



Publisher's Perspective

The Veterans Cemetery Story Continues...

- >>> Our *Irvine Community News & Views* coverage of the Veterans Cemetery continues. Whether the approved plans to build the Veterans Memorial Park and Cemetery in the Great Park are honored by the City Council — or not — is of immense importance not just to Orange County veterans and their families, but to all Irvine residents as well. We have news stories and analysis on pages 1-3. And we hear from residents and veterans themselves in our Open Forum section, pages 10-11.
- >>> Also, be sure to take a look at our back page, page 12, that includes an appeal encouraging Irvine residents to sign an online petition, calling upon the City Council to follow through on the Great Park Veterans Cemetery project.
- >>> I want to express *ICNV's* recognition and gratitude to Councilmembers Jeff Lalloway and Lynn Schott for their leadership — remaining steadfast in their support for the Veterans Cemetery in the Great Park, which has been planned and approved for years...and where it belongs. Now, let's get it built and operational!
- >>> On page 9, Dr. Harvey Liss, an investigative journalist and Science & Technology Editor with *ICNV*, introduces an important series on the global Climate Crisis — and what role Irvine and other municipalities can play in meeting this challenge.

As always, thank you for your continuing readership!

Franklin J. Lunding

Franklin J. Lunding, Publisher and Editor



Follow Us on Facebook at:
[Facebook.com/IrvineCommunityNews](https://www.facebook.com/IrvineCommunityNews)

Five-Point “Land-Swap” Attacked as Developer “Land-Grab”



Councilmember Jeff Lalloway, who continues to lead the effort to establish the Veterans Cemetery in the Great Park, argues against the FivePoint “land-swap” proposal, championed by Councilmember Christina Shea.

The developer “land-swap” proposal to kill the previously approved plan for a Veterans Cemetery in the Great Park is running into a buzz-saw of questions and criticism from City staff and from Irvine residents.

At its tumultuous April 4th meeting, which focused on the next steps in implementing the planned Veterans Cemetery in the Great Park, a divided City Council directed the City planning staff to elicit information about an “alternative” plan pushed by developer FivePoint Communities.

Championed since 2016 by Councilmember Christina Shea, the FivePoint plan has been a vague proposal to move the 125-acre Veterans Memorial Park and Cemetery out of the Great Park, locating it instead a couple of miles away on FivePoint-owned property near the Irvine Train Station and the convergence of the I-5 and I-405 Freeways, known as the El Toro “Y.” FivePoint would take ownership of the 125-acre Veterans Cemetery site in the Great Park, with land-development rights for massive commercial and office construction, and possibly more than 1,000 houses as well.

At its May 23rd meeting, the City Council was to receive a staff report, including answers to dozens of specific questions that the City Staff had posed to FivePoint officials. FivePoint

produced no response until just hours before the Council meeting. And what was produced seemed to raise many more questions about the land-swap.

Just hours prior to meeting, one long-time City official who spoke on condition of anonymity, said: “So far, this looks like a FivePoint land-grab. FivePoint wants to do their so-called land-swap right away. They want to grab 125 acres of the Great Park previously designated by the City and the State for the Veterans Cemetery, so they can quickly sell it off for commercial development, and possibly residential development on top of that.” The official then asked, “How in the world does that advance the prospects for getting a Veterans Cemetery built and operational in the next two years?”

At the meeting itself, Irvine resident Alan Meyerson gave public testimony, noting that the net effect of the FivePoint land-swap proposal would be for the City to lose the Veterans Cemetery in the Great Park, while

→ continued from page 1 → **“Land-Swap” Attacked as Developer “Land-Grab”**



The proposed Veterans Cemetery, which has been approved by the City, State, and Federal governments, is pictured here in red, as part of the Great Park. The FivePoint land-swap property (not pictured) is located near the convergence of the I-5 and I-405 Freeways, known as the El Toro “Y.”

FivePoint would make a quick profit of \$250 million on the land transaction. Others have estimated the value of the City-owned 125-acre Great Park site to be \$500 million or more. There has been no official appraisal of the property.

Councilmember Jeff Lalloway was quick to point out that while FivePoint had belatedly responded to some questions about the land-swap, there has been no analysis about what it will mean for the City to give up 125 acres of the Great Park to build more than 800,000 square feet of office and commercial development, generating nearly 10,000 additional daily automobile trips. (There would be even more if residential also permitted on the property.)

Lalloway noted this area of the City — along Irvine Boulevard — is already impacted by major traffic congestion. Intensified development — replacing the Veterans Cemetery in the Great Park with commercial development — would produce much worse traffic congestion affecting nearby residents of Portola Springs, Stonegate, and other nearby villages.

The matter is scheduled to come back to the City Council for consideration on June 27th, presumably with more information provided by staff, including a comparison of “critical pathways” — the time it will take to build the Veterans Cemetery and make it operational under the current Great Park plan, and the time it will take under the FivePoint land-swap proposal. [ICNV](#)



Camera shy: FivePoint chief political operative, Patrick Strader, is pictured here as part of the FivePoint team pushing to kill the Veterans Cemetery in the Great Park by pushing for their land-swap proposal. Strader attends many Council meetings, and is frequently seen texting messages to Councilmember Christina Shea and others when FivePoint issues are being discussed.

For more on the Veterans Cemetery issue...

