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## Publisher's Perspective

All in Just 12 Pages!

Our March issue of *Irvine Community News & Views* covers a lot of ground in just 12 pages — I hope you'll read them all.

- >> Our front-page story focuses on our **Irvine Community Poll** and the strong early opposition to the FivePoint-City of Irvine June 5th ballot measure that would replace the Veterans Cemetery in the Great Park with massive office, commercial and industrial development.
- >> On page 3, former Irvine Mayor **Larry Agran** takes a hard look at special interests and how they are destroying American democracy and representative government — at the national level and here in Irvine as well.
- >> On page 5, **Dr. Harvey Liss** continues his series on "Healthful Living As We Age" with an uplifting piece about the truly remarkable daily Lunch Program open to all at the Lakeview Senior Center.
- >> Our centerfold **Community Calendar** pages — pages 6 and 7 — continue to be a reference point for Irvine residents eager to discover some of the many wonderful programs and events offered month after month.
- >> Three of our regular contributing writers, **Carolyn Inmon**, **Dr. Phyllis Agran**, and **Larry Agran** team up on page 8 to offer their perspectives on the high school shooting in Parkland, Florida.
- >> On page 9, two of our Science, Technology & Environment writers, **Carl Mariz** and **Ed Sharman**, continue to follow-up with what the City is doing — and failing to do — to meet its obligations under State law to combat climate change.
- >> Of course, pages 10 and 11 feature our always-interesting **Open Forum and Community Voices**.
- >> Page 12 is a political advertisement that *Irvine Community News & Views* is proud to publish — and to help fund. Please read it.

As always, we are grateful to you — our *ICNV* readers — for your support of our community newspaper.

*Franklin J. Lunding*



Franklin J. Lunding, Publisher and Editor

## Irvine Community Poll

### Survey Shows Strong Opposition to FivePoint Development Measure Put on June 5th Ballot

#### Irvine Community Poll

#### Question:

Do you favor or oppose the City Council action to replace the Veterans Cemetery in the Great Park with zoning for developer FivePoint to build 812,000 square feet of office and commercial development?

#### Results

(first 500 respondents)

Favor 8.3%



Oppose 91.7%



Now headed for the June 5th ballot, the Zone-Change Ordinance adopted by the City Council on a 3-to-2 vote remains very unpopular among Irvine residents, according to the latest survey results from the Irvine Community Poll.

A City ballot measure that would grant FivePoint Communities development rights to build massive office and industrial projects on the 125-acre site in the Great Park previously approved for a Veterans Cemetery is strongly opposed by Irvine residents, according to a continuing citywide survey conducted by the Irvine Community Poll, an entity owned by *Irvine Community News & Views*.

#### June 5th ballot measure

Three City Councilmembers — Mayor **Donald Wagner** and Councilmembers **Christina Shea** and **Melissa Fox** — put the development measure on the June 5th ballot at the behest of multi-billion-dollar corporate developer FivePoint. (Councilmembers **Jeff Lalloway** and **Lynn Schott** were opposed.)

FivePoint and its three-member Council majority have tried for months to present the ballot measure as simply a question of where to put the Veterans Cemetery — at its original site in the

Great Park or, miles away, on FivePoint property next to the I-5/I-405 freeway interchange, a site that the developer tries to make more attractive by referring to it as "the strawberry fields."

But the public doesn't seem to be buying what developer FivePoint is selling. By a remarkable 91.7 percent to 8.3 percent, residents say they are against the zoning ordinance that the City Council put on the June 5th ballot. Ordinance No. 17-08 is a massive, complicated City zone-change ordinance that is the central element in a development scheme enabling FivePoint to take ownership of the original Great Park Veterans Cemetery site (next to Irvine Boulevard) and build more than 800,000 square feet of office and industrial space. (See map on page 2.)

#### Development and traffic replacing Veterans Cemetery

The City-FivePoint ballot measure, if approved by Irvine voters, would permit a wide range

→ continued on page 2 →

→ continued from page 1 → **Survey Shows Strong Opposition to FivePoint Development Measure**

of office, commercial and industrial uses — everything from research and development to manufacturing, to large distribution centers and hundreds of support businesses, including auto repair, truck depots, and many more. Later “upzoning” by the City Council could allow for large apartment complexes, with up to 50 units per acre. **The rezoning is expected to bring nearly 10,000 added auto and truck trips daily on Irvine Boulevard, Sand Canyon and Jeffrey.** If the ballot measure passes, FivePoint has said they would re-locate the planned Veterans Cemetery to their property alongside the I-5/I-405 interchange, 3 miles away from the Great Park Veterans Cemetery site. But unlike the Great Park site, FivePoint’s proposed freeway site has not yet been studied; there have been no cost estimates; no planning has been done; and the site has not yet received even preliminary approvals from the State and federal governments.

**Comments from Poll respondents**

The open-ended design of the Irvine Community Poll, inviting extensive comments from Poll respondents, reveals widespread voter opposition to what many have called a “giveaway of our Great Park” to FivePoint, and a Council “sell-out” of Irvine veterans and all Irvine residents.


Daryl Brandino, a resident of north Irvine, commented: “I am fiercely against the decision made by the City Council to sell out Irvine’s citizens and scrap the Veterans Cemetery in the Great Park. The Cemetery would be a perfect way to show patriotism and preserve a lasting legacy.”

Brandino didn’t stop there. He added, “Another massive development project is clearly not needed. A message must be sent to our elected officials that it is their duty to listen to the people and not be influenced by major corporations. We need to set things right by voting against replacing the Veterans Cemetery in the Great Park with development.”

