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Serving the Villages and Neighborhoods of Irvine

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Publisher's Perspective

The Voters Have Spoken!

There is nothing more gratifying for a newspaper publisher than having fought a massive propaganda campaign with fact-based information *and won!* Certainly, the voters of Irvine — with their No on B votes — deserve all the credit for discerning that Measure B was against the interests of the community, and especially against the interests of the veterans, the very people our opponents (FivePoint supporters) claimed to support.

Based on the huge volume of letters and comments received, not only at the newspaper's and campaign's email addresses, but also posted on Nextdoor and Facebook, it is clear that many of the overwhelming number of voters (63%) who voted NO on Measure B obtained their information from *Irvine Community News & Views*.

I am proud that *ICNV* took a stand on Measure B, and this newspaper, no doubt, played a major role in the outcome of the election. Going forward, *ICNV* will continue to provide fact-based information on a variety of topics of interest to the residents of Irvine, and continue to take stands that improve services and the quality-of-life for Irvine residents in matters of land-use planning, education, recreation and the environment.

In fact, on page 8 of this issue is an article on the Irvine Unified School District's new initiative for "Area" Board member elections, a reform that this newspaper proudly advocated.

On page 5 is the second of a series of articles on Single-Payer Health Insurance, while page 9 covers Irvine's Congressional candidate positions on climate change.

Good reading!

Franklin J. Lunding



Franklin J. Lunding, Publisher and Editor

June 5th: Irvine Voters Shout "NO on B!" 63% to 37%

Citizens to Council: "Listen to the voters!"

City of Irvine Measure B, Ordinance No. 17-08 — Major Zone Change facilitating land-swap and replacement of planned Veterans Cemetery in the Great Park with 812,000 square feet of office and industrial development

	Vote Count	Percentage
Yes	17,078	37.4%
No	28,638	62.6%

Source: Orange County Registrar of Voters, Final Certified results

In what political observers termed a June 5th "voter revolt," Irvine voters said "NO on B!" — rebuffing developer FivePoint Communities and their land-swap scheme to replace the planned Veterans Cemetery in the Great Park with massive development. A remarkable 63% voted NO on Measure B.

Measure B was a complicated Zone Change Ordinance that, if approved by the voters, would have pushed the 125-acre, long-planned Veterans Memorial Park and Cemetery out of the Great Park, relocating it to FivePoint property alongside the noisy I-5 & I-405 El Toro "Y." In turn, FivePoint would take ownership of the original 125-acre Veterans Cemetery site bordering Irvine Boulevard in the Great Park, so it could build nearly 1 million square feet of office, commercial, and industrial development, as well as permitted five-story apartment complexes.

Despite spending upwards of \$1 million, FivePoint and their Council allies — Mayor Donald Wagner and Councilmembers Christina Shea and Melissa Fox — couldn't

sell Measure B to Irvine voters. More than 90 percent of the City's precincts — from one end of the City to the other — recorded big NO on B majorities, sometimes more than 70%.

On Election Night, and again one week later — at the June 12th City Council meeting — Ed Pope, Chair of the NO on B campaign, spoke to the Irvine community, thanking the hundreds of campaign volunteers and thousands of Irvine voters who "saw through

FivePoint's million-dollar campaign of lies and deliberate confusion."

Pope, who is a 46-year Irvine resident, an Army veteran and a retired high school teacher, emphasized that it's now time for the City Council to act in accordance with the mandate of the voters...to begin building the

Veterans Cemetery at the original site in the Great Park, which was already planned and approved (2014 – 2016) by the City, State (CalVet) and the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. Pope concluded, "The people have spoken. Members of the City Council: Are you listening?"



Ed Pope, Chair of the NO on B campaign, speaks at the June 12th Irvine City Council meeting.

→ continued from page 1 → **Citizens to Council: “Listen to the voters!”**

The same theme — “listen to the people” and “listen to the voters” — was echoed in remarks by a dozen Irvine residents, many of them veterans. Former nurse and long-time Irvine resident, Joyce Kassouf, said that abiding by the mandate of the people was a matter of “integrity.”

At the June 12th meeting, Councilmember Jeff Lalloway announced that, based on the resounding June 5th NO on B vote, he would be putting the Veterans Cemetery issue on the agenda for an upcoming Council meeting, urging the Council to take action to “immediately begin construction of the Veterans Cemetery in the Great Park.”

A subsequent Memo from Lalloway (reprinted on Page 11) confirmed that the Veterans Cemetery issue — and Lalloway’s five-part motion — will be on the agenda at the July 10th City Council meeting.

Pope lauded Lalloway, and urged Irvine residents to read his Memo and the motion he intends to introduce.

In the run-up to the meeting of July 10th, Pope said citizens should email or phone the Mayor and City Councilmembers, and express support “in their own words” for Lalloway’s motion to “build the Veterans Cemetery in the Great Park now, without any further delay.” [ICNV](#)



How can you “listen to the people” when texting with your political handlers? Resentment is fast growing among citizens who see that Mayor Donald Wagner and Councilmembers Melissa Fox and Christina Shea typically ignore public testimony. They focus instead on text messaging to and from FivePoint political operatives, political consultants, and other special interests offering “advice” during City Council meetings. [ICNV](#)

Get important, late-breaking news about our effort to Build the Great Park Veterans Cemetery now.