- ✓ **Larry Agran’s letter to Governor Brown - Page 3**
- ✓ **Open Forum - Pages 10 - 11**
- ✓ **Veterans Appeal and Petition - Page 12**



Subscribe to *ICNV* for FREE at:
IrvineCommunityNews.org



CityWatch by Larry Agran*

I want to thank Irvine Community News & Views publisher Frank Lunding for encouraging me to devote my CityWatch page to publication of the letter I wrote to Governor Brown, urging State funding for the Veterans Cemetery in the Great Park. I am pleased to do so. — LA

May 25, 2017

Governor Jerry Brown,

I am writing to you as a former Mayor and longtime Councilmember here in the City of Irvine. It has been my honor to work with current Councilmembers Jeff Lalloway and Lynn Schott, and former Mayor and Councilmember Beth Krom as Irvine’s principal political leaders who, for more than three years, have been working with Assemblywoman Sharon Quirk-Silva to translate the vision of a State Veterans Cemetery into an operational reality. At this critical juncture, I am writing to thank you for your recent site visit to Irvine, and for your past support for establishment of the Southern California Veterans Cemetery in the Orange County Great Park, right here in Irvine. Joined by an anxious but hopeful Irvine community, **I now ask for your further support for the Veterans Cemetery in the State FY 2017/2018 Budget — so that, together, we can soon complete this important project.**

As you recall, three years ago, in a remarkable display of leadership and bi-partisan consensus-building, Assemblywoman Sharon Quirk-Silva successfully shepherded AB 1453 through the Legislature, winning unanimous approval for the measure which then, with the Governor’s signature, became law on September 27, 2014. Earlier in 2014, the Irvine City Council voted unanimously to convey the specifically referenced “ARDA” site within the Great Park in order to create the Veterans Cemetery. Reflecting this specific, generous gift of land, Section 1 of AB 1453 provides that the California Department of Veterans Affairs “shall design, develop, construct, and equip a state-owned and state-operated Southern California Veterans Cemetery, which shall be located at the site of the former Marine Corps Air Station El Toro, on 125 acres known as the Amended and Restated Development Agreement Site in the Great Park in the City of Irvine.”

AB 1453, as adopted, was *not* a mere suggestion or ethereal expression of hope. It was, and *is*, the law — a mandate to begin a process eventually culminating in the state-established, state-owned, state-operated and state-maintained Veterans Cemetery at the specified “ARDA” site, located in the Great Park. AB 1453 included an appropriation of \$500,000 for CalVet to commence planning, design, and the timely submission (July 1, 2016) of a grant application to the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. Having successfully completed these tasks, the project received federal approval, and the Southern California Veterans Cemetery is now on the “Priority List” to receive federal support toward the estimated \$77.4 million cost for further design, site preparation, and construction of Phase I of the Veterans Cemetery on the 125-acre ARDA site in the Great Park.

To accelerate project funding and construction, on April 4, 2017, the Irvine City Council made a further commitment, voting to commit up to \$38 million— roughly half the cost of the Veterans Cemetery project — from our own Great Park development fund. Frankly, our expressed expectation is that the State (and the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs) will provide the balance of the estimated funds needed to complete this project over the next two-and-one-half years, as planned.

We know that the FivePoint Communities development company continues to oppose the Veterans Cemetery in the Great Park, and has been actively lobbying at the State Capitol. FivePoint officials have been promoting a so-called “land-swap.” This land-swap, without any current City authorization or State enabling legislation, would move the Veterans Cemetery from its designated 125-acre site in the Great Park — generally applauded for years as the “perfect site” for the Veterans Cemetery — to an entirely different location. Under the land-swap proposal, the Veterans Cemetery would be moved to FivePoint property near the Irvine Train Station and the I-5 and I-405, far removed from the originally designated site within the Great Park. This is a bad idea for a number of reasons. Relying on a poorly defined land-swap scheme to undo what has already been done — and then to begin the entire process all over again, creating some kind of privately owned and operated Veterans Cemetery that has no present authorization in State law or local law — introduces a myriad of uncertainties, complications and delays. At the same time, resident resentment over the apparent abandonment of commitments made by the City of Irvine in 2014, and written into State law (AB 1453) that same year, would plunge our City into turmoil for years to come. There is already widespread talk among civic activists of resort to available options: litigation, initiatives, referenda, and even recalls.

Residents throughout Irvine have come to understand how FivePoint and its investors would benefit enormously from their proposed land-swap. But these same residents ask: Where is the benefit to the public, including California veterans and their families, and the residents of Irvine?

The proposed land-swap is a dangerous distraction that threatens to take us off the path of progress that has enabled us all to come this far — locally, at the State level, and at the Federal level as well. We have earned all the necessary approvals and are ready to begin on-site demolition construction of our Great Park Veterans Cemetery. State funding at this time will enable us to commence demolition and preliminary site preparation so that, by Veterans Day, 2019, the first of many thousands of veterans and their families can be laid to rest in the Southern California Veterans Cemetery in the Great Park — just as we promised and just as we wrote into law, together. Thank you for your continuing support and consideration.

Larry Agran
Larry Agran

*Larry Agran is a former Irvine City Councilmember and a public interest attorney. He served as Mayor of Irvine for six years in the 1980s and, again, from 2000-2004.



Published Monthly
Vol. 4, No. 6 • June 2017

© Copyright 2017

Irvine Community News & Views, LLC
A California Limited Liability Company
www.IrvineCommunityNews.org

Irvine Community News & Views is published by Irvine Community News & Views, LLC, a community newspaper established under the laws of the State of California, registered with the California Secretary of State, and licensed to do business in the City of Irvine. Irvine Community News & Views, LLC dba Irvine Community News & Views has its office at:
4199 Campus Drive, Suite 550
Irvine CA 92612.
Phone: (949) 725-2950
Email: Info@IrvineCommunityNews.org

Irvine Community News & Views provides a forum for Irvine residents and others to post events and voice their opinions. Irvine Community News & Views does not necessarily endorse the opinions expressed in this publication.