**Pope reacts to Poll**

Edward S. Pope is Chair of the committee to **Save the Veterans Cemetery in the Great Park**, which is urging a **NO** vote on developer FivePoint’s zone-change ordinance on the June 5th ballot. When asked about the Irvine Community Poll results, he said he was encouraged by the early survey results. But Pope,

himself a veteran, a retired high school teacher, and a 46-year resident of Irvine, was frank to say that the poll may not mean much. “Look,” he said, “FivePoint is likely to spend millions in this campaign, just as they have in previous Irvine campaigns. They’ll engage in lies, smears, and they’ll purposely try to mislead and confuse the voters. Why? Because this corrupt, one-sided zone-change ordinance — to replace our planned Veterans Cemetery in the Great Park with massive development — is worth hundreds of millions of dollars in real estate profits to FivePoint. They obviously don’t give a damn about the veterans.”

**Echoing his comments in the Ballot Argument that he and others have submitted, Pope said, “FivePoint is trying to bully their way into the Great Park and push the veterans and Veterans Cemetery out.” Then, already in campaign mode, he added his campaign tag line: “We can’t let them do it. Vote NO on June 5th!”** 

**You can still take our Poll!**  
Remember, the Irvine Community Poll is an opportunity for YOU to let the Irvine community know how YOU feel about this important issue right now! What do YOU think?




To take our Poll, go to:  
[IrvineCommunityNews.org](http://IrvineCommunityNews.org)  
and click on “Community Poll” on the top navigation bar.

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**Ordinance No. 17-08 — the June 5th City ballot measure — would replace the long-planned and approved Veterans Cemetery in the Great Park with massive office, commercial and industrial development. The Veterans Cemetery would then be relocated at the FivePoint freeway site (lower right corner).**



CityWatch by Larry Agran

# “We Call B.S.!”

**“W**e call B.S.!” That’s what high school senior Emma Gonzalez and other surviving teenagers of the Valentine’s Day mass shooting at Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida are saying to the “grownups” — to State legislators, the Governor, Members of Congress, and the President. They are especially “calling out” the craven politicians who take money from the gun lobby and other special interests and, in return, fail to safeguard the public.

**The Corrupt Connection**

Yes, **We Call B.S.!** It’s time to call out the gun lobby and the stranglehold that they have on our politicians. **But it’s time that we also call out the entire corrupt connection between all kinds of powerful special interests and the cowardly elected officials they cultivate and manipulate.** Let’s be honest: This individual and institutional corruption is destroying American Democracy and representative government at every level of our society — nationally, statewide, and at the local level as well.

Yes, it’s time that **We Call B.S.** on the corrupt connection that is at work here in Irvine, too. For years now, developer FivePoint Communities has been running roughshod over Irvine citizens and our City government, getting Councilmembers to rubber-stamp and become cheerleaders for their wildly excessive development schemes.

Front and center, of course, is FivePoint’s complicated “land-swap” — really a land-swindle and land-grab — adopted by the City Council last year. On a 3-to-2 vote, with Councilmembers **Jeff Lalloway** and **Lynn Schott** dissenting, the Council voted to: **first**, abandon the State and Federally approved, and pre-funded, 125-acre Veterans Cemetery in the Great Park; **second**, transfer ownership of the property in the Great Park from the City to FivePoint, along with major zone changes that **replace** the planned Veterans Cemetery with massive, high-intensity development — 812,000 square feet of office, commercial,

manufacturing and industrial development — that will bring 10,000 added daily auto and truck trips to Irvine Boulevard, Sand Canyon, Jeffrey, and other streets throughout Irvine; and **third**, re-locate the Veterans Cemetery to a faraway site, outside the Great Park, next to the busy, noisy, and polluted interchange of the I-5 and I-405 freeways.

Who is helped and who is hurt by this deal that Councilmember Schott has called a “giveaway” of our Great Park? Clearly, multi-billion-dollar developer FivePoint is helped. Mayor **Donald Wagner** admitted as much when he said at a Council meeting last year, “FivePoint is going to make some money off of this. Yep. Yep.”

Well, according to experts, what Wagner calls “some money” amounts to as much as \$500 million or more in quick real estate profits for FivePoint. And, at whose expense? At the expense of the people of Irvine — at the expense of Irvine veterans and their families, and all residents across the City who would lose the promised, beautiful 125-acre Veterans Cemetery in the Great Park, only to find it replaced with intense FivePoint development. Our beautiful Great Park will shrink by 125 acres, or nearly 10 percent.



**“We call B.S.!” High school senior Emma Gonzalez calls out cowardly politicians who are taking money from the NRA and other special interests, and then voting against the public interest.**

Special losers in this “giveaway” are nearby residents, close to the Great Park, who will have to endure tremendous additional traffic, noise, and air pollution — and a diminished quality of life.

**The Wagner-Shea-Fox Money Connection**

Why would three Councilmembers — Mayor Don Wagner and Councilmembers Christina Shea and Melissa Fox — vote for such a lopsided development scheme, now known officially as Ordinance No. 17-08? **The disturbing fact of the matter is that during the past two years, FivePoint and their business and corporate allies spent more than \$1 million to elect pro-developer Don Wagner as Mayor, to re-elect Christina Shea as Councilmember, and, more recently, to shower Councilmember Melissa Fox with thousands of dollars in donations and other political favors.** Wagner, Shea and Fox, in turn, vote the FivePoint development agenda 100 percent of the time, regardless of how much it hurts the people of Irvine.

**Will Irvine Voters Strike Back?**

Teenagers in Parkland, Florida and across America are saying: **“We Call B.S.!”** Here in Irvine, voters are fed up with the whole rotten land-grab scheme cooked up by FivePoint and the City Council. Citizens gathered 19,164 Irvine resident signatures to put Ordinance No. 17-08 on the June 5th ballot — for an up or down vote of the people. Irvine residents now have the chance to **Say NO by Voting NO** on June 5th. If a majority of Irvine voters recognize what Ordinance 17-08 is — a corrupt deal put together by and for FivePoint, aided and abetted by three members of the Irvine City Council who are beholden to the developer — they will **Vote NO.**

The voters’ message must be clear and unmistakable: **We Call B.S.!** **NO, NO, NO.** And if a majority votes **NO** on June 5th, this will, in turn, pave the way for dissenting City Councilmembers **Jeff Lalloway** and **Lynn Schott** to re-introduce their resolution to immediately begin construction of the Veterans Cemetery on the original 125-acre site in the Great Park, where it belongs, and where it has already been designed and approved by all required State agencies and the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs.

