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Serving the Villages and Neighborhoods of Irvine

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## Publisher's Perspective

**Stop Complaining!  
Start Voting!  
NO on B!**

**W**ith the important June 5th election right around the corner, it's time to stop complaining...and start voting! **NO on Measure B!**

Judging by the volume of letters, comments, and unsolicited complaints I receive, most Irvine residents understand that overdevelopment and the horrendous traffic it brings are damaging — many say “ruining” — our planned City.

Complaining is one thing. But what can be done about it? **Vote NO on Measure B!** Measure B, on the June 5th Irvine ballot, is the land-grab and development scheme (Zone Change Ordinance No. 17-08) put together by developer FivePoint Communities and rubber-stamped by three City Council cheerleaders for FivePoint — Mayor Don Wagner and Councilmembers Christina Shea and Melissa Fox.

If allowed to become law, this complicated Zone Change Ordinance would enable FivePoint to replace the long-planned and approved Veterans Cemetery in the Great Park with 812,000 square feet of office, industrial and manufacturing development, bringing **10,000 added cars and trucks every day** to Irvine streets and neighborhoods.

But thanks to the hundreds of volunteers and 19,164 Irvine residents who signed a referendum petition, the Mayor and City Council were forced to put their unpopular Zone Change Ordinance No. 17-08 on the June 5th ballot. Irvine voters can now say **NO** by voting **NO** on Measure B. So, don't just complain. **VOTE!**

*Franklin J. Lunding*

Franklin J. Lunding, Publisher and Editor



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## MORE Development...10,000 MORE Cars

# Will Irvine Voters Say “Yes” or “No” to More Development and More Traffic?



**More Development. More Traffic.** Measure B on the June 5th ballot is a Zone Change Ordinance written for the benefit of developer FivePoint. A “Yes on B” vote would rezone the long-planned, 125-acre Veterans Cemetery site in the Great Park for 812,000 square feet of office and industrial development. FivePoint's massive development in the Great Park, along Irvine Boulevard, would bring nearly 10,000 more cars and trucks every day to Irvine streets and neighborhoods. Also, under the FivePoint “land-swap” plan, the Veterans Cemetery would be relegated to a freeway site next to the busy I-5/I-405 interchange (the El Toro “Y”).

**G**iant land developer FivePoint Communities is telling Irvine voters that a “yes” vote on Measure B is a vote for a Veterans Cemetery. But is it, really?

“In a word, NO!” says **Mary Ann Gaido**, former City Councilmember and long-time Irvine Planning Commissioner. Gaido recently took the City to court to prove that Measure B, on the June 5th ballot, is really about a FivePoint land-development scheme. Its purpose, she says, is “to replace our previously approved Veterans Cemetery in the Great Park with massive office and industrial development.”

On April 6th, Gaido won the argument in Superior Court, getting a favorable ruling from Judge Walter Schwarm. But will she and the grassroots NO on B campaign win on June 5th, when Irvine voters have the chance to say NO to Measure B once and for all? We'll soon see.

→ continued on page 2 →



→ continued from page 1 → **More Development...10,000 more cars!**

Gaido filed her court case against the City and developer FivePoint in February, asking the court to compel the City Council to honestly disclose to Irvine voters what Measure B is about. “The plain truth,” says Gaido, “is that a vote for Measure B is a vote for Zone Change Ordinance 17-08.” But Ordinance 17-08 *isn’t* about a Veterans Cemetery at all. It’s a lengthy, complicated Zone Change Ordinance with more than 12,000 words and big tables that are all about granting ownership and development rights to FivePoint to build office and industrial projects on 125 acres in our Great Park — on a site that was previously designated and approved (2014-2016) for a Veterans Memorial Park and Cemetery.”

Ordinance 17-08, which is now known as Measure B on the June 5th ballot, would **replace** the Veterans Cemetery in the Great Park with 812,000 square feet of FivePoint development: office, manufacturing and industrial projects yielding hundreds of millions of dollars in profits for the developer. Meanwhile, if Measure B passes, the long-planned Veterans Cemetery in the Great Park would be relocated to a site three miles away, alongside the busy, noisy I-5/I-405 freeway interchange, commonly known as the El Toro “Y”.



In addition to office and industrial projects, Measure B (Ordinance 17-08) allows for many kinds of development, including giant distribution centers and 5-story apartment complexes with up to 50 apartment units per acre.

### “Incompatible” Development in the Great Park

When the entire “land-swap” and land-development scheme was approved last year on a 3-to-2 City Council vote, Councilmember **Lynn Schott** decried the move as a “giveaway of our Great Park” to developer FivePoint, and an insult to Irvine veterans and veterans everywhere.

Schott’s appointed Planning Commissioner, **Patty Bartlett**, said the FivePoint land-swap scheme would bring development that is “incompatible” with the Great Park and with the surrounding north Irvine neighborhoods, where tens of thousands live in quiet, residential villages and neighborhoods.