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IrvineCommunityNews.org

Irvine Community News & Views is the official sponsor of the Committee to Build the Great Park Veterans Cemetery.
BuildTheGreatParkVeteransCemetery.org

Email or phone your Councilmembers explaining why they must support Councilmember Lalloway’s motion to Build the Great Park Veterans Cemetery now (and please copy info@IrvineCommunityNews.org):

IRVINE CITY COUNCILMEMBERS

Mayor Donald P. Wagner
Mayor Pro Tem Christina L. Shea
Councilmember Melissa Fox
Councilmember Jeffrey Lalloway
Councilmember Lynn Schott

donaldwagner@cityofirvine.org
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melissafox@cityofirvine.org
jeffreylalloway@cityofirvine.org
lynneschott@cityofirvine.org

**Or, call:
949-724-6233**

Statement of Edward S. Pope at the June 12, 2018 City Council Meeting

Good evening Mayor and Members of the City Council. My name is Ed Pope. I’m a veteran and a 46-year resident of Irvine. I am Chair of the Save the Veterans Cemetery • NO on B committee.



Ed Pope, Chair of the No on B campaign, speaking to supporters in City Hall courtyard before the June 12th City Council meeting.

I take this opportunity to say thank you to Councilmembers Lalloway and Schott for your unwavering support for the original site of the Veterans Memorial Park and Cemetery at the Great Park. Regrettably, last October your Council colleagues — Mayor Wagner and Councilmembers Shea and Fox — foisted upon Irvine a corrupt land-swap to change that Veterans Cemetery site for the benefit of their patron, developer FivePoint Communities.

This outrage provoked the greatest demonstration of civic participation in Irvine’s history — a petition drive that gathered 19,000 signatures in 28 days, culminating in the resounding defeat of Irvine ballot Measure B on June 5th. Despite FivePoint spending more than \$1 million to fund their typical campaign of blatant lies, Irvine voters were not fooled. They recognized corruption when they saw it.

My great thanks to all our volunteers, Irvine’s veterans, petition gatherers, and those who made donations and sponsored our NO on B grassroots campaign.

During his visit last year to Irvine, Governor Jerry Brown said he would support whatever Irvine’s residents preferred as an appropriate Veterans Cemetery site. Well, the people of Irvine have spoken. Members of the City Council: Are you listening?

See pages 10 and 11 for citizen comments and for Councilmember Jeff Lalloway’s Memo requesting a July 10th agenda item to consider his motion to Build the Great Park Veterans Cemetery Now!



CityWatch by Larry Agran

Give Irvine What the Voters Want... Build the Veterans Cemetery in the Great Park NOW!

By June 5th, Election Day, Irvine developer FivePoint Communities had spent more than \$1 million trying to push through Measure B on the Irvine City ballot.

Measure B — written for FivePoint’s benefit and backed by three members of the City Council — would *replace* the long-planned Veterans Cemetery in the Great Park with massive office and industrial development, and *relocate* the Veterans Cemetery to FivePoint’s freeway frontage property alongside the I-5 & I-405 interchange, known as the El Toro “Y”.

Outspent at least 10 to 1 by FivePoint, the grassroots committee to **Save the Veterans Cemetery • NO on B** rallied the Irvine community to reject the FivePoint plan, with a stunning 63% “NO” vote.

Obviously, an overwhelming majority of Irvine voters want nothing to do with the FivePoint land-swap and huge development scheme. Voters saw Measure B for what it was... a land-grab promoted by the Council’s three-member, pro-FivePoint majority — Mayor **Donald Wagner** and Councilmembers **Christina Shea** and **Melissa Fox**.

in the City of Irvine, not elsewhere; and second, a clear majority of Irvine residents want the Veterans Cemetery to be located at its original site in the Great Park, as planned, designed, and approved by the City, State (CalVet) and U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs in the period 2014 to 2016.

So, now what?

In a normal political environment, a City Council would be expected to heed the will of the people and embrace the voters’ decision to quickly begin building the Veterans Cemetery in the Great Park. That’s exactly what Councilmember **Jeff Lalloway**, a steadfast supporter of the Veterans Cemetery in the Great Park, proposes in a motion he placed on the agenda for the July 10th City Council meeting. [See Page 11.]

According to the State, the CalVet-approved Veterans Cemetery in the Great Park will cost an estimated \$78 million to build. But Irvine is not called upon to come up with \$78 million to build it. Last year, the State and Federal governments agreed to put up \$40 million if the City would pledge \$38 million (about half the cost of just one Irvine railroad undercrossing!) But that’s when Fox “flipped” and joined Wagner and Shea to actually reject State and Federal funds and go “all-in” for FivePoint’s land-swap and development scheme, which ultimately became known as the unpopular Measure B.

The truth is this: Building the Veterans Cemetery in the Great Park, as planned, is not only affordable; it’s the right thing and the smart thing to do. Under State law, the beautiful 125-acre Veterans Cemetery in the Great Park would be operated and maintained in perpetuity by the State of California, at no cost whatsoever to the City of Irvine.

Can anyone honestly say there is a more important,

more compelling feature in our Great Park that should be prioritized ahead of the Veterans Cemetery? Melissa Fox’s subsidized commercial water park? Christina Shea’s \$20 million subsidized commercial golf course? Former Mayor Steven Choi’s \$220 million library?