*Larry Agran is a former Irvine City Councilmember and a public interest attorney. He served as Mayor of Irvine from 2000-2004.*



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4199 Campus Drive, Suite 550  
Irvine CA 92612.  
Phone: (949) 725-2950  
Email: [Info@IrvineCommunityNews.org](mailto:Info@IrvineCommunityNews.org)

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For Advertising Inquiries:  
Kerrie Mahan 949-725-2950  
[kerrie@irvinecommunitynews.org](mailto:kerrie@irvinecommunitynews.org)

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<b>CYPRESS VILLAGE SHOPPING CENTER</b> Jeffrey & Trabuco • Albertsons • Olive Oil Mediterranean Grill • Honey Pig • Da Luau Hawaiian Grill	<b>OLD MYFORD ROAD &amp; IRVINE BLVD.</b> • Katie Wheeler Library	<b>WALMART SHOPPING CENTER</b> Barranca & Jamboree • APOLA Gyro Grill
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**Senior Life — Youthful Lifestyle**

An ICNV Feature Series On  
Healthful Living As We Age

**The amazing Lakeview Senior Center Kitchen!**

by Harvey H. Liss, Ph.D.

The Lakeview Senior Center (LSC) houses a feature unique in Orange County — a state-of-the-art professional kitchen located right at its Rose Garden Café! The kitchen prepares 30,000 lunches per year, Monday thru Friday (called the Elderly Nutrition Lunch Program), intended for seniors at the incredibly low price of a suggested donation of \$4 for those 60 years old and above, and \$5 cost for those seniors under 60. However, the mantra at the LSC is: "No senior is denied a meal due to inability to donate."



The lunch program for seniors has been operating since the 1990s. Other Senior Centers in Orange County have their meals prepared in a large, commercial kitchen and brought in.

Social contact is encouraged, and is a big part of the program. A typical lunch, picked at random — this one from Thursday, February 8th — is Herbed Rolled Pollock, Lemon Brown Rice, Garlic Green Beans, Fire Roasted Tomato Soup and Cupcakes. The vegetarian option was Herbed Rolled Tofu! The Café doors open at 11:00 a.m. for registration. Lunch service begins at 11:45 a.m., and continues until 12:30 p.m.

The kitchen also prepares 70,000 Meals-On-Wheels per year, and each meal delivery includes a hot lunch, a cold dinner, and a cold breakfast for the next morning. Both the daily lunches and the Meals-On-Wheels program are funded by Federal Grants, via the Older Americans Act. But, more about Meals-On-Wheels in our April issue of ICNV.

**Volunteers Needed**

If you want to have a rewarding experience while helping others, the kitchen and dining room need volunteers as dining room lunch servers and kitchen assistants to pack meals. You will develop new skills and make a difference in the community, while meeting new people and having a great time, socially.

Please contact Jackie Vargas at 949-724-6096 for information.



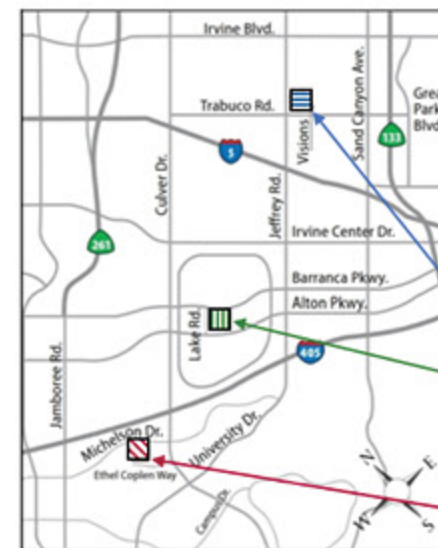
**Enticing lunches**

Especially enticing, the Rose Garden lunches are not what you might expect as "institutional" meals. They are freshly prepared, varied, delicious, and of a quality equivalent to what you might expect in a good restaurant. Every lunch also has a vegetarian option. The lunches are served restaurant-style, delivered to your table by friendly and enthusiastic volunteers. Likewise, you will find your tablemates varied, interesting and enthusiastic.



**IRVINE SENIOR RESOURCES  
Directory of Essentials**

- For full information: about any senior activity or resource: Call or visit any Irvine Senior Center, open M-F, 8am to 6pm
- Website: [IrvineSeniors.org](http://IrvineSeniors.org)
- Activity & Resource Guide: *Irvine Senior Connection* (bi-monthly) Pick up copy and/or subscribe at any Irvine Senior Center (below)
- Irvine Senior Centers:
  - Trabuco Center (TC), (has Fitness Center with Wed evening hours)
  - Lakeview Senior Center (LSC). 20 Lake Road 92604 949-724-6900 Daily lunch served 11:45am -12:30pm, \$4 suggested donation
  - Rancho Senior Center (RSC), (has fitness Center) 3 Ethel Coplen Way 92612 949-724-6800
- Fitness Centers: Must first schedule an orientation by calling RSC or TC. Ask about one-time and annual fees.
- Irvine Adult Day Health Services: 949-262-1123
- Keen Center for Senior Resources: 949-724-6926
- Irvine Meals on Wheels, Cheryl Hanna: 949-724-6910
- Computer Lab: At LSC. Open M-F 8am-6pm. Membership fee is \$17/yr for Irvine residents. Only very few of Irvine's Senior Services are listed above. This list is only intended to get you started!