In fact, according to City studies, the land-swap and resulting development would bring nearly 10,000 added daily cars and trucks to Irvine Boulevard and other already-congested roads — Sand Canyon, Jeffrey, Bryan, and Trabuco. Compare this with the planned Veterans Cemetery in the Great Park that, according to the same City traffic studies, would generate fewer than 500 car trips per day — mostly from Cemetery workers, occasional funeral services, and gravesite visitations.

### Moment of Truth

A senior planning consultant, speaking on condition of anonymity, after a recent City Council meeting, said: “This is a moment of truth for Irvine. If voters approve Measure B, you can expect yet much worse traffic, including real gridlock in many parts of town. Measure B means saying goodbye to the Irvine General Plan and any semblance of a Great Park plan that properly honors veterans and their service.” **ICNV**

## OC Judge Orders City Council to Tell Irvine Voters the Truth: *Measure B Means More Development!*

Irvine’s Measure B on the June 5th ballot calls for voters to cast a “yes” or “no” vote on Zoning Ordinance 17-08 — an unpopular “land-swap” and development scheme put forward by Mayor **Donald Wagner** and Councilmembers **Melissa Fox** and **Christina Shea** at the behest of developer FivePoint.

The purpose of Measure B? To replace the long-planned Veterans Cemetery in the Great Park by transferring ownership of the 125-acre site to FivePoint, along with zoning rights for FivePoint to develop massive office, manufacturing and industrial projects on the Great Park site. At the same time, the planned Veterans Cemetery would be relocated to a site at the I-5/I-405 freeway interchange, known as the El Toro “Y”.

The City walked right into legal problems in January when **Wagner, Shea and Fox** put the Zone Change Ordinance on the June 5th ballot, but intentionally worded the ballot question to omit any mention of development at all. Wagner, Shea and Fox pretended the question was only about whether voters want a Veterans Cemetery when, in fact, the primary purpose of Zoning Ordinance 17-08 is to grant FivePoint permission to dismember 125 acres of the Great Park for its own development and profit.

**Mary Ann Gaido**, former City Councilmember and long-time Irvine Planning Commissioner, sued the City Council, claiming the ballot question — what voters see before they cast their vote — has to be an honest statement of the question presented to the voters. “Measure B,” said Gaido, “would allow FivePoint to develop 812,000 square feet of office, manufacturing and industrial projects in the Great Park. A fairly worded ballot question,” she claimed, “would disclose that Measure B is about development.”

Superior Court Judge **Walter Schwarm** agreed, ruling on April 6th that the City’s ballot question was not impartial. He ordered that the ballot question must refer first to the primary purpose of Measure B — to replace the Veterans Cemetery in the Great Park with development. So, the ballot question (legally called the ballot label) will now read as follows:

**Measure B:** Shall Ordinance No. 17-08, approving zone text amendments to allow for a land exchange agreement that facilitates (a) the allocation of development previously planned for the Bake Parkway Site to property near the intersection of Pusan and Irvine Blvd, and (b) the development of the State approved site for the Southern California Veterans Cemetery on strawberry fields located near the intersection of I-5 and Bake Parkway, be adopted?

After Judge Schwarm’s ruling, Mary Ann Gaido issued the following statement: “Thanks to Judge Schwarm’s ruling, Irvine voters will now be presented with a ballot question that is clear: Measure B is all about development. If you vote NO, you’ll be keeping the Veterans Cemetery where it belongs — at the originally designated site in the Great Park.”

Gaido concluded, emphatically: “Vote NO on Measure B, and Save the Veterans Cemetery in the Great Park!” **ICNV**



Mary Ann Gaido



## CityWatch by Larry Agran

# Irvine Voters Invoke Power to Say “NO!”

Last October and November, during an amazing 28-day period, more than 19,000 Irvine residents signed a special petition circulated by hundreds of volunteers. The petition campaign, launched by the citizens’ committee to Save the Veterans Cemetery in the Great Park, invoked the rarely used power of referendum enshrined in our local democracy. At the referendum launch, committee chair **Ed Pope**, himself a U.S. Army veteran and 46-year Irvine resident, declared: “The power of referendum is the power of Irvine citizens to say NO — even Hell, NO! — to their elected leaders.”

The local referendum petition that 19,164 Irvine residents signed last fall included a 150-word statement, right at the top, that described exactly what the referendum was intended to do. It called upon the Irvine City Council to “reconsider and repeal” the obnoxious Zone Change Ordinance (No. 17-08), that three members of the City Council (Mayor **Donald Wagner** and Councilmembers **Christina Shea** and **Melissa Fox**) adopted on October 10, 2017, at the urging of multi-billion-dollar land developer **FivePoint**.