Yes, the Southern California Veterans Cemetery could probably be built elsewhere — even outside the City of Irvine — for less money. But that would defeat the inspired idea of locating the Veterans Cemetery on the former hallowed ground of the El Toro Airbase.

Make no mistake about it: Irvine voters want the Veterans Cemetery built in Irvine, in the Great Park, and they want it built now!



What did Irvine voters tell us?

The resounding NO on B vote was more than a rejection of the FivePoint land-swap. It was also a reaffirmation of the productive path that the City was on — since 2014 — to build the long-planned Veterans Cemetery in the Great Park. Aided by maps and side-by-side photos — with online audio and video comparing the Great Park site with the FivePoint Freeway site — voters knew exactly what they were getting with a “Yes” vote and with a NO vote.

What has emerged from the June 5th vote was not just a decision, but a strong two-part consensus regarding the Veterans Cemetery: first, the people of Irvine — probably 90% or more — want the State-funded Southern California Veterans Cemetery to be located

But, not so fast! Since June 5th, when the voters said, “NO on B,” Wagner, Shea and Fox have been desperately inventing new arguments — even outright lies — to deny the will of the people. Chief among these is to say we just can’t afford to build the Veterans Cemetery in the Great Park.

Well, here’s the truth of the matter: Hundreds of millions of dollars flow into a special City fund — Fund 180. This fund is specifically set up to build, maintain and operate features of the Great Park. It is *not* funded by Irvine taxpayers and is *not* part of the City’s general fund. In fact, more than \$200 million in State-paid redevelopment litigation settlement funds will be coming to Fund 180 over just the next 6 years.

Larry Agran served on the Irvine City Council for almost three decades — including ten years as Mayor. He led the fight to preserve Irvine Open Space, and defeat an international airport at the former El Toro Marine Corps Air Station, creating the opportunity to build the Orange County Great Park and the Veterans Memorial Park and Cemetery within the Great Park.



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Senior Life — Youthful Lifestyle

An ICNV Feature Series On
Healthful Living As We Age

The Healthy California Act

by Harvey H. Liss, Ph.D.

California's Single-Payer Healthcare Insurance Proposal (Senate Bill 562)

Single-Payer Healthcare Insurance -- known to many as "Medicare for All" -- continues to be debated in the California Legislature. State Senate Bill 562, now pending, would initiate a massive change in how healthcare insurance works in California, a state that rivals France in size and complexity. It's important to remember that while the Single-Payer legislation now pending before the State Legislature is complicated, its central aim is to dramatically change the way healthcare insurance is financed and delivered. Presumably, there would be minimal change in how medical care, itself, is provided.

Paying for Single-Payer Healthcare Insurance

A great debate has begun in California: How to pay for an efficient Single-Payer Healthcare Insurance system.

Single-Payer Healthcare Insurance would effectively eliminate private healthcare insurance companies and their costly premiums; reduce administrative costs; capture these billions of dollars in profits and savings to improve healthcare insurance for everyone; and, insure the currently uninsured in California.

A University of Massachusetts-Amherst study, *Economic Analysis of the Healthy California Single-Payer Health Care Proposal (SB-562)*,* proposes to replace the healthcare insurance premiums paid by employers and individuals (either through their employer, Covered California, or privately), with two statewide compensating taxes: 1) a 2.3% sales tax would be paid by everyone, with exemptions for housing, utilities and food; and, 2) a 2.3% gross-receipts tax would be paid by all businesses, exempting the first \$2 million in receipts. Further, to fully offset the additional sales tax for lower-income families insured through Medi-Cal, there would be a 2% State income tax credit.

The result of that study's proposed tax rates is that most people and most companies would pay less for healthcare insurance than they are currently paying. In fact, for individuals, only the wealthy would be paying more. And the level of care everyone receives would be at least as good as what they're receiving, now.

It's expected that healthcare experiences under this new system would be similar to those of Medicare. My own experience as a Medicare beneficiary has been great. I've never been denied any medical service, and I've never run into a provider who didn't accept Medicare. I doubt many would object to such a system if it could be applied to everyone, which is what SB 562 seeks to do.

The current system of healthcare insurance -- with each business or organizational group negotiating with an insurance company to provide widely varying levels of service -- is chaotic. Compare this with a universal single-payer system designed to apply uniformly to everyone, so everyone is insured, and everyone receives the same high level of services.

The total amount currently being spent in California for healthcare services is \$368.5 billion.* Nonetheless, 2.7 million people in California are uninsured, and 12 million people have policies with high deductibles and/or excessive co-payments.

What the U. Mass-Amherst study* doesn't cover is what happens to the healthcare insurance companies and their employees -- a very important consideration. Clearly, they will be severely impacted, since their current mode

**Economic Analysis of The Healthy California Single-Payer Health Care Proposal (SB-562)*, May 2017, by Pollin, et al, Dept of Economics and Political Economy Research Institute (PERI) U. of Mass.-Amherst.

of operation would be mostly replaced. These businesses could be re-invented to provide services required for a single-payer system, or could be purchased by the State and rolled into an agency to become something like the Federal Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services.

A single-payer system is also intended to advance social justice by providing everyone with health insurance regardless of their state of health or ability to pay. However, there are some who are opposed to providing healthcare insurance to those who can't afford it, or to those who have pre-existing conditions, or who are deemed to have self-inflicted medical ailments.

