.

The track facilities are not up to snuff because the county has not lived up to its agreement to keep its facilities for horseracing in good repair. This is not the fault of Rillito Park Racetrack, but the fault of the Lessor (Pima County). The horsemen have a valid lease, the county is violating its obligations thereunder.

Pima County promised the horsemen a new racetrack and the horsemen agreed to move racing if they did agree - takes more than a few months to build a racetrack - so the county has re-nigged on its promise to keep racing alive in Pima County.

It would be cheaper for the taxpayers to refurbish the existing facilities.

Why can't the two sports co-exist or does the county have other plans for the land once the soccer fad is over.

Incidentally, a couple of years ago Pima County had more soccer fields than the city of Chicago. Go figure.

[Report this comment](#)

**41. Comment by Wilma W. (Wilmawilcat) — April 21,2008 @ 6:24AM**

Ratings:   -1 +2

OPPOSED 3

NET OPP-1

37. Comment by MAC M. (#83753):

That so-called active citizen you're referring to would not be Ed Moore. It's better if he sits on his tush; when he gets up, that's when mistakes are made.

Ed Moore: "Mistakes were made."

That was in response to his mishandling of northwest side development.

Everyone who suffers through northwest side traffic can thank Ed Moore for allowing growth without providing infrastructure.

It's a legacy they're still living with -- and probably will be living with for the next couple decades.

[Report this comment](#)

42. Comment by Rob L. (#668) — April 21,2008 @ 10:59AM

IN FAVOR 2

NET IF-1

Ask someone to do the math for you. The soccer clubs pay rent for the fields for practice and games and liottle or no maintenance is done on them we do not have enough fields to let them resta nd come back in good shape, our

Ratings:   -0 +1

#40-fields have a reputation across th west as being the worst. Payments to the county by the horse racing (which I also enjoy) pale in comparison to the expenses and upkeep the county has tp put into this old (not historic - Tucson seems to not know the difference) building. We shortchange ourselves in this cmmunity with the amazing lack of park facilities compared with other communities.

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IN FAVOR MEANS THAT THE WRITER AND ALL THE PEOPLE WHO RESPONDED TO THIS BLOG ARE BASICALLY IN FAVOR OF WHAT ED MOORE IS SUGGESTING

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266

68%

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127

32%