Throughout 2017, Wagner, Shea and Fox were big cheerleaders for FivePoint’s unpopular, three-part land-grab and development scheme to: (1) *replace* the State-planned and approved 125-acre Veterans Cemetery in our 1,300-acre Great Park; (2) *give away* the 125-acre Veterans Cemetery site to FivePoint; and, (3) *rezone* the property for FivePoint to develop 812,000 square feet of huge office, manufacturing and

industrial projects and, later, massive apartment buildings (with up to 50 units per acre).

This land-grab and development scheme was calculated to enrich FivePoint with quick real estate profits estimated at \$500 million or more. Meanwhile, FivePoint’s ownership and intense development of what is now our Great Park property would bring an added 10,000 cars and trucks every day to Irvine Boulevard, Sand Canyon, Jeffrey, Bryan, and other streets



and neighborhoods throughout north Irvine. Obviously, this would devastate both new and older north Irvine neighborhoods — and central Irvine, too — with waves of rush-hour traffic and gridlocked intersections.

And the fate of the long-promised Veterans Cemetery? The planned, beautiful, State-approved Veterans Cemetery in the Great Park would be *relocated* — I would say, *relegated* — to an unattractive site, 3 miles away, alongside the interchange of the I-5 and I-405 freeways, commonly known as the El Toro “Y”. (Trying

to put lipstick on a pig, FivePoint and the Wagner-Shea-Fox trio on the City Council have cynically dubbed this location “the strawberry fields” instead of what it really is... a busy, noisy, pollution-afflicted freeway site.)

It’s no wonder that Irvine citizens rose up and revolted against the Council action with a referendum petition, calling upon the Council to repeal Zone Change Ordinance 17-08 and Save the Veterans Cemetery in the Great Park.

At its meeting of January 9, 2018, after the Registrar of Voters officially certified the signatures on the referendum petition, the Council had a last chance to listen to Irvine voters and “reconsider and repeal” its prior action. Instead, on a 3-to-2 vote (with Councilmembers **Jeff Lalloway** and **Lynn Schott** dissenting), Wagner, Shea and Fox arrogantly disregarded the historic referendum petition and the 19,164 Irvine residents who signed it; instead, they insulted Irvine voters, echoing previous slanders that the voters were ignorant and didn’t know what they were signing.

But, fortunately, the referendum power reserved to the voters cannot be thwarted by an arrogant City Council that disrespects and refuses to listen to the people. By law, when the City Council refused to repeal Zone Change Ordinance 17-08, they were required to put the issue on the ballot so Irvine voters would have the chance to say “NO” and override the City Council. That’s what the June 5th election and the “NO on B” campaign is all about. It’s about the power of the people to have the last word. And, in this case, the last word should be “NO” — NO on Measure B!

## Three Milestones to Opening the Veterans Cemetery in the Great Park



**MILESTONE NO. 1.** On June 5th, a majority of Irvine voters must cast “NO on B” ballots, thereby rejecting Zone Change Ordinance No. 17-08 — the land-swap scheme that would permit developer FivePoint to replace the planned Veterans Cemetery in the Great Park with massive office and industrial projects.



**MILESTONE NO. 2.** On June 12th, City staff is directed to immediately commence construction of the previously approved Veterans Cemetery in the Great Park — beginning with demolition, cleanup, and site preparation — in accordance with the approved 333-page CalVet design and Concept Plan.



**MILESTONE NO. 3.** Opening Ceremony! The Veterans Cemetery in the Great Park becomes operational by Veterans Day, November 11, 2020. The Cemetery, by law, will be operated and maintained in perpetuity by the State (CalVet) and the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs at no cost to the City.

For almost three decades, Larry Agran served on the Irvine City Council — 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

# Universal Single-Payer Healthcare Insurance

by Harvey H. Liss, Ph.D.

### What is universal single-payer healthcare insurance?

A universal single-payer healthcare insurance program is a system where everyone receives their healthcare free of charge or at low cost. It's called "single-payer" because a single entity — usually a government — pays all the medical bills from dedicated tax revenues.

In the U.S. we have some examples of single-payer systems, but only for certain limited groups of people. For example, Medicare is a federal government-run system that provides healthcare insurance for people over the age of 65 and for those with disabilities.

Medicaid is a similar program that provides healthcare insurance for middle-class and lower-income Americans of all ages. However, Medicaid provides much lower rates of reimbursement to medical providers, often resulting in difficulties in obtaining medical services. The government does not directly provide any medical services under Medicare or Medicaid; those services are provided by private practitioners, and by for-profit and non-profit hospitals that are then reimbursed by the government. On the other hand, the U.S. Veterans Administration (VA) is an example of a single-payer system that provides the actual medical services — not just medical insurance — to qualified veterans, without charge.

### Medicare

Medicare, acting as a giant insurer, pays for physicians, hospitalizations, and prescription drugs by reimbursing the medical service providers. Or, alternatively, Medicare pays an approved health insurance company a fixed amount per person that, in turn, pays the medical bills. The former arrangement is called "original Medicare," while the latter is called an "Advantage Plan," and is provided by a Health Maintenance Organization. Advantage Plans vary in the services they provide with low-cost or no-cost patient co-pays, but tend to restrict access to high-cost treatments. Advantage Plans also require a "gatekeeper" — a primary care physician who must first approve specialist services before they can be provided.