Nonetheless, just as everyone is entitled to a "free and equal" K-12 education in California, Single-Payer healthcare insurance could be considered a similarly important basic public benefit -- a protected right.

Providing healthcare insurance for all in California is fraught with many problems, some of which will remain unsolvable, just as in our current system. However, to have a rational discussion it is essential to separate facts from philosophy, personal beliefs, anecdotal horror stories, rampant propaganda and political funding from the healthcare insurance industry and others.

Let the conversation continue! We want to know what YOU think!

Take our popular Irvine Community Poll...
and add your comment

Go to: IrvineCommunityNews.org/singlepayer

"Do you favor incremental steps toward a Single-Payer Healthcare Insurance system, commonly known as Medicare for All?"

READER COMMENTS:

■ At now 75, I have a decade of Medicare behind me; thank you very much. "For all" sounds excellent. Profit has no legitimacy in health care. —*Pam Reagor*

■ Absolutely not! Government control over our health care means loss of freedom. —*Mel Creighton*

■ I had an opportunity to visit and work in Canada and Singapore in the last couple of years. After talking with the citizens there and seeing the healthcare system in action first hand and comparing it with our healthcare "mess," I am convinced that single-payer is the way to go. Hope we get there soon. —*[Name withheld upon request]*

■ I have lived in Germany and the UK, and have seen first-hand the poor healthcare and mismanagement of public funds towards single-payer healthcare. This is something that the USA DOES NOT need! —*Trenton Wozniak*

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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.

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Community Calendar

Artist Talks and Receptions

Enjoy artist talks and receptions on Saturday, July 14 at the Irvine Fine Arts Center.

Lesley Kice Nishigawara: Repeat. Orange County fiber artist Lesley Kice Nishigawara's work explores the grids, patterns, structures and networks that she observes in the built environment. Artist talk is 2-3pm.

Moving at a Snail's Pace in Geologic Time. features Orange County-based artist Eric Stoner's work combining found imagery, original drawing and photographs, woodworking, found objects and other media. Artist talk is 3-4pm.

Artists' reception is 4-6pm. Both exhibits run now through Saturday, August 11. Reception, talk and parking are free. The Irvine Fine Arts Center is located inside Heritage Community Park at 14321 Yale Ave.



Lesley Kice Nishigawara, No. 1, iteration 6, sewn fabric, 68x67", 2016



Eric Stoner, The Pitfalls and Perils of Placing People on Pedestals (detail), mixed media, 36x22" 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Sunday Brunch. EMC Seafood & Raw Bar. 10am-1pm. Info: 949-748-3979 	2 Toddler Storytime. University Park Library. 11am. Info: 949-786-4001	3 Anime Your Way with Carlos Nietos, III. University Park Library. 2pm. Info: 949-786-4001	4 Independence Day. 	5 Juggling Show. Katie Wheeler Library. 10:30-11:30am. Info: 714-669-8753 	6 Movies on the Lawn: Clambake. OC Great Park. 6:30pm. Info: 866-829-3829	7 Movies on the Lawn: Peter Rabbit. OC Great Park. 6:30pm. Info: 866-829-3829
8 Sizzlin' Summer Concert: Smith Band. Mike Ward Community Park. 5:30pm. Info: 949-724-6606 	9 Baby Steps. Pretend City Children's Museum. 2-3:30pm. Info: 949-428-3900 	10 City Council Meeting. Irvine City Hall. 4pm. Info: 949-724-6205 	11 Canasta. Rancho Senior Center. 11:30am-3:30pm. Info: 949-725-6800 	12 Puppet Show. Katie Wheeler Library. 10:30-11:30am. Info: 714-669-8753 	13 Sunset Cinema: Trolls. Mason Regional Park. 6-10pm. Info: 949-923-2220 	14 Movies on the Lawn: The Greatest Showman. OC Great Park. 6:30pm. Info: 866-829-3829
15 Sizzlin' Summer Concert: The Reflexx. Mike Ward Community Park. 5:30pm. Info: 949-724-6606 	16 Happy Hour. Puesto-Park Place. 3-6pm. Info: 949-265-9384 	17 Scrabble. Rancho Senior Center. 1-4pm. Info: 949-724-6800 	18 Play and Learn. Heritage Park Library. 10:30-10:50am. Info: 949-936-4040	19 Pentatonix. FivePoint Amphitheatre. 8pm. Info: 800-854-2196 	20 Jeff Beck. FivePoint Amphitheatre. 7pm. Info: 800-854-2196 	21 Americans United for the Separation of Church and State. Flicks for Thought (Meeting). 1:45pm. IRWD Community Room. Info: Mail@au-oc.org
22 Sizzlin' Summer Concert: Tiguana Dogs. Mike Ward Community Park. 5:30pm. Info: 949-724-6606	23 Beginning Social Bridge. Rancho Senior Center. 1:30-4:30pm. Info: 949-724-6800 	24 City Council Meeting. Irvine City Hall. 4pm. Info: 949-724-6205	25 Culinarian's Day. Pretend City Children's Museum. 11am-5pm Info: 949-428-3900 	26 Hollywood U2: Summer Concert Series. Irvine Regional Park. 5-8pm. Info: 714-973-6835 	27 Five Finger Death Punch. FivePoint Amphitheatre. 7pm. Info: 800-854-2196 	28 Senior Tennis. Woodbridge High School. 8-11am. Info: 714-307-8072
29 Pacific Symphony in the Cities. Mike Ward Community Park. 5:30pm. Info: 949-724-6606 	30 Chinese Brush Painting. Lakeview Senior Center. 2-4pm. Info: 949-724-6900 	31 G-Eazy. FivePoint Amphitheatre. 6:30pm. Info: 800-854-2196 				

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.