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Harvey H. Liss, 76, is a 41-year resident of Woodbridge. He was a Project Engineer for that iconic Irvine village during the late 1970s. A licensed Professional Civil Engineer in California, Dr. Liss received his B.C.E. from The Cooper Union, in New York City, and his Ph.D. in Applied Mechanics from NYU. Dr. Liss has had a lifelong interest in maintaining the most healthful lifestyle possible.

# Community Calendar

# March / April 2018



## GOLDEN PARKS

Huell Howser

Location: Great Park Gallery

The legacy left behind by the late TV legend Huell Howser will continue to educate generations on the history and beauty of the Golden State. Tour the diverse climates and communities of California through *Golden Parks: Huell Howser*. This exhibition highlights the Golden Parks that Huell Howser documented throughout his career and emphasizes the importance of their role in cultivating healthy communities. The exhibition is in partnership with Chapman University Leatherby Libraries, home of the Huell Howser Archives.

Free exhibition opening Sunday, March 4, 1-3pm. The exhibition runs through Sunday, May 13.

The Great Park Gallery is located in the Palm Court Arts Complex and is open Thursdays-Fridays, noon-4pm, and Saturdays-Sundays, 10am-4pm. Info: 866-829-3829.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>March</b>						
<b>4</b> Golden Parks: Huell Howser Exhibit. Great Park Gallery. 1-3pm. Info: 866-829-3829	<b>5</b> Toddler Storytime. University Park Library. 11-11:30am. Info: 949-786-4001	<b>6</b> Bingo. Lakeview Senior Center. 12:15-3:15pm. Info: 949-724-6900	<b>7</b> Illuminations Author Series: Ted Chiang. UCI Student Center. 6pm. Info: jrlupton@uci.edu	<b>1</b> Celebrate Purim. Pretend City Children's Museum. 10am-5pm. Info: 949-428-3900	<b>2</b> Seussical the Musical. Woodbridge High School. 7pm. Info: 949-936-7621	<b>3</b> Habitat Recovery and the Ecology of Fire. Fremont Canyon. 8:30am-12pm. Registration Required. Info: 49-786-4001
<b>11</b> St. Patrick's Day Crafts. University Park Library. 12-2pm. Info: 949-786-4001	<b>12</b> Girl Scout's Week. Pretend City Children's Museum. 1:30pm. Info: 949-428-3900	<b>13</b> City Council meeting Irvine City Hall. 4pm. Info: 949-724-6205	<b>14</b> Valentine's Day Luncheon. Native Seed Farm. 8:30-12pm. Registration Required. Info: LetsGoOutside.org	<b>8</b> Teen Movie Event. Heritage Park Library. 4:30-6:30pm. Info: 949-936-4040	<b>9</b> Slow-Paced Mountain Bike Ride. Quail Hill Trailhead. 8-11:30am. Registration Required. Info: LetsGoOutside.org	<b>10</b> Preserving the Season Workshop: Refrigerated Pickles. OC Great Park Farm + Food Lab. 10-11am. Info: 949-724-6599
<b>18</b> Farmers Market. OC Great Park. 10am-2pm. Info: 866-829-3829	<b>19</b> STEAMport. Heritage Park Library. 4-5pm. Info: 949-936-4040	<b>20</b> The First Day of Spring. Pretend City Children's Museum. 10am-5pm. Info: 949-428-3900	<b>21</b> Reading to Rover. Heritage Park Library. 3-4pm. Info: 949-936-4040	<b>15</b> Senior Citizen Council Meeting. Lakeview Senior Center. 9am. Info: 949-724-6900	<b>16</b> International Women's Day. University Park Library. 6pm. Info: 949-786-4001	<b>17</b> Garden Workshop: Successful Raised Bed Gardens. Farm + Food Lab. 10-11am. Info: 949-724-6599
<b>25</b> Persian New Year Festival. Bill Barber Memorial Park. 1pm. Info: 949-431-6858	<b>26</b> Homework H.E.L.P. University Park Library. 4-5:30pm. Info: 949-786-4001	<b>27</b> City Council meeting Scrabble. Rancho Senior Center. 1-4pm. Info: 949-724-6800	<b>28</b> Meditative Yoga. Bommer Canyon. 9:30-11am. Registration Required. Info: LetsGoOutside.org	<b>22</b> Jazz Dance Instruction. Lakeview Senior Center. 11:15am-12pm. Info: 949-724-6900	<b>23</b> High School Art Exhibit Opening Reception. Irvine Fine Arts Center. 4-6pm. Info: 949-724-6880	<b>24</b> Intro to Cardio Hike. Black Star Canyon. 7-9:30am. Registration Required. Info: LetsGoOutside.org
<b>31</b> Good EATS Weekend Brunch. EATS Kitchen & Bar. 10am-2pm. Info: 949-225-6780	<b>30</b> A Taste of Marketplace. Hotel Irvine. 11am-2pm. Info: 877-614-2137	<b>29</b> Self-Paced Fitness Hike. Irvine Open Space Preserve. 6-7:30pm. Registration Required. Info: LetsGoOutside.org				

## Adoptable Pet of the Month

Each issue we feature one "adoptable" pet from the Irvine Animal Care Center.



The Irvine Animal Care Center (IACC) is a progressive and innovative municipal animal shelter that continually strives to strengthen the human-animal bond and improve the welfare of animals by promoting their humane care and treatment. The Center's 3.73 acre, park-like facility cares for thousands of homeless, neglected abused animals every year. All animals in their care receive veterinary care, high-quality food, soft bedding and daily socialization.

"Doris" is a spayed female, orange and white Domestic Shorthair. She is about 4 years old.

For more information about Doris and other adoptable pets, or the IACC, call 949-724-7740 or email [info@irvineshelter.org](mailto:info@irvineshelter.org) [www.cityofirvine.org/irvine-animal-care-center](http://www.cityofirvine.org/irvine-animal-care-center)



## High School Art Exhibition

Exhibition Dates: March 23-April 14, 2018  
 Opening Reception: Friday, March 23, 4-6pm

The High School Art Exhibition is a multimedia show featuring art produced by students from Irvine high schools, including drawing, painting, printmaking, photography, digital media, ceramics and sculpture.