For Advertising Inquiries:
Kerrie Mahan 949-725-2950
kerrie@irvinecommunitynews.org

EXECUTIVE STAFF

Franklin J. Lunding
Publisher & Editor-In-Chief
Kerrie Mahan
Chief Operations Officer
& Calendar Editor

LOGISTICS, DISTRIBUTION
& ADVERTISING

Joel Smith
John Barbod
Mary Edmonds
Alan Meyerson

STAFF WRITERS
& CONTRIBUTORS

Larry Agran
Phyllis Agran
Evelyn Caicedo
Carolyn Inmon
Jake Jacobs
Jishuai Jia
Harris Kershner
Steve Layton
Harvey Liss
Sarita Sidhu
Joel Smith
Angelo Vassos
Marilyn Vassos

THANK YOU TO THESE OUTSTANDING BUSINESSES...
WHERE YOU CAN PICK UP IRVINE COMMUNITY NEWS & VIEWS

ALTON SQUARE Alton & Jeffrey • Chronic Tacos • Donut Star • Ralphs • Juice it Up • Mario's Shoe Repair • Sunny Fresh Cleaners	IRVINE AUTO CENTER • Norm Reeves Honda	SAND CANYON PLAZA Sand Canyon & Irvine Center Dr. • Irvine Bicycles • Starbucks • Oak Creek Pet Hospital • Sand Canyon Barber • Juice it Up • Jimmy John's Gourmet Sandwiches • Taco's & Co. • FlameBroiler • Sushi Boy
AMTRAK TRAIN STATION Barranca Pkwy & Ada. • Amtrak Train Station/Entrance	IRVINE BUSINESS COMPLEX • Astoria at Central Park West • El Torito • EvoFitnessUSA • FastFrame - Irvine • Cymboree - Irvine • Toscana Luxury Apartments	STONECREEK PLAZA Barranca in Woodbridge • Las Fajitas Grill • Stonecreek Barbers
AUTO CARE CENTER Irvine Center Dr. & Hubble • Auto Craft • Big O Tires • Car Tech • Irvine Auto Repair • Jiffy Lube • The Swedish Mechanic	IRVINE VILLAGE CENTER Jeffrey & Irvine Center Dr. • The Nail Bar • Heaven Spa & Salon • Irvine Valley Animal Hospital • Thai Spice	TUSTIN — EL CAMINO REAL • Toyota Dealership in Tustin Auto Center • Ansar International Market
CAMPUS PLAZA Campus & California • Albertsons • Gina's Pizza • Hen House Grill • Vitality Bowls	LAGUNA CANYON RD & ALTON PKWY • A Whale of a Tale Bookstore	UNIVERSITY PARK CENTER Culver & Michelson • Ameci Pizza & Pasta • Mag's Donuts & Bakery • Tacos & Co. • The Shoe Clinic
CROSSROADS Culver & Barranca • Paradise Bowls • Floyd's Barbershop • The Joint Chiropractic	NORTH PARK PLAZA SHOPPING CENTER Culver & Irvine Blvd. • Champagne French Bakery Cafe	UNIVERSITY TOWN CENTER Campus Dr. • California Gogi - Korean Grill • Eureka! • Ray's Pizza - New York Style • Yushoken - Izakaya & Ramen
CULVER PLAZA SHOPPING CENTER Culver & Irvine Center Drive • All That Barbeque / Korean BBQ • Postal Annex • The Car Spa	OAK CREEK SHOPPING CENTER Jeffrey & Alton • Daphne's Greek Cafe • Celton's • Jack's Surfboards • Upper Crust Pizza • Maizuru Sushi Bar - Japanese Restaurant • Mustard Cafe • Orange Theory Fitness	THE VILLAGE AT IRVINE SPECTRUM CENTER Prism & Spectrum • Starbucks • Village Market
CYPRESS VILLAGE SHOPPING CENTER Jeffrey & Trabuco • Albertsons • Olive Oil Mediterranean Grill • Honey Pig • Da Luau Hawaiian Grill	OLD MYFORD ROAD & IRVINE BLVD. • Katie Wheeler Library	WALNUT VILLAGE CENTER Culver & Walnut • Curves/Jenny Craig • Starbucks Coffee • Yes Cleaners
DIAMOND JAMBOREE Alton & Jamboree • Lower Level - Food Court Seating • Tokyo Table	ORCHARD HILLS VILLAGE CENTER Culver & Portola • Green Cleaners • Peet's Coffee & Tea	WESTPARK PLAZA Alton & Culver • Albertsons • Dickey's Barbeque Pit • Starbucks Coffee • Sprouts Farmers Market
HARVARD & MICHELSON • Irvine Lanes	PARK PLACE Michelson & Jamboree • Social Dry Lounge • Starbucks	WOODBRIDGE MEDICAL CENTER Barranca & Woodbridge Square • Woodbridge Walk-In Urgent Care
HARVARD PLACE Harvard & Main • Einstein Brothers Bagels • Fresh Brothers • Jamba Juice • Poquet Donuts • Irvine Optometry - Dr. Ruth Tang, O.D. • Nutrishop/Sports Nutrition • Honeybee Ice Cream Ralphs • Rubio's • Togo's Great Sandwiches	PARKVIEW CENTER University & Michelson • AIM Mail Centers - Postal Annex • Dr. Sarlitt, Dr. Vo - Optometry • Maxwell's Salon of London • Pho-Tasia	WOODBRIDGE VILLAGE CENTER Barranca & Creek • Champagne French Bakery Cafe • Irvine Car Wash
HERITAGE PARK Walnut & Yale • Heritage Park Regional Library	QUAIL HILL SHOPPING CENTER Sand Canyon • Albertsons • Starbucks • Johnny's Real N.Y. Pizza • Natraj's Tandoori - Indian Food • Chill Pistachios Frozen Treats	WOODBURY TOWN CENTER Sand Canyon & Irvine Blvd. • CNC • NIKO NIKO Sushi • Ralphs • Rock n' Road Cyclery
HERITAGE PLAZA Culver & Walnut • Caffé Bene • Caspian Restaurant • Super Irvine International Market • Ralphs	HOAG MEDICAL GROUP 4870 Barranca Parkway • Physical Therapy, Suite 340	

Thinking Of Selling Your Irvine Home? Read This First:
FREE CONSUMER GUIDE

NO OBLIGATION • MAILED TO YOUR HOME FREE

This Consumer Awareness Guide Reveals:

- The 12 most important questions to ask when selecting an agent...
- The secret as to *WHY* homes sell (NOTE: Most agents don't want you to know this.)
- When is the right time to downsize...
- Staging strategies that attract buyers, sell homes quicker and generate top dollar for the owners...
- 4 steps to getting your home sold...