"Beckham" is a neutered male, white and black Pit Bull Terrier and Pointer. He is about 3 years old.

For more information about Beckham and other adoptable pets, or the IACC, call 949-724-7740 or email info@irvineshelter.org www.cityofirvine.org/irvine-animal-care-center



Cliff Cramp: Arts & Entertainment Exhibit

Cliff Cramp: Arts & Entertainment offers a brief examination of the artist's work in both traditional and digital media and highlights the work of California State University, Fullerton alumni who studied under him during his tenure as a professor of illustration. Artist Cliff Cramp has created illustrations for Dark Horse Comics, Lucasfilm, Nickelodeon and Penguin Random House. The exhibit runs now through Sunday, 8/19 at the Great Park Gallery.

Info: 949-724-6247

SchoolWatch

IUSD Election Reform – Just in Time for November

by Carolyn Inmon



This November 6th, voters in the Irvine Unified School District (IUSD) are going to be electing two School Board members in a new manner. Instead of voting for candidates who are running district-wide — in a so-called “at-large” election — IUSD is now divided into five smaller geographic voting areas.

villages and neighborhoods in the northern part of the City, as well as thousands of students and families living in Northwood.

Candidates for a new School Board seat must reside in the area they seek to represent. Filing to run as a candidate in Area 2 or Area 4 opens July 16th and closes August 10th. For more information, contact IUSD: iusd.org/BoardElectoralProcess or Phone (949) 936-5000.

Carolyn Inmon is a retired Irvine teacher. She has taught at virtually every grade level, from K through 12, as well as at the community college level.

An Irvine School Board election will be held in two of these areas — Area 2 and Area 4 — this November. Elections in the three remaining areas — Areas 1, 3, and 5 — will be held in 2020.

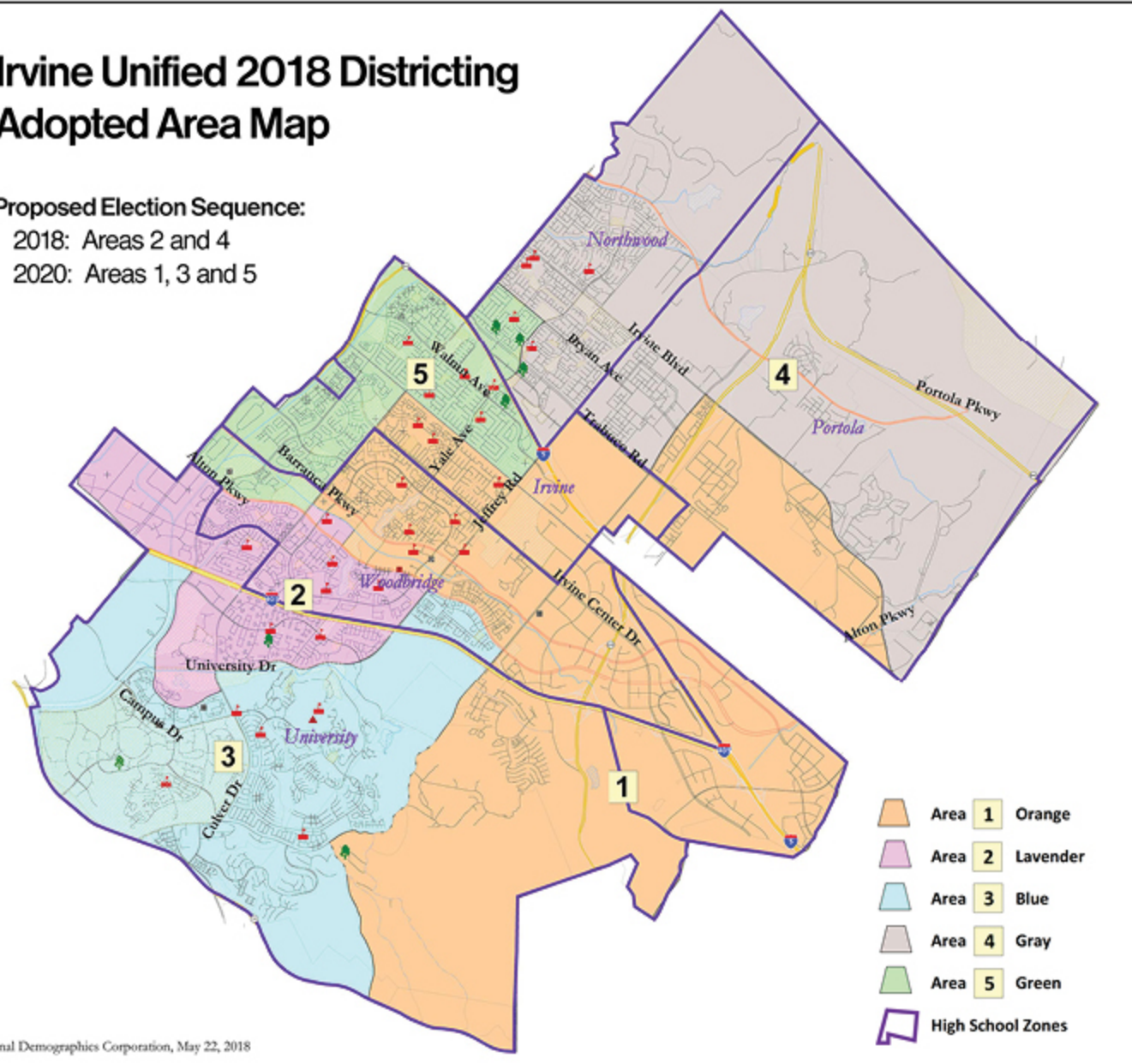
This electoral reform has come to IUSD under threat of litigation to conform to requirements of State law. Specifically, the California Voting Rights Act of 2001 has been interpreted to require larger school districts, and cities too, to move from at-large to area elections to ensure improved geographic, racial and ethnic representation.

