

## Earthquakes Soccer LLC Update

### Team Update

Earthquakes Soccer, LLC is owned by Oakland Athletics Managing Partner Lew Wolff and John Fisher and works in partnership with the Athletics Investment Group. The San Jose Earthquakes announced on **July 18<sup>th</sup> that they will acquire an MLS franchise and begin play in MLS in 2008**. The Earthquakes' territory includes the entire Bay Area and Sacramento. In addition to regular season MLS games, which will include two matches against the LA Galaxy, they are guaranteed two international exhibitions with sides such as the Mexican National Team or Chivas.

### Venue

*2008 & 2009* – The Earthquakes are finalizing arrangements for a temporary venue in the South Bay, with the possibility of playing several games against opponents such as the LA Galaxy, in a larger venue such as the McAfee Coliseum in Oakland.

*Permanent Venue* – The City of San Jose has entered into an exclusive negotiating period with Lew Wolff and his development partners with a goal of **developing an 18,000 to 20,000 seat soccer stadium on a site near the San Jose Airport**, off of Coleman Avenue in San Jose. With the approval of the San Jose city council and the support of the local community, the project can move forward.

This site will be a mixed-use (retail, hotel, commercial) development, which may include up to six soccer fields. This stadium will be constructed without public funding or private debt; instead it will be financed through a real estate entitlement process on another piece of land within San Jose. Earthquakes Soccer's objective is to have the stadium constructed and occupied by April of 2010.

### Impact of Venue on San Jose

*Economic* – The stadium will add a significant entertainment facility to what San Jose now offers, thus providing a positive impact on local tourism. Soccer Silicon Valley, a grassroots organization which supports the construction of a permanent home for soccer in the Bay Area, published a [Visitor Projection Report](#) which concluded that a new stadium would generate up to six million visitors in its first ten years. If the stadium site also contains additional fields for regional youth soccer, those numbers will grow even larger. **The project the Earthquakes propose will provide San Jose with one of the best outdoor stadiums in the country.** Because San Jose is lacking a modern stadium at the present time, it is losing valuable business to other cities.

*Family and Children* – Major League Soccer provides individuals and families the ability to see top professionals at manageable costs. The Earthquakes will provide the soccer community with players who will be accessible to local youth participants, host soccer clinics and soccer camps, and engage in numerous community activities and charities focused on local children and families. A simple look at what existing Major League Soccer teams have accomplished will clearly show the resources that the Earthquake will bring to the South Bay.

### Community Outreach Efforts

*Tryout Tour* – The Earthquakes will hold an **eight-city 'try out' tour of Northern California, which will include the opportunity to try out for the Earthquakes.** Youth soccer clinics, sponsor promotions and season ticket sales information will also be part of these events.

*Player Development Initiative* – Although the Earthquakes are not required by MLS to establish their official 'youth development academy' in 2008, they plan to begin developing a youth development system immediately, including teams in the U-17 and U-15 age groups. These teams will wear Earthquakes uniforms and become part of our player pool for the Earthquakes reserves and senior team.

*Youth Camps & Clinics* – The Earthquakes camp and clinic programs will be designed to reach everyone in the soccer community, regardless of age or sex: recreational youth players, elite youth players, and adult players, as well as providing coaching and referee education. The Earthquakes anticipate offering programs year round, throughout the Bay Area.

#### How to Support the Earthquakes

The Earthquakes are very excited about the possibility of having a new soccer stadium in San Jose; however, they need your help. The next step is for the San Jose city council to approve the Earthquakes' stadium proposal in two council votes this fall.

**The subcommittee council vote is on October 29, 2007**

**The full council vote is on November 20, 2007**

You can support the Earthquakes by **contacting your city council member and telling them you support the Earthquakes' stadium project** and why having professional soccer in San Jose is important to you, even if you are not a resident of San Jose. You can contact the San Jose city council members as follows:

District 1: Pete Constant	<a href="mailto:district1@sanjoseca.gov">district1@sanjoseca.gov</a>
District 2: Forrest Williams	<a href="mailto:forrest.Williams@sanjoseca.gov">forrest.Williams@sanjoseca.gov</a>
District 3: Sam Liccardo	<a href="mailto:district3@sanjoseca.gov">district3@sanjoseca.gov</a>
District 4: Kansen Chu	<a href="mailto:district4@sanjoseca.gov">district4@sanjoseca.gov</a>
District 5: Nora Campos	<a href="mailto:district5@sanjoseca.gov">district5@sanjoseca.gov</a>
District 6: Pierluigi Oliverio	<a href="mailto:district6@sanjoseca.gov">district6@sanjoseca.gov</a>
District 7: Madison Nyugen	<a href="mailto:district7@sanjoseca.gov">district7@sanjoseca.gov</a>
District 8: David Cortese	<a href="mailto:dave.cortese@sanjoseca.gov">dave.cortese@sanjoseca.gov</a>
District 9: Judy Chirco	<a href="mailto:judy.chirco@sanjoseca.gov">judy.chirco@sanjoseca.gov</a>
District 10: Nancy Pyle	<a href="mailto:district10@sanjoseca.gov">district10@sanjoseca.gov</a>

Local support was instrumental in bringing the Earthquakes back to the Bay Area for the 2008 MLS season. Thank you in advance for your dedication and continued support as we build a home for soccer in San Jose.