Venue: Irvine Fine Arts Center  
 Heritage Park, 14321 Yale Ave  
 Irvine, CA 92604

Info: 949-724-6880



Franklin J. Lunding  
Publisher

### Gun Violence in Schools — An ICNV Special Commentary

In the aftermath of the mass-shooting at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida, we at ICNV asked how our community newspaper could provide a constructive platform for addressing the scourge of gun violence in American schools. We called on three of our contributing writers to address the issue, offering their special perspectives and suggestions. **Carolyn Inmon** writes a **SchoolWatch** column for ICNV. As a retired teacher, who taught K-12 and in community

college, Inmon brings a long-time educator's perspective to the gun violence issue. **Phyllis Agran** is a practicing pediatric gastroenterologist and Professor of Pediatrics at UCI Medical School. She is a nationally recognized expert in injury prevention and control, and writes her regular column for ICNV, titled **Rx for Child Health & Safety**. Former Irvine Mayor **Larry Agran** is a public interest attorney who writes a regular column, **CityWatch**, for ICNV. We think you'll be interested in the views of these three outstanding contributors.

-FJL

### Take The Irvine Community Poll at [IrvineCommunityNews.org/SchoolSafety](http://IrvineCommunityNews.org/SchoolSafety)

Remember, we're interested in the views of YOU, our readers. That's why we're launching a new online Irvine Community Poll, asking the question:

*Do you think the Irvine City Council and the School Board should initiate a series of public hearings to propose and promote enhanced school safety and school security measures to prevent gun violence?*

Not only do we want you to take the Irvine Community Poll; we welcome your comments as well. With permission, we will publish a sampling of the comments we receive. To take the Poll, go to: [IrvineCommunityNews.org/SchoolSafety](http://IrvineCommunityNews.org/SchoolSafety) - FJL



For most of my teaching career, public schools have been regarded as very safe places — for students, teachers and staff. Now, the appalling reality is that the growing number of gun violence incidents in our schools, including mass-shootings with semi-automatic weapons, are turning our public schools into unsafe workplaces, subject to mass-casualty violence at any moment. Teachers will do their fair share — and more — to ensure safety; they always have and they always will. But none of us signed up to be heroes in active shooter, mass-casualty situations. It's time for IUSD and the City of Irvine, as well as the Irvine Teachers Association to show some real leadership and engage students, parents, grandparents and other interested Irvine citizens in serious public hearings about what steps must be taken to enhance school safety. More School Resource Officers (police officers) in our schools? More secure entrances? More secure classrooms? Use of more real-time cameras? How about the City and IUSD taking a stance on national proposals to ban military-style assault weapons, as we've already done under State law in California?

- Carolyn Inmon



At this point, the epidemic of gun violence in our schools has risen to the level of a national public health emergency. According to ABC News, since the Sandy Hook Elementary School massacre five years ago, there have been more than 200 school shooting incidents with more than 400 casualties. Clearly, the easy access to firearms — especially AR-15s and other semi-automatic, military-style assault weapons — has made it possible for shooters to kill many people in a matter of minutes.

These weapons, which have no purpose but to kill other humans, should be banished from civil society. Thanks to the extraordinary efforts of our own U.S. Senator Dianne Feinstein, assault weapons were banned in the U.S. from 1994 until 2004, when the Congress allowed the law to expire. Now, the national ban on assault weapons should be reinstated — perhaps coupled with a government-funded "buy-back" program — to get these weapons out of our local communities, states, and all channels of interstate commerce.

- Phyllis Agran



So, will this be the time that, finally, we achieve a re-instituted national ban on the sale or possession of AR-15s and other military-style assault weapons? Will we, at long last, make demonstrable progress to control gun violence nationally and improve gun safety everywhere?

The fact that this time — for the first time — high school students across America appear to be organizing a real movement, is cause for hope. These young activists have both the necessary energy and idealism; they don't yet suffer from cynicism; and their social media skills can be a huge advantage. My advice to these bright young activists? Be smart. Be strategic in your politics. Make it clear there are millions of you who will soon be voting, and that your mission is to hold all elected officials accountable for their actions — and for their inaction.

Here in Irvine, I'd pay special attention to the candidates in our own 45th Congressional District. (Irvine comprises about 40 percent of the entire 45th CD.) Mimi Walters, the incumbent Republican Congresswoman, has a long and dreadful record of opposing just about every sensible gun safety proposal — both when she was a State legislator and, in recent years, as a Member of Congress. She is running for re-election to Congress, facing a tough challenge — first, from a half-dozen Democratic candidates in the "top-two" June 5th primary. Then, one of them will be facing Walters in the November runoff election. My guess is that the gun control issue — especially where the candidates stand on banning AR-15s and other assault weapons nationwide — could be decisive in the 45th CD.