Call this Free Recorded Message to request your copy:

800-504-4237 ID#1100

Call 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. You will not speak to anyone.

Service provided by Janel Meric, Realtor
Realty ONE Group, CalBre#01878341 - 949-375-8391

Jason Tu
(949) 347-5086
Jason.Tu@iTechs.com

Certified iTech
Mobile Device Repair Specialist
www.iCracked.com

Put your ad
HERE
Contact Kerrie
kerrie@irvinecommunitynews.org



Save 20%!
*Save a 20% on your Entire Transaction!
Online code: 20AD

Santa Ana
MainPlace
June 1 - 5
Irvine
Great Park Orange County
June 8 - 18

BUY NOW!
CircusVargas.com

Let us help you spread the word about your business throughout Irvine!
Call or email Kerrie Mahan, Advertising Coordinator • 949-725-2950 • kerrie@irvinecommunitynews.org



Subscribe to ICNV for FREE at:
IrvineCommunityNews.org



Follow Us on Facebook at:
[Facebook.com/IrvineCommunityNews](https://www.facebook.com/IrvineCommunityNews)

Community Calendar

June/July 2017



WALT AND THE FLYING BULL EXHIBITION

Great Park Gallery, begins June 3rd and runs through mid-August, Thursdays through Sundays, times vary, check CityofIrvine.org for more info.

In 1943, Walt Disney designed the El Toro "Flying Bull" logo for Marine Corps Air Station, El Toro. Walt Disney Productions created approximately 1,200 designs during World War II for both American and Allied military units. All of this work was a donation to the war effort.

This exhibition will detail a brief history of Disney Insignia Art and feature original artwork inspired by World War II, created by contemporary artists working for Walt Disney Productions, Marvel Entertainment, and Pixar Animation Studios.

Contemporary artists include: Dave Avanzino, Patrick Ballesteros, Steven Daily, Matt Haley, Julie Lee, Nolen Lee, Craig Mackay, Jeff McMillan, Linnea Motts, John T Quinn III, Kurtis Schureman, Michele Svengsouk, Benjamin Thomas, Edwin Ushiro and Rebecca Wong.

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

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
4 Super Pet Adoption. Animal Care Center. 10am-4pm. Info: 949-724-7740 	5 Sing-Along. Lakeview Senior Center. 10:30-11:30am. Info: 949-724-6900 	6 Short Story Book Club. Heritage Park Library. 2:30-4:30pm. Info: 949-936-4040	7 Barre Strength and Stretch. Rancho Senior Center Ballroom. 3:30-4:15pm. Info: 949-724-6800 	8 Steam Cirque. Circus Vargas. Runs 6/8 - 6/18 at the OC Great Park. 7:30pm. Info: CircusVargas.com 	9 Walt and the Flying Bull Exhibition. Great Park Gallery. 12-4pm. Info: 866-829-3829	3 Studio Arts Festival. Fine Arts Center. 9am-5pm. Info: 949-724-6880
11 The Story of the Irvine Ranch. Limestone Canyon Nature Preserve. 8am-12pm. Registration Required. Info: LetsGoOutside.org	12 Evening Hike. Orchard Hills. 6:30-8:30pm. Registration Required. Info: LetsGoOutside.org 	13 City Council Meeting. Irvine City Hall. 4pm. Info: 949-724-6233 	14 Hussam Ayloush, Executive Director of CAIR-LA will be speaking on "Fighting Islamophobia in 2017". IRWD Community Room. 1:45pm. Info: www.au-oc.org or 714-299-4551 	15 Travel Adventure Slideshow. Lakeview Senior Center. 6:30-8:30pm. Free. Info: 949-724-6900	16 Father's Day Luncheon. Lakeview Senior Center. 11:30-12:30pm. Info: 949-724-6900 	17 Movies on the Lawn: Sing. OC Great Park. 8:15pm. Info: 949-724-6247
18 Father's Day. Santiago Oaks Stewardship. Santiago Oaks Regional Park. 9am-12pm. Registration Required. Info: LetsGoOutside.org 	19 Open Dance Studio. Trabuco Senior Center. 3-5pm. Info: 949-724-7300	20 Trivia Night. Anthill Pub & Grille. 8pm. Info: 949-824-3050 	21 Young Professionals Summer Mixer. Sponsored by the Children's Bureau and Young Professionals of OC. Paul Martin's American Grill. Info: 949-453-1144	22 OC Writers Read & Review. Katie Wheeler Library. 6-7:45pm. Info: 714-669-8753 	23 World's Largest Swimming Lesson. William Woollett Jr. Aquatics Center. 5:30pm. Info: 949-724-6717 	24 Senior Tennis. Woodbridge High School Tennis Court. 8-11am. Info: 714-307-8072
25 Farmers Market. OC Great Park. 10am-2pm. Info: 866-829-3829 	26 Chinese Brush Painting. Lakeview Senior Center. 2-4pm. \$10/class. Info: 949-724-6900 	27 City Council Meeting. Irvine City Hall. 4pm. Info: 949-724-6233	28 Collect Wildflowers Seeds. Native Seed Farm. 8:30-12pm. Registration Required. Info: LetsGoOutside.org 	29 Self-Paced Fitness Hike. Irvine Open Space Preserve. 6-8pm. Registration Required. Info: LetsGoOutside.org 	30 4th of July Luncheon. Lakeview Senior Center. 11:30-12:30pm. Info: 949-724-6900 	1 JULY Movies on the Lawn: The Lego Batman Movie. OC Great Park. 8:15pm. Info: events@ocgp.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.



