

53:01-61:30 Dr. Russ Sojourner, President The Classical Academy

“Sunset. As you all know, I have tried to give you an update about where we have been over the past several months. This is my monthly update. It gives me an opportunity to speak about what I know is floating around out about the agreement. And so some of this will be a reminder to you.

Sunset approached me, me personally, six months ago, and asked me this question: “If an amphitheater is built, and if on a concert night in the summer there’s nothing else going on at TCA would you consider renting your parking lot?”

And my answer was, “Sure. We consider renting a lot of facilities here. BUT, Sunset, the chance that there’s nothing going on here is almost zero. But in the middle of the summer on a Saturday night, there may be a few Saturdays where if there’s a concert, there may be nothing else going on, but it’s gonna be hard to find any dates, but we will consider, renting our parking lot for a nominal fee—nominal being in the hundreds of dollars, not the tens or hundreds of thousands of dollars—like we rent lots of our facilities.

Drive by our...since Becca’s here...drive by Central Elementary on a Sunday and there’s adult soccer games going on. We’ve rented to...we’ve had long term rental agreements with churches in our gyms. We rent to lots of different organizations. We try to be good neighbors, if we can do so without interference to our facilities, and if those agreements **ever** start impinging upon.. on the life of TCA--if there were vandalism, if there were theft, if there were things that were going on that we didn’t appreciate--we would end the rental agreement. And we have the same possibility with the current agreement with Sunset.

It’s easy to get that agreement confused with what we’re hearing about in the media as Sunset prepares to present to the city planning commission on the Ninth of November. I was literally communicating to the owner of Sunset several times today. I’ve communicated to him up til today and my strong [pause] words to him were, “We won’t support the city planning commission meeting, we won’t be there because we have NO agreement with Sunset. That’s why I appreciate Mr. Fuqua’s comment that they’re acting as if we have an agreement... They know we don’t have an agreement.

And so whatever they’re presenting to the city planning commission does identify the two lots that they would potentially build for us as proposed parking. They would like me to be there. They would like Kevin to be there to say that these are all the things that TCA would benefit from, and we won’t be there. And I’ve been very clear to the owner of Sunset that we’ll wait and see what happens with the city, the city planning commission, the city council. We’ll wait and see if they’re going to build an amphitheater, and we are currently evaluating their proposed terms and conditions to us.

I am reminding you all, we have no monetary agreement with Sunset for proposed anything. They’ve put together some terms that they would like us to consider and we’ll talk about some of those later on, and our job is to determine whether those conditions are satisfactory to TCA or whether they’re not. But I have been very clear with the Sunset team that we will make no decision tonight [Oct. 17], we’ll make no decision next month, we likely won’t make any decision...I won’t make any recommendation to you [speaking to the board] until likely the early Spring because it’s gonna to take us that long to figure out whether these terms and conditions are something that that would be acceptable to us.

I'll use as an example Mr. Willis's solution to our carpool woes, as I appreciate that very much [laughter]..., One of the things that we are going to do is contract with the city and traffic engineer to figure out what might an access road, what might it do to our carpool situation? Might that be a solution? Might that solution be equivalent to the one that Mr. Willis is offering, or might it not? So, there's lots and lots and lots of things that have to be done before I will recommend to you anything.

There's lots of conversation about the \$250,000 agreement that Sunset had with the Discovery Canyon Campus. I want to be clear because I've talked to that CFO a lot, D-20 did not back out of that agreement. D-20 took the \$250,000; they were going to offer DCC parking spaces from now into eternity, or at least for decades. Sunset came to them and said they don't need DCC's parking lots anymore because they found additional parking lots at Compassion or other places like that. So, Sunset said, "D-20 you can keep the \$250,000 but we don't need your parking anymore." *Not because they're going to have parking at TCA, I want to make sure that is very clear*, but because they found other parking. So, D-20 didn't back out. Sunset cancelled that agreement and allowed D-20 to keep that \$250,000. We have no such agreement with Sunset, as I have specified before.

So I like you all...like you mentioned, James, I'm interested in seeing what happens at the city. I'm interested in seeing if the amphitheater will be approved. I'm interested in seeing what we might be able to do to benefit TCA, and I've been very clear that if a road were to be built from Spectrum loop to TCA, it might be a benefit to TCA; I've been very clear that if they were to build a parking lot close to our property, we could use it. We could use it during the day. And, we have often talked about the need for parking on high traffic days like Veteran's Day,, grandparent's day, some of our curriculum days when there are lots and lots and lots of amazing volunteers here... at field days. And so I'm interested in what that might look like at no cost to TCA. I'm interested in knowing, as I know you are, what might be a lease agreement that Sunset might propose so we can decide whether that lease agreement is worth, being involved or worth not being involved; so I'm all ears at this point, listening to Sunset in their proposals and wanting to see what happens in November. If that Amphitheater isn't approved by the city, this conversation is moot from now on. If that Amphitheater is approved by the city, then I'll be interested in evaluating and recommending to you and having to continue this conversation about what those parameters might look like.

As you know, there are some parameters that Sunset has proposed to us, some lease agreements based on renting those two parking lots.. some other agreements. I wanna be clear that to, to the folks that are in this audience, many of whom have heard me say before, I will never sacrifice the safety and security of our children ever. It is why I'm here as president. It's why I signed up to be president here because there's nothing more important to me, and I'll make sure that no agreement is ever made with any other entity where safety and security would be a concern to our children. So that's the update. In a lot of ways, I don't have much update for you because I'm interested in seeing what happens in November. But we do know we have a letter of intent from Sunset. And we know that we're in a... that we are all fact finding; we're all trying to figure out what's palatable... what might be interesting to TCA; what might benefit TCA and our community.. I'm interested in seeing... engaging in the conversation and continuing to engage in the conversation with our neighbors, the neighbors that have

spoken to us tonight, TCA Parents, and all of that is not lost on any of us, and it will be part of our conversation.”

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