- Larry Agran

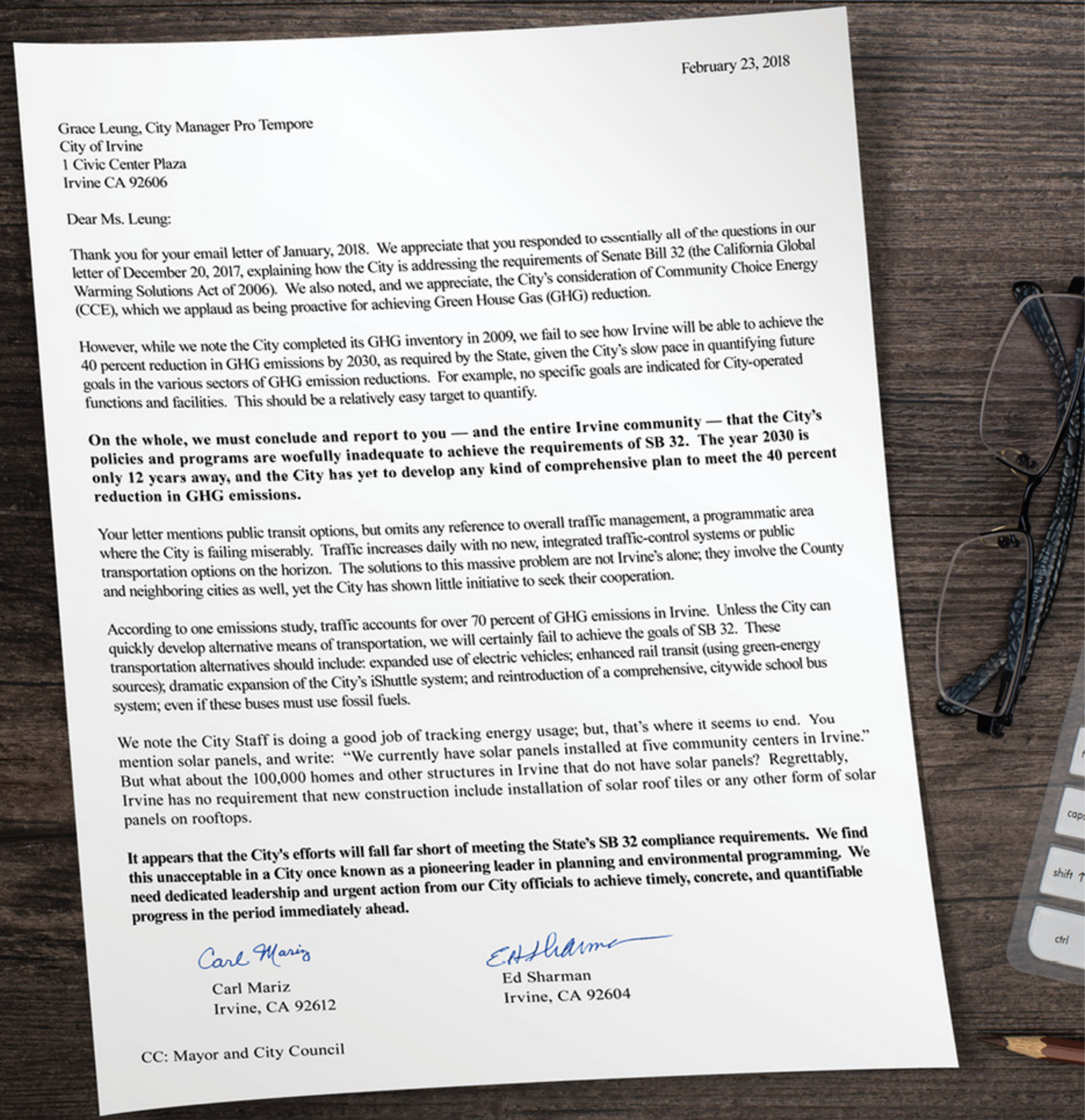
### Science, Technology and Environment

The City of Irvine has replied to ICNV's letter asking City officials to explain its plans to reduce Green House Gas (GHG) emissions. ICNV now responds to the City's letter.

On December 20, 2017, two of ICNV's contributing science writers, Carl Mariz and Ed Sharman, sent an important letter to the Irvine City Manager. In their letter, Mariz and Sharman asked the following:

"California, with passage of Senate Bill 32 in 2016, has set a statewide target of 40 percent GHG reduction from 1990 levels by the year 2030. What does the City understand to be its obligations under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) to comply with this goal?"

On January 5, 2018, the City Manager responded with a comprehensive reply that Mariz, Sharman, and other ICNV science writers have analyzed with great care. Carl Mariz and Ed Sharman have since prepared, in letter form, a joint critique of the City's reported efforts. Their February 23rd letter to the City is reproduced below.



February 23, 2018

Grace Leung, City Manager Pro Tempore  
City of Irvine  
1 Civic Center Plaza  
Irvine CA 92606

Dear Ms. Leung:

Thank you for your email letter of January, 2018. We appreciate that you responded to essentially all of the questions in our letter of December 20, 2017, explaining how the City is addressing the requirements of Senate Bill 32 (the California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006). We also noted, and we appreciate, the City's consideration of Community Choice Energy (CCE), which we applaud as being proactive for achieving Green House Gas (GHG) reduction.

However, while we note the City completed its GHG inventory in 2009, we fail to see how Irvine will be able to achieve the 40 percent reduction in GHG emissions by 2030, as required by the State, given the City's slow pace in quantifying future goals in the various sectors of GHG emission reductions. For example, no specific goals are indicated for City-operated functions and facilities. This should be a relatively easy target to quantify.

**On the whole, we must conclude and report to you — and the entire Irvine community — that the City's policies and programs are woefully inadequate to achieve the requirements of SB 32. The year 2030 is only 12 years away, and the City has yet to develop any kind of comprehensive plan to meet the 40 percent reduction in GHG emissions.**

Your letter mentions public transit options, but omits any reference to overall traffic management, a programmatic area where the City is failing miserably. Traffic increases daily with no new, integrated traffic-control systems or public transportation options on the horizon. The solutions to this massive problem are not Irvine's alone; they involve the County and neighboring cities as well, yet the City has shown little initiative to seek their cooperation.

According to one emissions study, traffic accounts for over 70 percent of GHG emissions in Irvine. Unless the City can quickly develop alternative means of transportation, we will certainly fail to achieve the goals of SB 32. These transportation alternatives should include: expanded use of electric vehicles; enhanced rail transit (using green-energy sources); dramatic expansion of the City's iShuttle system; and reintroduction of a comprehensive, citywide school bus system; even if these buses must use fossil fuels.

