



April 23, 2018

Carlos Cordeiro, President  
United States Soccer Federation, Inc.  
1801 South Prairie Avenue  
Chicago, Illinois 60614

*via Email*

Dear Mr. Cordeiro:

I appreciate your taking time from your busy schedule as a co-chair of the United Bid Committee seeking to secure the 2026 FIFA World Cup to respond to my April 13<sup>th</sup> letter.

While the proposal sketched out in my letter may not, in your mind, rise to the same level of significance as a World Cup, it does present a unique and important opportunity to advance American soccer. I believe that the \$250 million that I am personally committed to investing would be one of the largest single investments by an individual in the history of the sport in this country. During the 8 years leading up to the 2026 World Cup and long after the thrill of being a host nation has faded away, this significant infusion of capital would produce immediate and long-lasting benefits for the game of soccer in this country

So, while hosting the World Cup is a goal which all of us dedicated to advancing U.S. soccer can rally behind, I nonetheless am more than a little disappointed that you, as USSF's most visible and influential executive, could not spare even a few hours to personally explore the unprecedented opportunity represented by my proposal. After all, the Federation styles itself as the governing body of U.S. soccer, motivated solely by the desire to promote, strengthen and grow the sport in this country—an objective which my initiative would further tremendously.

I am also disappointed that your response to my letter seems to say that even a meeting with an unidentified "leadership team" will not happen unless I satisfy a pre-condition—presenting you a "detailed" written proposal. There are several reasons why we are unable to comply with that request.

First of all, my earlier letter makes clear enough what I am proposing for discussion at the initial meeting: Investment into men's professional soccer of a minimum of \$250 million in new capital, predicated on USSF's willingness to grant at a minimum a 10-year runway to come into full compliance with certain of the requirements of the Professional League Standards (if they remain in existence) and USSF structuring itself as a truly independent, unbiased governing body for our sport. There is no doubt that this topic will keep us fully engaged for hours during an initial meeting. Time is of the essence if we are to move forward with the goal of beginning to play in the 2019 season, and we should not delay an initial meeting for the purpose of figuring out if both parties can agree in principle to work in good faith on an initiative that fits within these parameters. If so, then we can get into more details during later stages of the process.

In addition, as you know, it is our opinion that USSF, at least during Sunil Gulati's administration, has been too closely intertwined with MLS/SUM and has behaved discriminatorily and unfairly toward the NASL and its teams. Accordingly, there is reluctance on our part to share detailed information about our plans and proposals with USSF at this juncture. We doubt that MLS/SUM has ever been required to share the detail of their budgets or expansion or other strategic plans with USSF leadership. Instead, the purpose of the first meeting should be to determine if we can re-establish a sufficient level of trust and goodwill to allow us to move forward in good faith to pursue this potential opportunity.

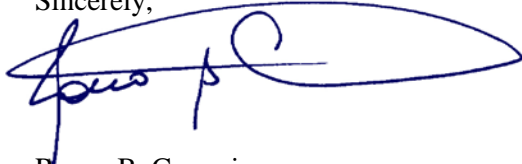
In its early years of MLS, USSF allowed the league to harness the financial resources of wealthy individuals like Phil Anschutz, Lamar Hunt and Robert Kraft. All I am asking is that USSF afford me the same opportunity to help my league grow.

In that spirit, I am making myself available to meet with you any time this week, and I ask that you do the same. I, along with other NASL owners, have already suffered tremendous losses caused by USSF's decision to revoke our league's Division II sanctioning. Given those losses and the urgency necessitated by preparations for the 2019 season, I hope that you reconsider your availability to meet. If you remain unwilling to find a few hours for a personal meeting, then I am willing to agree in principle to at least begin the dialogue without you, provided that the "leadership team" you designate consists of senior executive officers and Board members with sufficient authority to ensure that the meeting is productive.

Please email me with a suggested date and time and the names of the USSF representatives that will attend the meeting. I sincerely hope that your name will be on the list.

Unless you decline my invitation to meet this week or our letters otherwise become public, I do not plan to make any of our correspondence public before April 27, 2018.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Rocco B. Commisso', with a large, stylized flourish extending to the right.

Rocco B. Commisso  
Chairman, New York Cosmos

cc: Members of USSF Board of Directors