"Paco" is a neutered male, Black Chihuahua – Smooth Coated and Italian Greyhound. She is about 2 years old. For more information about Paco and other adoptable pets, or the IACC, call 949-724-7740 or email info@irvineshelter.org



STUDIO ARTS FESTIVAL

Each June, the Irvine Fine Arts Center hosts the annual Studio Arts Festival in Heritage Park. The juried festival showcases Southern California artists and their original works of art for purchase in ceramics, sculpture, jewelry, painting, photography, fiber and glass. The festival also features a live performance by Alpha Mule, art demonstrations, and food including ice cream sundaes served in handmade collectible ceramic bowls.

Saturday, June 3, 9am - 5pm
Info: 949-724-6880

Since its first publication, Irvine Community News & Views has attracted many fine writers and photojournalists, all of them local to Irvine and Orange County. We are pleased to reserve this page for publication of their special columns and features, which can also be found on our website: IrvineCommunityNews.org.



SchoolWatch: Irvine's Youth Action Team – An Excellent Opportunity for Teens

by Carolyn Inmon

Attention parents and high school students: Get ready for summertime...and for fall! Irvine's High School Youth Action Team offers outstanding opportunities for young people — teenagers — to serve the Irvine community alongside other civic-minded teens who value public service and working with peers to improve our schools and our City.

I saw firsthand just how effective these bright and hardworking young people could be when I served on the Irvine Children, Youth and Families Advisory Committee. Sometimes teens appear to be just token members of groups, but that's not the case with the Youth Action Team. Their ideas and insights are not only accepted, but are sought out. Their ability to work with others is excellent, and their contributions to our community are real.

The Youth Action Team puts on programs for their fellow students — for example, staging useful informational forums on how to get that all-important first summer job. The students also stage serious topical programs — such as a program on the hazards of tobacco and alcohol use. Another recent program involved the showing of the movie,

Screenagers: Growing Up in the Digital Age. The Youth Action Team also organizes events in the arts, including Battle of the Bands and the Teen Poetry Slam and Art Show. At election season, they sponsor programs encouraging voter registration, especially among younger, first-time voters. And a number of activities are of a charitable nature, for example, packaging food for families at local food banks.



Student volunteers can join an on-campus Youth Action Team club at their high school. In anticipation of the summer break and the 2017-2018 school year, this is a great way for teenagers to get involved in public service to benefit their peers and the entire Irvine community. And it's the kind of public service that is always a good thing to have on college applications as well.

Thank you, students, for your leadership and your service! And thanks, as well, to Steve Knollmiller who — working with these high school students as Program Coordinator with the City of Irvine's Community Services Department — is making such a valuable contribution to our City. By the way, Steve can be reached by phone at (949) 724-6739.

**Carolyn is a retired Irvine teacher. She taught at virtually every grade level, from K-12, as well as community college. She served as President of the Community College Association from 2005-2007. Carolyn recently co-authored a book with Tanya Brown, which is now available. It is entitled, "The Seven Characters of Abuse: Domestic Violence — Where it Starts and Where It Can End."*



A beautiful moment. Photojournalist Angelo Vassos captured this magnificent backyard Jacaranda tree — at the Culver/I-405 onramp — at absolute peak bloom in mid-May, to the delight of thousands of passing motorists. One observer on hand for the photo moment said, "That's the purplest Jacaranda I've ever seen!"

Science & Technology A NEW ICNV SERIES ON CLIMATE CHANGE

ICNV is pleased to be publishing a series of articles on climate change — asking us all to think globally and act locally. We are proud to introduce a team of Orange County science writers specializing in key aspects of this global and local climate crisis. The first article in this series is by Sarah Mosko, Ph.D. Dr. Mosko vividly illustrates how — in the face of this environmental challenge — local activism can significantly impact global policy.

Regardless of political persuasion, everyone seems to agree that the Earth's

climate is rapidly and dramatically changing. Many localities, around the world, are taking action to protect their citizens against rising sea levels and extraordinarily destructive storms.

We hope you find this series illuminating and motivating. Dr. Mosko would welcome any comments our ICNV readers may have on this topic. Please write to Editor@IrvineCommunityNews.org.

— *Harvey H. Liss, Ph.D., ICNV editor for Science and Technology*

Irvine: The Little Engine That Could

by Sarah Mosko, Ph.D.

Irvine led on restoring the ozone layer and should lead now on climate change.

Ozone Depletion: The First Global Environmental Crisis

The depletion of the protective ozone layer in the Earth's atmosphere by manmade chemicals was the global community's first environmental crisis. Today, climate change, largely attributable to greenhouse gas emissions from burning fossil fuels, is the second and far more frightening crisis.

The people of Irvine can be proud that actions taken by the City Council in 1989 were instrumental in creating a blueprint at the local level for carrying out the aspirations set forth in the 1987 Montreal protocol, the international agreement to restore the ozone layer. It is widely hailed as the most successful global environmental treaty ever. As the global community today faces the reality that unchecked global warming could unleash catastrophic effects impacting all future generations, Irvine can and should resurrect the same purpose and determination that inspired the City to make a difference back then.

In 1974, scientists at UC Irvine, led by Nobel laureates (1995) F. Sherwood Rowland and Mario J. Molina, predicted that the Earth's protective ozone layer would be seriously diminished by the rampant use of halogens — chemicals, such as CFCs (chlorofluorocarbons) and other ozone-depleting compounds then used as refrigerants, spray can propellants, and solvents. The ozone layer acts as a shield, preventing the most harmful ultraviolet radiation in sunlight (UVB) from reaching the Earth's surface. Excessive exposure to UVB is known to cause not only sunburn, skin cancers and cataracts but also damage to crops and reduction of plankton populations vital to the ocean food web.