The current IUSD Board and Administration deserve credit for responding constructively to the threatened lawsuit. The Board publicly explored a number of ways to transition to a new system of elections by area, eventually producing and officially adopting a map with geographic areas that appear fair and logical...just in time to begin implementing in this election cycle.

Take a look at the map. Each of the five areas has a population of about 37,000 people. Voters in Areas 2 and 4 will each elect a School Board representative this fall. Area 2 is in the older, southern part of Irvine — with students and families living in south Woodbridge, Westpark, and University Park. Area 4 includes many of Irvine’s newer residential

Irvine Unified 2018 Districting Adopted Area Map

Proposed Election Sequence:
2018: Areas 2 and 4
2020: Areas 1, 3 and 5



National Demographics Corporation, May 22, 2018

Science, Technology & Environment

CD 45: Climate Change? Who Cares?

by Roger Gloss & Sarah “Steve” Mosko

The June 5th California Primary election to decide the “top two” candidates in Congressional District 45 (CD 45) is over. On November 6th, Republican incumbent Mimi Walters will be facing UCI law professor Katie Porter. The City of Irvine lies entirely within CD 45, and the fact that Irvine residents comprise 40 percent of the district’s population means Irvine voters are extremely important to determining who will win the November runoff.

Ryan Zinke to reopen oil drilling off California’s coast. Then, strangely, last year she joined the bipartisan House Climate Solutions Caucus at the urging of Citizens Climate Lobby. Was this a merely symbolic gesture?

Katie Porter

So what about Katie Porter, a Democrat? It is encouraging that her campaign website includes Environment as an issue, and mentions taking on Big Oil and corporate polluters, stopping offshore drilling, investing in renewable energy, supporting high emissions standards, and defending important environmental protections. Nice-sounding stuff, but Porter has thus far been light on specifics. Also, climate change was glaringly absent from the flood of flyers sent to homes in her district in the weeks leading up to the June 5th primary.



Perversely, when it comes to climate change, we can say we know more about where Walters stands, because of her miserable voting record.

Electoral Politics and Climate Change

The voters that both Walters and Porter need to attract are increasingly concerned about climate change. Fully 73 percent of registered voters believe that climate change is happening, and 59 percent believe it is mostly caused by human activities, according to the latest national poll.

At the constituent level — even if not in the halls of Congress — climate change has become noticeably less “political.” Belief in human-caused climate change is still strongest among Democrats, but now includes a significant majority of liberal/moderate Republicans as well as voters with No Party Preference (NPP). “Worry” about climate change has even increased by 7 percent among conservative Republicans since just last October.

There is a fairly even, three-way split in the percentage of Irvine voters registered as Democratic, Republican, and NPP, which means swaying independent voters will be critical to winning in November.

Oil drilling in politically-contested locales (such as along California’s coastline or in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge) is an important climate change issue on which independents align much closer to Democrats than Republicans. Whereas a majority of Republicans tend to view such oil-drilling expansion favorably, significantly less than half of both Democrats and independent voters do. Walters and Porter should take notice.

Moreover, millennials (ages 18-35), who will soon become the nation’s most populous generation, are voicing clear concerns about climate change. According to the non-profit Alliance for Market Solutions 88 percent of millennials believe climate change is real; 62 percent believe it is caused by human activity; and 77 percent believe we should take action to stop or slow climate change.

So, where do our CD 45 candidates stand on climate change issues?

Mimi Walters

Mimi Walters’s website says nothing at all about climate change, or the environment for that matter. Her “issues” are Debt and Taxes, Immigration, and National Security (by which she means defeating ISIS and supporting our military, not climate change). Her environmental record in Congress is abysmal. She voted in favor of rolling back limits on carbon dioxide emissions in the federal Clean Power Plan. And she co-sponsored the Stopping EPA Overreach Act of 2017, which undid the law allowing EPA regulation of global warming. She even signed a letter of support to Interior Secretary



Roger Gloss earned a B.S. in Physics from UCLA and is now retired from a career in information technology. He is a citizen-activist against climate change, animal agriculture, and systemic environmental destruction. He has lived in Orange County since 1970. His 2014 novel, *Third Wind*, is a pre-apocalyptic story of runaway climate change and failed government.