Medicare covers 55 million Americans.

The theory of the Advantage Plan's indirect method for the government to pay for healthcare services is that it reduces wasteful spending, because healthcare is managed by an organization rather than by the individual patient.

### Single-payer means negotiating power

I've been enrolled in Medicare since 2006. I enjoy the ability to select my physicians and specialists and have never been thwarted by Medicare in my selection of services. I also notice, when I receive medical bills from Medicare (for informational purposes only) that the amount billed to Medicare by the medical services provider is sometimes four to ten times the amount approved by Medicare. Also, questionable services are sometimes added to the bill. For example, one

bill I examined listed removal of a Q-tip cotton ball from the ear canal, that took 20 seconds, as "surgery" — for a charge (to Medicare) of \$300!

In any case, health insurance of any kind is an absolute necessity to be able to reasonably pay for virtually any medical care in the U.S. A patient has almost no negotiating power. After all, how does a patient negotiate pricing while lying on a gurney in the emergency room of a hospital? And, there are no price lists in doctors' offices or hospitals. We've all read true stories about uninsured people who received enormous medical bills in the tens of thousands of dollars for short hospital stays. Those result from patients getting "list price" bills, with charges that could be many times what an insurance company would pay.

### Attaining a single-payer system for all

Since Medicare seems to work so well for the population it serves, it would seem that the easiest-to-implement system for expanded healthcare coverage would be to reduce the age at which Medicare kicks in, say, from 65 to 55. In fact, it has been suggested that if the age at which Medicare becomes effective is reduced incrementally a year at a time, the disruption to the health insurance industry, and the rate of increased costs to the government could be controlled. Simultaneously, Medicare health insurance coverage could begin for newborns, and increase year by year until it meets the gradually-reducing age of eligibility at the high end. When everyone is covered, it would become a Medicare for All program.

In the U.S., state and federal governments typically claim they don't have the funds to cover everyone in a Medicare for All system. This objection could be addressed by changing government spending priorities and increasing taxes to pay for the huge health insurance premiums that employers and employees are now paying privately. Savings are also realized by the more efficient administration under a single-payer system. All of these single-payer systems, Medicare, Medicaid and the VA have problems that must be corrected; but, on balance, single-payer health insurance systems are very popular.

Like it or not, our country will continue to have an ongoing conversation about single-payer health insurance for years. We can all take part in that conversation. In fact, *Irvine Community News and Views* has commissioned its own polling organization, the Irvine Community Poll, to survey our readers on important questions. We want to know what YOU think. (See red box, below.)

## Take our popular Irvine Community Poll

Go to: [IrvineCommunityNews.org/singlepayer](http://IrvineCommunityNews.org/singlepayer)  
What do YOU think?

"Do you favor incremental steps toward a single-payer healthcare insurance system, commonly known as Medicare for All?"

Next month's article will discuss *The Healthy California Act (SB 562)*, a proposed statewide version of single-payer healthcare insurance, including major changes in the structure, cost and funding of healthcare.



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



## MEMORIAL DAY CEREMONIES

**May 27** Memorial Day is a time of remembrance for Americans to honor those who have given their lives while defending our nation. In partnership with the Northwood Memorial Committee, a special candle lighting ceremony will be held at the Northwood Gratitude and Honor Memorial and will include presentations by Gold Star families. Bring lawn chairs or blankets for seating.

The Northwood Gratitude and Honor Memorial is located at Northwood Community Park, 4531 Bryan Ave., at the corner of Yale and Bryan avenues in Irvine. For more information, call 949-724-6606.

**May 28** The City of Irvine will host its annual Memorial Day Ceremony in the Formal Garden. Attendees can memorialize our troops' sacrifice by writing down a brief remembrance to be posted on a memory board at the event. Cards will be available for well-wishers to send a message of appreciation and support to members of Irvine's adopted 2/11 Marine Battalion.

For more information, call 949-724-6606.