It wasn't until 1985 that the infamous hole in the ozone layer over Antarctica was discovered, as Rowland and Molina predicted. That triggered the international alarm that led to the Montreal Protocol. Because action at the federal level was painfully slow in coming, the Irvine City Council, then led by Mayor Larry Agran and City Councilmember Cameron Cosgrove, boldly passed the most far-reaching, legally enforceable measure anywhere to eliminate CFCs and other ozone-depleting substances. This remarkable ordinance prohibited using CFCs and other targeted halogens in most industrial processes

in the City of Irvine.

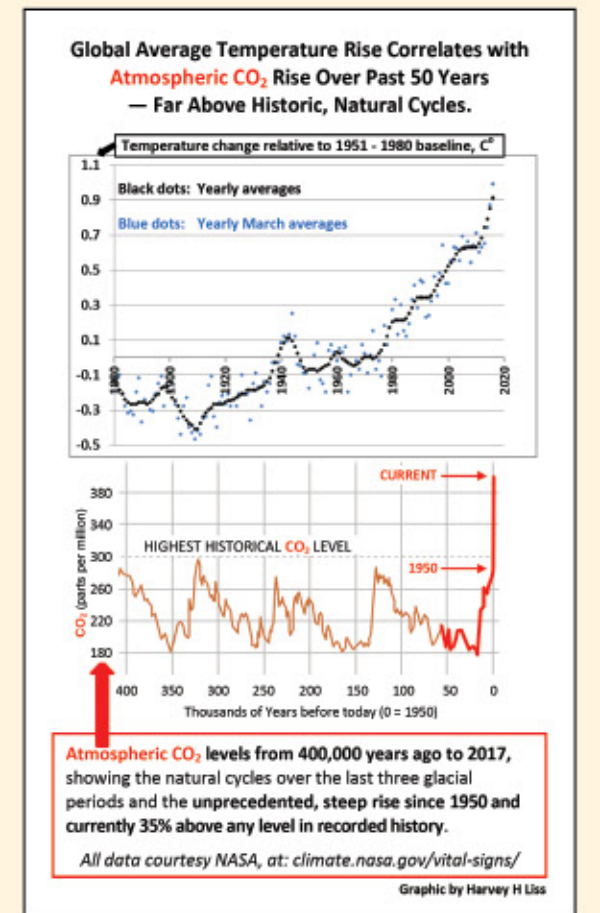
The City Council, in taking responsible action at the local level, believed that other jurisdictions would be empowered to use Irvine's ordinance as a model. That is exactly what happened in many cities and counties across America and throughout the world, and today we know that the hole in the ozone layer is shrinking and we have overcome that global environmental crisis.

Climate Change: The Second Global Environmental Crisis

Now we are faced with a second, far greater global environmental crisis. News reports worldwide tell us that the effects of climate change are already being felt, while scientists tell us that the window of opportunity to take aggressive actions to prevent runaway global warming is the next 10 to 15 years, at best. Though the 2015 Paris Agreement shows there is worldwide consensus on the urgency of tackling climate change, President Trump has threatened to throw a wrench into the agreement by pulling the U.S. out of this historic international agreement. Even if the U.S. remains a participant, there is no guarantee that Congress or the President has the political will to enact laws in time to move from an economy based on fossil fuels to one based on renewable energy sources.

As in 1989, local jurisdictions can and are leading the nation in solving the climate crisis. The State of California and 45 cities around the nation have enacted resolutions calling on Congress to take decisive action on climate change, or more specifically, to impose some form of a fee on carbon, with dividends returned to consumers. What's more, dozens of cities and counties in California are formulating plans allowing public entities to purchase energy from renewable sources, though none is in Orange County.

As a leading example, the City of San Diego has courageously passed the first comprehensive, legally binding Climate Action Plan that is crafted to cut the city's carbon footprint in half by 2035. Components of the plan include: commitment to 100% renewable electricity; upgrading buildings to be more energy and water efficient; guiding development to make



mass transit, walking and biking more accessible; 100% waste diversion from landfills; and making the City more climate resilient with measures like increasing the tree canopy.

The impact Irvine had in reining in ozone-depleting chemicals in 1989 is concrete proof that thinking globally and acting locally is more than a feel-good mantra. Irvine should take a cue from San Diego and once again become a leader in environmental protection — this time as a driving force in formulating and propagating an innovative blueprint for climate change action that other jurisdictions can then replicate.

When Irvine took the lead in meeting the ozone challenge, it became front-page news in the *New York Times* and other papers throughout the world. The City even won a United Nations award for leadership in environmental protection.

Irvine was once the little engine that could, and did lead the world. It should do so, again, this time to meet the climate change crisis.

**Sarah Mosko is a licensed psychologist and sleep disorder specialist, with a background in neurobiology and medical research that enables her to research and cogently explain current scientific research findings. She received her M.A. and Ph.D. at Princeton University, and held an NIH Postdoctoral Fellowship at UC San Diego. Dr. Mosko is an active environmentalist who resides in Orange County.*

OPEN FORUM *FREE SPEECH FOREVER!*



Franklin J. Lunding
Publisher

Irvine Residents Favor Great Park Site for Veterans Cemetery and Oppose Developer "Land-Swap"

Hundreds of Irvine residents participated in ICNV's Irvine Community Poll for May. They voiced strong resident support for the City's approved plan — also approved by the State and Federal government — to put the State Veterans Memorial Park and Cemetery on a 125-acre parcel in the Great Park. By a 3-to-1 majority, residents not only expressed continuing citywide support for the Great Park Cemetery site; they rejected the "land-swap" being pushed by developer FivePoint Communities.

The land-swap would kill the Veterans Cemetery in the Great Park, move it miles away to land near the Irvine Train Station and the El Toro "Y," and turn over the 125-acre Great Park site to FivePoint for commercial development and possibly residential development as well. By killing the Veterans Cemetery in the Great Park and replacing it with development, nearly 10,000 average daily auto trips would be added to Irvine Boulevard and other already-overcrowded streets in northern Irvine.