Sarah Mosko is a licensed psychologist and sleep disorders specialist, with a background in neurobiology and basic science research that enables her to explain the science behind current environmental problems and solutions. She received her Ph.D. at Princeton University, and held an NIH Postdoctoral Fellowship at UC San Diego.

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Results of Citizen Activism



Franklin J. Lunding
Publisher

As an independent newspaper, our mission at *Irvine Community News & Views (ICNV)* is to inform and educate Irvine residents on issues that directly impact their lives. *ICNV* speaks up for the good of the Irvine community, even when it means challenging developers and other powerful special interests. It's a responsibility we take very seriously.

Mindful of our mission, *ICNV* ran a year-long investigative series, exposing developer FivePoint and their Great Park land-grab scheme. A critical part of that series was to promote civic engagement and citizen activism by encouraging the community to join the conversation, inviting Irvine residents to participate in our online poll, asking what they thought about FivePoint's scheme.

I'm proud that our series of articles became the catalyst for the grassroots, community-driven **Save the Veterans Cemetery in the Great Park • NO on B** campaign.

The Chair of the NO on B campaign, Ed Pope, reached out to *ICNV*, asking to share a few letters and comments from the hundreds he received after the June 5th election.

ICNV is pleased to share the letters with our readers and applaud all who participated in the NO on B campaign. Your activism reminds us that local democracy is alive and well in Irvine.

—FJL

Post-election Letters & Comments

■ The entire process has been a lesson in civic education. As a result, it has empowered our residents to confront future issues. Semper Fi!
—*Abraham Navarro*

■ Isn't it amazing what grassroots can do? Congratulations and thank you.
—*Clara Brandon*

■ Against a veritable avalanche of money, lies, and deceptive signs/advertising from the other side, including putting up phony people to post all over social media, the people of Irvine saw through all of this and did the right thing. I have never in my life put up a lawn sign and I was so angry about this measure I had 2 signs on my lawn.
—*Michelle Johnson*

■ Thank you for honoring our veterans and the citizens of Irvine. You have proved that WE are not illiterate. FivePoint's efforts were insulting. We are excited and ecstatic about the results.
—*Gary & Ginny Peck*

■ I'm amazed at the blatant attempt by the developer to confuse and mislead (e.g., same lawn sign designs down to the color and font, re-framing the same verbiage, hiring veterans, etc.). I'm glad people saw through all that.
—*Nick L.*

■ We're all so tired of the corruption in government, but I'm realizing the best way to fight it is to start here at home, and you proved that to be true.
—*John Gurule*

■ This victory has given me renewed hope that grassroots movements are alive and well in the USA and especially in Irvine.
—*Jane Roschmann*

■ Good things happen when residents realize that Big Money is taking over their beautiful planned community. Thank you for your newspapers and emails. We forwarded the emails to everyone we knew.
—*Rosanne LeSage*

■ You have renewed my faith in the democratic process. Thank you so much!
—*James Dale, Veteran, United States Army*

■ I am a vet and it made me furious to see all the lies and deception of big money with the blessing of Irvine City Councilmembers who approved the project.
—*Brandon Morad*

■ Many thanks to you and all 63% who showed that money doesn't always win. I was proud to put signs on my neighbor's lawns. My understanding is that this is the end of the line for "big money" and that there is no excuse for holding up start of construction of the Cemetery.
—*Marsh Goldman*

■ Congratulations to all the people in Irvine who were not fooled by the BIG money and BIG lies of developer FivePoint Communities. Now Irvine will have the opportunity to build the Veterans Cemetery in its rightful place — in the Great Park.
—*Eddie Rose*

■ We were not able to give you much assistance other than the sign on our lawn and talking up the "NO" position among our friends and neighbors. Great job. Hooray for the democratic process!
—*Fritz and Janis Kern*

■ Honoring those who have served our country is personal to me. I grew up in a military family and was married to a veteran. I moved to Irvine more than four decades ago and have loved raising my family here. As an Irvine real estate broker for the past 20 years, I saw Measure B for what it was — a clear attempt by a multi-billion-dollar developer to make millions in quick profits. That's why I couldn't just sit back and do nothing. I joined the NO on B campaign and made a video, warning voters about what was at stake. I'm so proud to be part of our Irvine community, with neighbors talking to neighbors, a truly grassroots, citizen-led effort. I hope our victory inspires more residents to get involved, because there's more to do.
—*Jaci Woods*

■ In Vietnam, I served as an Air Force pilot. After my service, I settled in Irvine where my wife and I raised our family and have enjoyed living for almost five decades. As a veteran and former Orange County planner, I was compelled to join the NO on B campaign to help educate residents about what a terrible idea it would be to build a Veterans Cemetery alongside the El Toro "Y", one of the busiest, most congested and polluted interchanges in the nation. I filmed a video at developer FivePoint's so-called "strawberry fields," capturing its back-drop and sound if Measure B passed. I was proud of Irvine voters for doing the right thing for veterans and our City by overwhelmingly defeating it.
—*Frank McGill*

Irvine City Councilmember Jeff Lalloway's Memo regarding his proposed action on the Great Park Veterans Cemetery, for the Council meeting of July 10, 2018

Memo

To: Grace Leung, Acting City Manager
From: Jeffrey Lalloway, Councilmember
cc: City Council
Date: June 19, 2018
Re: Veterans Cemetery

On June 5th, Irvine voters spoke loudly and clearly when they overwhelmingly rejected Measure B — a referendum on developer FivePoint's proposed zone change, land-swap and development plan previously approved by three members of the City Council on October 10, 2017.