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		<b>1</b> Morning Socials. Lakeview Senior Center. 7:30-9am. \$1. Info: 949-724-6900	<b>2</b> Builder's Club. Heritage Park Library. 3:30-5pm. Info: 949-936-4040 	<b>3</b> Homework Help. Katie Wheeler Library. 4-5pm. Info: 714-669-8753 	<b>4</b> May the Fourth Be with You (Star Wars Day). Pretend City Children's Museum. 10am-5pm. Info: PretendCity.org	<b>5</b> Preserving the Season Workshop. Farm + Food Lab. 10-11am. Info: 949-724-6599 
	<b>6</b> Double Loop Hike. Baker Canyon. 7-10am. Registration Required. Info: LetsGoOutside.org 	<b>7</b> Sing-A-Long. Lakeview Senior Center. 10:30-11:30am. Free. Info: 949-724-6900 	<b>8</b> City Council Meeting. Irvine City Hall. 4pm. Info: 949-724-6205 	<b>9</b> Mid Week Hike. Quail Hill. 8am-1pm. Registration Required. Info: LetsGoOutside.org 	<b>10</b> Golden Parks: Huell Howser Exhibit. Great Park Gallery. 12-4pm. Info: 866-829-3829 	<b>11</b> Movie Matinee. Trabuco Center. 2pm. Free. Info: 949-724-7300 
<b>13</b> Mother's Day. 	<b>14</b> Yang Style Tai Chi. Rancho Senior Center. 9-10am. Free. Info: 949-724-6800 	<b>15</b> Bingo. Lakeview Senior Center. 12:15-3:15pm. \$8 for 10 games. Info: 949-724-6900 	<b>16</b> UCI Jazz Small Groups. Winifred Smith Hall. 8pm. Free. Info: 949-824-4339	<b>17</b> Pulling Together. Weed pulling and habitat restoration at Quail Hill. 8:30-11:30am. Registration Required. Info: LetsGoOutside.org 	<b>18</b> Chess. Rancho Senior Center. 11am-1pm. Info: 949-724-6800 	<b>19</b> Garden Workshop: Unique Succulents. OC Great Park Farm + Food Lab. 10-11am. Info: 949-724-6599 
<b>20</b> Yoga in the Elements. OC Great Park. 11am-12pm. \$9/Ages 13+ Info: 866-829-3829	<b>21</b> UCI Wind Ensemble. Winifred Smith Hall. 8pm. Free. Info: 949-824-4339 	<b>22</b> City Council Meeting. Irvine City Hall. 4pm. Info: 949-724-6205	<b>23</b> Taiwanese Mah Jongg. Trabuco Center. 1-6pm. Info: 949-724-7300 	<b>24</b> Scavenger Hunt Day. Pretend City Children's Museum. 10am-5pm. Info: PretendCity.org 	<b>25</b> Slow-Paced Mountain Bike Ride. Irvine Open Space Reserve. 8am-12pm. Registration Required. Info: LetsGoOutside.org 	<b>26</b> Family Game Day. OC Great Park. 10am-2pm. Info: 866-829-3829
<b>27</b> Memorial Candle Lighting Ceremony. Northwood Community Park. 4pm. Info: 949-724-6606 	<b>28</b> Memorial Day. Memorial Day Ceremony. Bill Barber Memorial Park. 10am. Info: 949-724-6606 	<b>29</b> Short Story Book Group. Heritage Park Library. 2:30-4:30pm. Info: 949-936-4040 	<b>30</b> Collect Wildflowers Seeds. Native Seed Farm. 8:30am-12pm. Registration Required. Info: LetsGoOutside.org 	<b>31</b> Tea Dance. Lakeview Senior Center. 2-4pm. Info: 949-724-6900 	<b>1</b> JUNE Equestrian Ride. Baker Canyon. 4-7pm. Registration Required. Info: LetsGoOutside.org 	<b>2</b> Park Explorations. Great Park Gallery. 11am-3pm. Info: events@cityofirvine.org



# May / June 2018

## 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.



"Sprout" is a neutered male, brown tabby Domestic Mediumhair. He is about 2 years old.

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



## MFA Thesis Exhibitions, Part II

Contemporary Arts Center Gallery, University Art Gallery, Room Gallery, UCI

May 19th, 2:00 - 5:00pm Opening Reception

Exhibit runs through June 2, 2018

Info: 949-824-9854



## SchoolWatch: Getting Serious About School Security by Carolyn Inmon



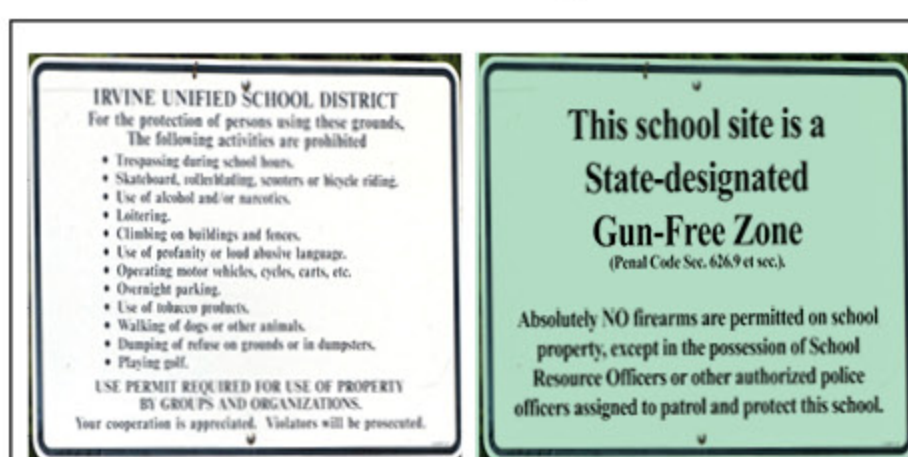
Our Irvine community appears to be responding quietly but constructively to the grim reality of American life in 2018: Incidents of gun violence — including mass-casualty shootings in our schools — are now an ever-present threat.