We note the City Staff is doing a good job of tracking energy usage; but, that's where it seems to end. You mention solar panels, and write: "We currently have solar panels installed at five community centers in Irvine." But what about the 100,000 homes and other structures in Irvine that do not have solar panels? Regrettably, Irvine has no requirement that new construction include installation of solar roof tiles or any other form of solar panels on rooftops.

**It appears that the City's efforts will fall far short of meeting the State's SB 32 compliance requirements. We find this unacceptable in a City once known as a pioneering leader in planning and environmental programming. We need dedicated leadership and urgent action from our City officials to achieve timely, concrete, and quantifiable progress in the period immediately ahead.**

*Carl Mariz*

Carl Mariz  
Irvine, CA 92612

*Ed Sharman*

Ed Sharman  
Irvine, CA 92604

CC: Mayor and City Council

# OPEN FORUM *FREE SPEECH FOREVER!*



Franklin J. Lunding  
Publisher

## Argument and Rebuttal for the June 5th Primary election

As *ICNV* has previously reported, 19,164 Irvine residents signed a Referendum Petition putting an Irvine Measure on the ballot, on Primary Election Day, June 5th, *against* developer FivePoint's massive development in the Great Park. The Ballot Measure will be Ordinance No. 17-08 that the City Council passed on October 10th to rezone, for 812,000 square feet of commercial and industrial development, the 125-acre Great Park site — a site with VA approval for a CalVet-designed Veterans Cemetery, which was slated to receive \$10 million of federal funds, and \$30 million of State construction funds.

Below is the Argument AGAINST the Measure, and the REBUTTAL to the Argument that was submitted to the City Clerk by the supporters of the FivePoint "land-swap" scheme. (The Measure, not yet assigned a letter, is referred to, below, as Measure X)

—FJL

For the first time in decades, on June 5th Irvine voters will decide on the future growth and development of our City.

- Your **NO vote on Measure X** will STOP three Irvine City Councilmembers from giving away — to giant developer FivePoint Communities — the 125-acre site in the Great Park that our City dedicated four years ago for creation of a peaceful, beautiful Veterans Cemetery.
- Your **NO vote on Measure X** will also STOP accompanying zone changes that permit FivePoint to build 812,000 square feet of massive office, commercial, manufacturing and industrial development in the Great Park, adding more than 8,000 car and truck trips every day on Irvine Boulevard, Sand Canyon, Jeffrey, and throughout Irvine.
- Your **NO vote on Measure X** will make sure the Southern California Veterans Cemetery is built in the Great Park, as planned, designed and approved by the City of Irvine, CalVet, and the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. The project has been "construction-ready" for a year.

**Most important:** Your **NO vote on Measure X** paves the way for Councilmembers Jeff Lalloway and Lynn Schott to re-introduce their resolution to immediately commence construction of the Veterans Cemetery within the Great Park, as originally planned and promised. Once built, the Veterans Cemetery will be operated and maintained in perpetuity by the State, at no cost to the City.

**Voter beware!** Measure X, drafted for FivePoint's benefit by three pro-developer Councilmembers, will move the planned Veterans Cemetery three miles away — to FivePoint's deceitfully named "Strawberry Fields" site — at the I-405 and I-5 interchange, one of the busiest, most congested and polluted stretches of freeway in the nation.

Please join with your 19,164 Irvine neighbors who signed the Referendum Petition that gives you the opportunity to **Vote NO on Measure X**. For information and official documents, go to: [SaveTheVeteransCemetery.org/Resources](http://SaveTheVeteransCemetery.org/Resources)

## REBUTTAL to Argument in FAVOR of Adoption of Ordinance No. 17-08

Following **Measure X's** defeat on June 5th, Councilmembers Jeff Lalloway and Lynn Schott will re-introduce their resolution to immediately commence construction of the Veterans Cemetery *in the Great Park*. The plain truth is that the CalVet-designed and VA-approved Great Park Veterans Cemetery would be under construction today, with \$30 million of State funding, if three Councilmembers — Wagner, Shea, and Fox — hadn't sabotaged the project by adopting Ordinance 17-08.

**Ordinance 17-08 is a zone-change giveaway that enables developer FivePoint to build massive office and industrial projects on the 125-acre Veterans Cemetery site in our Great Park, reaping enormous profits.**

No wonder FivePoint has spent millions enlisting their favorite politicians, insiders, and political organizations to support their scheme. They bully, and wangle support by spreading money and fake news.

For example, FivePoint's political operatives claim a Veterans Cemetery in the Great Park would have graves amid dilapidated buildings and trash, while graves at FivePoint's preferred site (at the I-5/I-405 interchange) will be in "strawberry fields." Nonsense! The truth is that the Cemetery, at either site, will be built to the highest standards — and maintained forever by the State at absolutely no cost to the City.

Claims that putting the Veterans Cemetery at FivePoint's freeway interchange site would save taxpayers money are baseless. So is FivePoint's phony talk about putting \$10 million into the project. This is all part of FivePoint's strategy to bluff and bully their way into our Great Park, and push our veterans out.

**We can't let them do it. Vote NO on Measure X!**

## Letters/Comments from Irvine Veterans, Families and Residents

■ I am fiercely against the decision made by the City Council to sell out Irvine's citizens and scrap the Veterans Cemetery in the Great Park. The Cemetery would be a perfect way to show patriotism and preserve a lasting legacy. Another massive development project is clearly not needed. A message must be sent to our elected officials that it is their duty to listen to the people and not be influenced by major corporations. We need to set things right by voting against replacing the Veterans Cemetery in the Great Park with development.

— *Daryl Brandino*

■ I talked to Melissa Fox during the last City election campaign, and she promised over the phone to protect us from the ongoing over-development and the financial onslaught of special interests. What happened to that Melissa Fox? I'd like to get my donation back!