In the Spring of 2017, Governor Jerry Brown, Assembly Speaker Anthony Rendon, and Assembly Member Sharon Quirk-Silva visited Irvine to express their continuing support for a Southern California Veterans Memorial Park and Cemetery, to be located in the City of Irvine. Governor Brown noted that the precise location of the Veterans Cemetery — whether on the 125-acre Great Park ARDA site or at the Bake Parkway/I-5 site — was a matter to be decided locally. According to the Governor, Speaker Rendon and Assembly Member Quirk-Silva, whatever the decision of the people of Irvine, we could count on the State's continuing support for the project, including major funding, in order to get the Veterans Cemetery built and operational quickly. Under State law, the Southern California Veterans Cemetery would then be operated and maintained in perpetuity by the State at no cost to the City of Irvine.

With the June 5th vote on Measure B, the people of Irvine have now decided: The Southern California Veterans Cemetery should be located at the originally approved Great Park ARDA site, not at the Bake Parkway/I-5 site.

The purpose of this memo is to chart a clear course and timeline for moving forward. With the submission of this memo, I am requesting and reserving ample time at the July 10th Council meeting to address the Veterans Cemetery issue as a specific agenda item. At the July 10th meeting, I intend to introduce a motion/resolution to do the following:

First, have the City Council officially recognize the June 5th decision of Irvine voters, rejecting Measure B and thereby once again reaffirming the City Council's 2014 decision designating the Great Park ARDA site for the Southern California Veterans Cemetery.

Second, direct the Irvine City Manager and staff, in consultation with CalVet, to establish a demolition, cleanup and preliminary site preparation plan for immediate implementation at the Great Park Veterans Cemetery site, consistent with the 333-page CalVet Great Park Veterans Cemetery Concept Plan approved in 2016.

Third, direct the City Manager and staff to establish a schedule and budget for the construction of Phase I of the Great Park Veterans Cemetery, noting that "up-front" funding is available from the City's Great Park Development Fund (Fund 180) — a Fund which will eventually contain nearly \$300 million (including State Redevelopment settlement funds). To be clear, Fund 180 is separate and apart from the City's General Fund. It is expected that any up-front expenditures from the Great Park Development Fund would be largely or wholly reimbursed and augmented by State and Federal funds.

Fourth, direct the City Manager and City Attorney to reaffirm that, once built, the State of California will, by law, be responsible for the operation and maintenance of the Veterans Cemetery in the Great Park in perpetuity, at no cost to the City of Irvine.

Fifth, establish a two-member Veterans Cemetery implementation committee, (consisting of Mayor Wagner and me), to lead the effort to gain maximum cooperation and assistance from Governor Brown, CalVet and others in Sacramento, in furtherance of our goal to have Phase I of the Veterans Cemetery in the Great Park operational by Veterans Day, November 11, 2020.

I hereby request that this matter be placed on the July 10, 2018, City Council agenda as a specific item, to be taken up at a time certain — I suggest 7 p.m. — to facilitate maximum citizen participation at the Council meeting.

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. Letters may be edited for publication. Unpublished letters will not be acknowledged or returned.

THANK YOU IRVINE VOTERS!

Build the Veterans Cemetery in the Great Park, NOW!

On June 5th, Irvine voters overwhelmingly defeated developer FivePoint's odious ballot measure (Measure B), with 63% voting NO!

I was proud to chair the NO on B campaign, but of course this was truly a community-led grassroots effort.

Our victory would not have been possible without the hundreds of Irvine residents who proudly planted NO on B signs in their front yards; the generous donors who helped us purchase lawn signs; and the supporters who shared our NO on B message with their personal networks of friends and neighbors. All of this made the difference!

I also greatly appreciate the support our campaign received from *Irvine Community News & Views (ICNV)*. I first learned about developer FivePoint's land-grab scheme through an investigative series published in *ICNV* last summer. That series of articles motivated a group of Irvine veterans, along with our families and friends, to launch the **Save the Veterans Cemetery in the Great Park campaign**.

Voters would not have learned the truth about massive development being the driving force behind Measure B without the financial support our campaign received from *ICNV*.

Although Irvine voters defeated Measure B, we still have important work to do — together!

Mark your calendar. Come to the July 10th City Council meeting. Your presence will support Councilmember Jeff Lalloway's agenda item and

motion to direct City staff to restore Irvine's promise to begin building our Veterans Cemetery in the Great Park, immediately.

On June 5th, our No on B victory was made possible because hundreds and hundreds of Irvine residents worked together. On July 10th, we need to come together, yet again. Together, let's make sure the City Council understands that Irvine residents expect them to listen to the voters and take immediate action to begin building our Veterans Cemetery in the Great Park. We should accept nothing less.



To see how YOU can help us finish this fight — please visit our website:

BuildTheGreatParkVeteransCemetery.org

Please make a donation, today!

Edward S. Pope

Edward S. Pope

Veteran, U.S. Army

Chair, Build the Great Park Veterans Cemetery

Retired teacher and 46-year Irvine resident