In March, at an open public meeting, the Irvine Unified School District (IUSD) Board received a comprehensive presentation describing what the School District and the City are doing to prevent or otherwise cope with emergencies in our schools, most notably gun violence. Of course, the Valentine's Day mass-casualty high school shooting in Parkland, Florida, and the remarkable student-organized March for Our Lives, remain fresh in our minds.

As I watched the IUSD presentation on TV (Channel 39), I was impressed with the comprehensive and detailed nature of the report. I was encouraged, too, with the quality and focus of Board member comments. No time was wasted on self-congratulatory statements. Instead, there appeared to be a sober recognition that we need to focus on specific ways to improve public safety in our schools.

So, what's being done? IUSD is apparently moving forward with specific protective policies: improved doors and other barriers against armed intruders, real-time video surveillance, and instituting improved lockdown procedures, drills and training.

Regarding the sensitive and controversial topic of armed personnel in our schools, this issue was largely addressed in Irvine long ago, when the City wisely decided to develop and fund the **School Resource Officer (SRO)** program — putting specially-trained Irvine police



### Signs of the Times. We need a Declaration of Existing Policy!

The signage (l) posted at the entrances to all Irvine schools seems quaintly appropriate for the 1960s or 1980s, but not for today. While prohibiting profanity, skateboarding, and tobacco products, there is NO mention of guns! Now, in 2018, we renew our proposal that an **additional sign (r)** be posted at all Irvine schools — providing a clear, proactive statement of existing State and local policy to protect teachers, students, staff and visitors from gun violence. **City Council and School Board officials: Are you listening? Will you finally get busy and post our existing State and local policy?**

— Carolyn Inmon

officers as a permanent presence in many Irvine schools. This local SRO initiative, combined with the state's Gun-Free Zone law, means we have a strong and sensible policy in place. Now, we need to tell people about it, and build on that policy!

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

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## Science, Technology & Environment

### Measuring Measure B's Bad Effects by Carl Mariz

My wife and I live in University Park, Irvine's oldest residential village located on the south side of town, about a mile from UCI. What used to be tranquil University Park neighborhoods are now surrounded by major City streets with heavy traffic all day and near-gridlock conditions during rush-hour.



Carl Mariz

So, my heart goes out to Irvine residents in north Irvine, already beset with growing traffic woes. If Measure B on the June 5th ballot — the land-swap and development scheme pushed by billion-dollar-developer FivePoint Communities — manages to win Irvine voter approval, it will mean replacing the planned Veterans Cemetery in the Great Park with more than 800,000 square feet of office, and industrial development.

This, in turn, will bring nearly 10,000 added daily auto trips to north Irvine, mostly along

Irvine Boulevard, Sand Canyon and Jeffrey, where traffic is already at intolerable levels, and some intersections are actually becoming dysfunctional.

As bad as traffic itself is, there is something even worse to consider: **air pollution**. The localized air pollution generated by nearly 10,000 auto trips is daunting. While catalytic converters added to auto exhaust systems have significantly reduced smog-forming chemical emissions, giving us cleaner California skies than in the



recent past, cars are still producing harmful materials. Among these are fine particulates that are trapped in our lungs and, over time,

cause respiratory diseases that shorten life. These particulates consist of material from tire wear and soot from diesel trucks, which will certainly be in the mix of traffic headed to and from FivePoint's giant business and industrial park that is next to our Great Park.

There are tens of thousands of people who live "north of the 5" ... in both new and older residential communities: Portola Springs, Stonegate, Woodbury, Eastwood, Cypress Village, Northwood, and the Great Park Neighborhoods. My guess is that most of the people living in these lovely Irvine villages and neighborhoods would prefer a long-planned, beautiful Veterans Cemetery in the Great Park — generating just a few hundred automobile trips daily and virtually no pollution — as compared with a massive business and industrial development that will generate nearly 10,000 daily auto and truck trips, along with localized air pollution that diminishes our quality of life.

If that's how *you* feel, there is no better time to say so than on June 5th. **Vote NO on Measure B!**

*Carl Mariz is a retired chemical engineer having worked in that field for nearly 50 years. He received a Bachelor's Degree in Engineering from the University of Missouri in 1957. Carl and his family have lived in Southern California since 1968 and in Orange County since 1979.*

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# OPEN FORUM

## FREE SPEECH FOREVER!

### Promoting Citizen Activism



Franklin J. Lunding  
Publisher

As the founding publisher of *Irvine Community News & Views*, I've always believed that *ICNV's* mission as an independent community newspaper includes doing what we can to promote civic engagement and citizen activism to improve our City. In addition to giving sustained coverage to important stories, we make use of our online polling organization, the **Irvine Community Poll**, to not only "take the pulse of the Irvine community," but to also invite comments and encourage community conversations. Sometimes those conversations lead to a grassroots civic movement, as with the **Save the Veterans Cemetery • NO on B** campaign, which *ICNV* proudly supports. The Irvine Community Poll results have been remarkably stable — with about 90 percent consistently opposed to the FivePoint "land-swap" scheme. But the poll results that count — on June 5th, Election Day — are certain to be much closer, especially as FivePoint pours millions into a campaign to mislead, misinform, and even lie to boost the Yes on B vote. Be ready, Irvine! And VOTE!