— *F. Hsu*

■ The City Council seems to have sold out to FivePoint!

— *Albert Miller*

■ Fox, Shea and Wagner are doing the bidding for FivePoint rather than listening to their constituents. We should vote the three of them out of office.

— *Gail Lewis*

■ I'm just shocked by the City Council's shenanigans. No integrity. No common sense. No heart. No sense of right from wrong. What are they teaching their own children and grandchildren about how to treat our country's veterans? I am dismayed.

— *Terry E. Goldfarb*

■ I believe the City Council is being compromised by the developers. They do not seem to care what their constituents think.

— *Dolores Reynolds*

■ Enough is enough. This unbridled development is destroying our quality of life. This trio of Wagner, Shea and Fox need to be thrown out of office

— *Dom Saccacio*

■ People are asking if three of the five City Councilmembers are employed by FivePoint. Has anybody looked into that?

— *James Harris*

■ Using the Great Park for any development is abhorrent and an affront to residents and City and public teams who worked tirelessly for years to preserve parts of Irvine for residents and visitors to Irvine. Do not sell us out for development.

— *Christine Grifner*



the City can handle all the growth.  
— *John Kindle*

■ Traffic is horrid. We don't have the infrastructure to support more homes and more people and more traffic. Stop developing and get those who are merely puppets of big developers off the City Council.

— *Katie Thompson*

■ Without question, we need a Veterans Cemetery — as originally planned, in the Great Park.

— *Roger Bowman,*  
*U.S. Navy, Vietnam Veteran*

■ The City Council's willingness to side with big developers rather than respecting our veterans is disgusting. The Mayor and specific members of this Council have voted for their funding base rather than their voting base. I, for one, am absolutely disgusted!

— *Molly Peukert*

■ The Great Park was the approved location for the Veterans Cemetery, not the switched site [alongside the I-5 and I-405 freeway interchange] that would benefit FivePoint. That switch was and is disgusting! The site by the 405 is not a "better" location! Not at all!

— *Stephanie Proffitt*

■ I did NOT vote for the Great Park so developers could develop office buildings and commercial real estate projects there!

— *Phil Patterson*

■ Our City has enough street traffic and congestion, and it is not in our interest to add to it by building more commercial and office space.

— *Laura R. Barwick*

## Pop Quiz

Which of these *doesn't* belong in Irvine and Irvine schools?

A.	B.
C.	D.

ANSWER: D

## Carolyn Inmon's SchoolWatch column cited in challenge to IUSD's election system

In a recent press release, IUSD Superintendent Terry Walker reported that the School District had received a letter from Malibu attorney Kevin Shenkman, alleging that IUSD's "at-large" system for electing School Board members was racially discriminatory, and violated the California Voting Rights Act.

In his letter, Shenkman wrote that if, by March 25th, IUSD didn't agree to "discuss a voluntary change" — moving from at-large elections of Board members to a system of geographically smaller, "single-member districts" — a lawsuit would likely be filed.

Schenkman cited *ICNV's* columnist, Carolyn Inmon, who wrote an article in her January *SchoolWatch* column entitled "Time for for a Change." In her article, Inmon pointed out that the current system was, in fact, concentrating Board representation in the northern part of Irvine, while the older areas and older schools elsewhere in the City — were seriously underrepresented on the IUSD Board.

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Letters to the editor are welcome. Please include your name and ZIP code. Letters for publication must be addressed to Editor, 4199 Campus Drive, Suite 550, Irvine, CA 92612 or email [Editor@IrvineCommunityNews.org](mailto:Editor@IrvineCommunityNews.org). Letters may be edited for publication. Unpublished letters will not be acknowledged or returned.

**ATTENTION IRVINE VOTERS: On Election Day, June 5th...**

## Save the Veterans Cemetery in the Great Park! Say NO to the FivePoint Development Scheme!

The long-planned **Veterans Cemetery in the Great Park** — approved and funded by the City, State and Federal governments — **should be under construction today. But it's not.**

That's because last year three Irvine City Councilmembers — Mayor **Donald Wagner** and Councilmembers **Christina Shea** and **Melissa Fox** — shocked our Irvine community by voting to give away the approved Veterans Cemetery site in our Great Park to developer FivePoint Communities, along with zone changes to permit FivePoint to *replace* our planned 125-acre Veterans Cemetery with massive office, commercial and industrial development that would bring *10,000 added cars and trucks to Irvine's streets and neighborhoods every day.*

In response to this travesty, we formed an Irvine citizens' committee to **Save the Veterans Cemetery in the Great Park.** We launched an historic Referendum Petition, gathering nearly 20,000 Irvine resident signatures to **stop the development giveaway to FivePoint by putting this issue on the ballot for Irvine voters to decide.**

As a U.S. Army veteran and Chair of our committee, I am proud that because of our efforts Irvine voters will now have the opportunity — on the upcoming June 5th ballot — to **STOP the giveaway to FivePoint.** We can, once and for all, **just say NO** to FivePoint's scheme to replace our long-planned Veterans Cemetery in the Great Park with 812,000 square feet of traffic-inducing development.

We know that in the months ahead FivePoint and other big developers will spend millions of dollars on a campaign to mislead Irvine voters — trying to get Irvine voters to approve their huge development projects.

Of course, we can't match FivePoint's money. **But I believe we can win this fight with developer FivePoint. We can now say NO by voting NO!**

However to reach Irvine voters with our message, we need to enlist many more volunteers in our campaign. **And we will need hundreds of donations.** I hope we can count on your help!



**To learn more about the next steps in this critically important campaign — and how YOU can help us win this fight — please visit our website: [SaveTheVeteransCemetery.org](http://SaveTheVeteransCemetery.org).**

*Edward S. Pope*

**Edward S. Pope**

Veteran, U.S. Army • Chair, Save the Veterans Cemetery in the Great Park • Retired teacher and 46-year Irvine resident



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