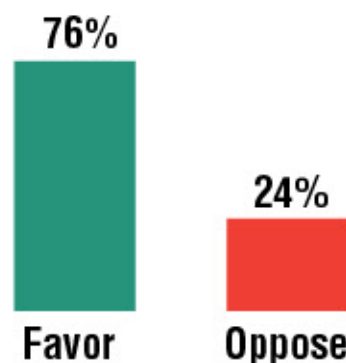
The more that Irvine residents learn about the developer-promoted land-swap, the more unpopular it is. In fact, only about 1 in 8 poll respondents actually favors the Veterans Cemetery land-swap. (Another 1 in 8 are just against any cemetery in town...period!) The Comments, Notes and Letters we've received make clear just how strongly Irvine residents feel about this entire matter. Take a look at the representative sample of opinions and observations offered by your Irvine friends and neighbors. — FJL

What Do YOU Think?

Do you favor or oppose keeping the Veterans Memorial Park and Cemetery on the 125-acre site in the Great Park, as planned?

IRVINE COMMUNITY POLL (May) Taking the Pulse of the Irvine Community

Do you favor or oppose keeping the Veterans Memorial Park and Cemetery in the Great Park, as planned?



Comments, Notes and Letters

■ The Veterans Memorial Park and Cemetery needs to be in a scenic, restful environment, easily available to surviving family members and friends, not between two noisy freeways.

—*Timothy Hoffmann*

■ My husband and I have lived here in Irvine for 30+ years. As long-time residents of Irvine — and my husband is a veteran — we've wished and hoped Irvine would someday have a Veterans Cemetery. When we heard of such plans in the making, we were excited. You can't imagine the joy. All these years of wishing and hoping, the Veterans Cemetery was actually going to come true. Irvine is our home, and no other resting place has ever crossed our minds. To see what transpired in the April 4th meeting — with Councilmember Shea and Mayor Wagner and Councilmember Melissa Fox's added language [in support of the FivePoint "land swap"] — deeply disturbed us. It's shameful.

—*[Name withheld on request]*

■ I can't believe that big money is corrupting this once beautiful city, and residents are so naïve about this whole corruption process. Look at the constant recycling of puppet Councilmembers. The big money of FivePoint keeps them in power.

—*Ron Sal*

■ It is absolutely shameful that the interests of FivePoint Communities should trump the desires of the veterans and spouses and children of veterans who served during World War II, the Korean War (like my husband), the Vietnam War, and the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. Our veterans served to secure our freedom, not to enable FivePoint Communities to profit from the land in the Great Park meant for the burial of our veterans.

—*Ernestina Benson*

■ FivePoint has opined that Chinese residents would object to the Great Park location for the Veterans Cemetery because of feng shui issues. This is contradicted by the situation at nearby Pacific View Memorial Cemetery; homes about the cemetery, and the cemetery is the burial place for many Chinese families.

—*David Proctor*

■ There should be no higher priority on City government officials' agenda than to bring the Veterans Cemetery to fruition.

—*John J. McNamara III*

■ Having a place for our veterans to rest is far more important than bringing more housing and more people to an already crowded city.

—*Jessica Bern*

■ The best land here is where the best Americans should be put to rest — in the Great Park. I would also like to see affordable housing for the living veterans here in the Great Park. Then it would live up to its name. I know a disabled female veteran who lives in her car. Disgraceful. My father was a disabled World War II veteran, and he received \$19 a month for his injury. When we value our military, it means more than a bumper sticker and a flag pin on your lapel. It means paying taxes and honoring their service too.

—*Lurette Forrest*

■ I do not want to see a graveyard whenever I go through the Great Park. The Great Park is for living people. The Great Park should have something special to tell the world about its greatness — like a Multicultural Center to show how different cultures can live in harmony.

—*Anupam Bajaj*

■ We will honor our Heroes and their families by building the Veterans Cemetery at the Great Park! It will forever honor all the veterans.

—*Thomas Serna*

■ The Veterans Cemetery should stay in its original site, where it is planned. It is a quiet and much better location. Do not let the developers win. They are already ruining Irvine.

—*Cindy Davis*

■ Councilmember Melissa Fox outfoxed us all...I wasn't expecting that! I am disappointed. I asked her to explain her position on Facebook and haven't heard anything. This is so not the Fox I voted for. I do not want FivePoint to control one more thing in Irvine!

—*Joanne Slobodien*

■ I absolutely support a Veterans Cemetery on the Great Park site. We do not need any additional housing on the site. Housing was never part of the original plan.

—*Pat Wilhoit*

■ There can be no more fitting way to honor our veterans and the history of the El Toro Marine Corps Airbase — where the Great Park is located — than to proceed with the Veterans Cemetery project. The Cemetery should remain in the more dignified and peaceful setting that was originally chosen for it!

—*Cathy Calkins*

■ Melissa Fox is a disappointment because she did not fully support the Great Park location for the Veterans Cemetery.

—*Corliss Houston*

■ The FivePoint site is better for the Veterans Cemetery. It's less expensive for the City and State.

—*John Eric Yopes*

■ I want to see a Veterans Cemetery built in the fastest, most sensible way. It matters less to me where it is located.

—*Mary Orr*

■ The Veterans Cemetery is about recognizing our Veterans who have served our country. It is not about corporations or special interest groups, led by FivePoint, that look at the bottom line only. It is obvious FivePoint is trying to buy their way with the City Council to sell more homes.

—*Jon Brownell*

■ FREE LAND FOR FIVEPOINT!

—*Larry Bales*

■ The Veterans Cemetery should be south of the Great Park, on land that is still a part of the Marine Corps Airbase.

—*Bill Sandlin*

■ We were promised that a Veterans Cemetery would be built in the Great Park. It's time to take action and get it built, without further delay and without interference from outsiders.