Another conversation we've helped start with our Irvine Community Poll regards gun violence and school security...and what we can do to improve things here in Irvine. Take a look at Carolyn Inmon's **SchoolWatch** column this month (Page 8), as well as the representative citizen comments we've published on Page 11. I think you'll find reason to be encouraged.

—FJL

### Irvine Community Poll Results

#### What do YOU think?

Do you favor (YES) or oppose (NO) the June 5th ballot measure (Measure B) that would allow the City Council to replace the planned Veterans Cemetery in the Great Park with zoning for developer FivePoint to build 812,000 square feet of office and industrial development; and, relocate the Veterans Cemetery to FivePoint's property alongside the I-5/I-405 interchange (El Toro "Y")?

[Results are based on over 800 responses.]

9.8%

Yes

90.2%

No

### No on B Letters

■ Ugh! Stuck in traffic. Recently, I was driving northbound on Jeffrey and needed to turn left onto Alton. So, I pulled to a stop half-way back in the left-turn pocket and waited for the green left-turn arrow to appear. After what seemed like an interminable wait, the green arrow appeared. But then to my dismay, the signal almost immediately turned red again, forcing me and the car in front of me to wait through yet another traffic cycle in order to complete my turn.

As I waited and waited, frustrated with this all-too-common traffic experience, I began to wonder what had happened to the original Irvine Master Plan — you know, the Master Plan that permitted only the intensity of development that was consistent with maintaining good traffic flow, and didn't cause dysfunctional intersections and extended wait-times through multiple red lights.

Then, I recalled that under developer pressure, the Planning Commission has been approving "exceptions" or "overrides" to the Master Plan, resulting in degraded traffic flow. And now, after developer FivePoint Communities and their affiliates spent over a million dollars in the last City election (2016) to fund a campaign filled with lies, libel, and deception, the resulting City Council majority agreed last year to approve FivePoint's massive business, manufacturing and industrial development in the Great Park. This development (Measure B on our June 5th ballot) would create some *10,000 additional daily automobile trips on Irvine's streets* — especially on Irvine Boulevard, Sand Canyon, and Jeffrey — instead of the fewer than 500 trips to be added by the originally planned and approved Veterans Cemetery in the Great Park that FivePoint now wants to replace.

As the light finally turned green and I went on my way, I was inspired by this thought: "On June 5th, I'll have a chance to vote *against* the Council majority's plan to make Irvine's traffic even worse — **I'll vote NO on B!**"

—Ed Sharman

■ The Veterans Memorial Park and Cemetery that was planned and approved (2014-2016) for a 125-acre site in our Great Park was abandoned last year by a 3-vote majority of the 5-member Irvine City Council. At the last moment before final implementation of the Veterans Cemetery construction plan, the three Councilmembers approved a land-swap promoted by a huge developer, FivePoint Communities. The Council approved FivePoint's plan to swap the Great Park original site for an alternative site near the junction of the I-5 and I-405 Freeways, known as the El Toro "Y". Developer FivePoint would then build large office, industrial, and manufacturing projects — and, later, big apartment complexes — on the original site in the Great Park.

If you are concerned and troubled about the rampant overdevelopment and endless traffic congestion that we now live with every day in Irvine, it is essential that you vote NO on Measure B, and tell the City Council that you want our Veterans Cemetery to be built at the original Site in the Great Park, where it has been planned for years. The errant and misguided 3-vote majority of our Irvine City Council — Mayor Don Wagner, Councilwoman Christina Shea, and Councilwoman Melissa Fox — need to be reminded that they represent and are beholden to us, the Citizens of Irvine, and NOT FivePoint Communities and other developers.

—Steve Berger

### Schools & Gun Violence Comments

■ As a former classroom teacher, I believe that teachers and other staff should NOT be armed! Schools should establish measures to ensure school security without the added complications of gun-carrying teachers.

—Laura Barwick

■ The more guns, the more gun injuries and deaths. Teachers have more than enough responsibility without the burden of life-and-death decisions involving students and other faculty. Who has the task of making sure the weapons are secure? There is no need to reinvent the wheel here; just ban any kind of automatic or semiautomatic weapons or any facsimile; then copy the regulations for gun ownership in Australia.