—*Marshall Goldman*

■ The voters of Orange County voted to have the Great Park be for all people, no matter where they live. It is the people's park. The Veterans Cemetery is a memorial in honor of all veterans, and it should be located in the Great Park.

—*Susan Sayre*

■ I know who Mayor Wagner is looking out for — and it's not the citizens of Irvine.

—*David Day*

■ We voted for the Veterans Cemetery, and now having this held up is heartbreaking.

—*Bobi Rush*

■ The plans for the Veterans Memorial Park and Cemetery in the Great Park have been approved. I see this latest effort to change the location as a way to stall moving forward with the Veterans Cemetery. I am very upset that the City Council is so willing to favor FivePoint. It seems to me that money talks more than the will of Orange County citizens.

—*Susan Finn*

■ Please, please, let's get this Veterans Cemetery started before anyone else tries to sabotage it. We would like to see the original Great Park site for the Veterans Cemetery — and not the land-swap.

—*Janice Konkol*

■ Please, please, let's get this Veterans Cemetery started before anyone else tries to sabotage it.

—*Jim and Jennifer Korb*

■ I feel there should be more park space, trees, benches and walking trails at the Great Park. I don't feel a Cemetery is the appropriate use of this most valuable property.

—*Patricia D. Weinstock*

■ I am a veteran, and I would very much like to see the Great Park at the El Toro Marine Corps Airbase be used partly as a Veterans Cemetery.

—*Al Martinez*

■ Please, please, please keep the Veterans Cemetery in the Great Park! I will have a permanent resting place in my hometown.

—*Matthew Wright*

■ I oppose building cemeteries. It would be more ideal to revamp the Great Park into an amphitheater, which all families can enjoy with their loved ones.

—*Julie Lee*

■ You know, in all my days I don't ever recall hearing anyone say, "I dream of someday being laid to rest in some ugly junction between freeways." The Veterans Cemetery was always to be located in a peaceful setting.

—*Agapito Soto*



At the May 23rd City Council meeting, Angelo Vassos, an Air Force veteran and 51-year resident of Irvine, testified as follows:

I don't understand why the City Council would consider dropping a site for the Veterans Cemetery that has already been approved at all levels of government — our City, the State, and the Federal government. By legislation, a site within the Great Park has been designated which would be maintained by the State of California in perpetuity, with no cost to the residents of Irvine.

On the other hand, if we factor in politics and money (lots of money) spent by developers to elect two Council members [Christina Shea and Mayor Don Wagner], it becomes clear what's going on. The greed of the developers who would interrupt and change the Veterans Cemetery project so they can make still more money has become the deciding factor in this City. It shouldn't be that way. No fellow veteran that I have spoken with who lives in Irvine agrees with this developer land-swap boondoggle.

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.

Sign Our Petition to Build the Veterans Cemetery in the Great Park NOW, As Planned.

Please Join Us! VISIT: <https://irvinecommunitynewsandviews.org/VeteransCemeteryPetition> to sign our Great Park Veterans Cemetery petition and voice your support.

To the Irvine Community:

We ask the People of Irvine to join us — to sign our petition calling upon the Irvine City Council to honor our veterans and their families by keeping the sacred promise we made to build the Veterans Memorial Park and Cemetery in the Great Park, as planned.

Build the Veterans Cemetery in the Great Park, Now!

We, the undersigned, call upon the City Council to follow through on its original plan and promise — adopted by resolution of the Council in July, 2014; enacted by the State Legislature (AB 1453) in September, 2014; and approved by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs in 2016 — to build the Southern California Veterans Memorial Park and Cemetery on a dedicated parcel of 125 acres of land in the Great Park.

The City's generous gift of land to the State of California allows the 125-acre Veterans Memorial Park and Cemetery to be built in our 1,300-acre Great Park for an estimated \$77 million (the cost of just one railroad underpass in Irvine). Under State law, our beautiful Veterans Memorial Park and Cemetery would be maintained in perpetuity by the State of California (Section of AB 1453) and the U.S. Veterans Administration. This means there would be no maintenance costs to the City of Irvine, ever.

Reject the "Land Swap"

We further call upon the Mayor and City Council to reject the so-called "land swap" proposal being promoted by the FivePoint Communities development company. The land swap would result in the City's dismembering and shrinking the Great Park by transferring ownership of the 125-acre Great Park Veterans Cemetery site to FivePoint, and granting FivePoint the right to develop the parkland for commercial and industrial uses, and possibly for 2,000 additional housing units. Meanwhile, the Veterans Cemetery would be banished to a site miles away from the Great Park, near the junction of the I-5 and I-405 Freeways, where FivePoint has made vague promises to build some kind of "private" Veterans Cemetery.

The estimated windfall profit to FivePoint from this land swap scheme is \$500,000,000 or more, reflecting unconscionable developer greed and disrespect — all at the expense of veterans, veterans' families, and all Irvine residents.

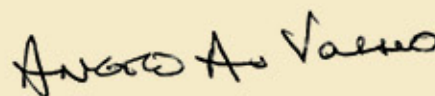
This is wrong. It's just plain wrong.

Do The Right Thing.

Let's do the right thing. Let's honor American veterans and their families by respecting our local and State law and following through on our promise. Let's build the Veterans Cemetery in the Great Park, as planned, so that by Veterans Day, 2019, the first of many deserving American veterans and their families can be laid to rest, just as we promised, in the Veterans Memorial Park and Cemetery in the Great Park.



Edward S. Pope
U.S. Army (1961-1963)



Angelo Vassos
U.S. Air Force (1950-1954)



Larry Agran
U.S. Army Reserves (1963-1966)

Please Join Us! VISIT: <https://irvinecommunitynewsandviews.org/VeteransCemeteryPetition> to sign our Great Park Veterans Cemetery petition and voice your support.

Sponsored by: *Irvine Community News & Views* and the Irvine Great Park Veterans Cemetery Committee, a special project of Planning 2020, Inc., a non-profit corporation.