—Thomas G. Hallal

■ We need to thoughtfully and responsibly respond to the recent mass shootings both in the schools and elsewhere. The idea of arming teachers is alarming and irresponsible. Mass shootings occur when military rifles and equipment are so easily available to the general public. The Second Amendment never endorsed arming non-military citizens with weapons of mass destruction — weapons designed specifically and entirely for the purpose of killing mass numbers of people. These are not weapons for legitimate protection or hunting.

—Cindy Eddleman

■ There are devices that can be applied to doors to prevent entry, costing as little as \$100 each — a much better idea than arming teachers!

—Catherine Gresh

■ Arm volunteer administrators and teachers.

—James Harrison

■ I propose to: (1) have gun violence awareness campaigns in schools (similar to the DARE campaign for drugs); (2) hold regular anti-active shooter drills in schools similar to fire drills to prepare staff and students to deal with these situations; (3) educate parents about School District policy regarding strict gun-free policies; (4) review and enhance Irvine Police Department response plans for dealing with active shooter situations.

—Ramy Shalaby

■ If you want to protect our precious students, let the teachers who want to be trained in firearm safety and use, carry firearms. It is the only thing that will stop an armed, crazed person from killing innocent kids and teachers.

—Bobby Dunham

■ Elementary school teachers need more support in getting help for students they feel may have issues — for example, mental health or possible abuse. Elementary teachers have a good track record in identifying children at risk. They need to be listened to.

—Susan Finn

■ Fewer guns = fewer shootings.

—Annette Bork



■ If we are to take one lesson from Parkland, Florida, we should encourage those teachers, coaches and administrators who want to carry a concealed weapon on campus to do so with proper training and background checks. Irvine police are spectacular with keeping the community safe, but they cannot be there the moment something starts. Even the threat of resistance may be enough to prevent some of these events from happening.

—Markus Klein

■ It appears that Irvine is very similar to Columbine and Parkland — ours is a safe and affluent community with excellent schools in a park-like setting. No one would expect a mass shooting here, but it could happen anywhere. I support restricting ownership of assault rifles and increased background checks on a nationwide basis. California has stricter gun laws than most states. We need to enforce those laws, including removing guns from people who should not have them. But we also have a problem in Irvine with school safety because we have open campuses. I do not support arming teachers and administrators, but I do support increased funding for counseling and mental health services. I don't want our campuses to become like prisons or military camps, but what practical measures can we take to make our campuses more secure?

—Sharlene Baker

### Orange County Superior Court Ruling Validates "NO on B" Campaign Ballot Argument Claims

I'm pleased to report that the Orange County Superior Court ruled — in an April 6th Judgment — that our "NO on B" campaign statements (below), which will appear in the Voter Pamphlet sent to every Irvine voter, are *valid* and *true*. The Court rejected the developer-funded legal challenge, and specifically upheld the veracity of our ballot-argument claims:

- TRUE 1) [Passage of Measure B will result in] "massive, new office, commercial, manufacturing and industrial development and 8,000 more car/truck trips every day on Irvine Boulevard, Sand Canyon, Jeffrey, and throughout Irvine."
- TRUE 2) "Claims [by developer FivePoint] that putting the Veterans Cemetery at the developer's freeway interchange site would save taxpayers money are baseless."
- TRUE 3) [Claims of a] "developer commitment to help fund the cemetery" [are baseless.]
- TRUE 4) "The truth is that the Cemetery, at either site, will be built to the highest standards—and maintained forever by the State at absolutely no cost to the City."
- TRUE 5) [The original site for the Veterans Cemetery, along Irvine Blvd., is] "the State-approved Veterans Cemetery alongside the Great Park"

For the Court Judgments, go to: [SaveTheVeteransCemetery.org](http://SaveTheVeteransCemetery.org) and select the [Documentation](#) tab.

Ed Pope, Chair, [SaveTheVeteransCemetery.org](http://SaveTheVeteransCemetery.org) • No on B

This Poll is now closed. The next Poll on this Issue is on Election Day June 5th. If you're not already registered to vote at your Irvine address, do so online, right now, at:  
**RegisterToVote.ca.gov**

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



On Election Day, June 5th...

**NO**  
on  
**"B"**

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

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

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

In response to this travesty, we formed an Irvine citizens' committee to **Save the Veterans Cemetery in the Great Park**. We launched an historic Referendum Petition, gathering 19,164 Irvine resident signatures to **stop the development giveaway to FivePoint by forcing the City Council to put this issue on the June 5th ballot — as Measure B — for Irvine voters to decide.**

As an Army veteran and Chair of our committee, I am proud that because of our efforts Irvine voters now have the opportunity — on the upcoming June 5th ballot — to **STOP the giveaway to FivePoint**. We can, ourselves, **Vote NO on Measure B**, which is FivePoint's scheme to replace our long-planned Veterans Cemetery in the Great Park with 812,000

square feet of traffic-generating development.

We know that FivePoint and other big developers are already spending millions of dollars on a campaign to mislead Irvine voters — trying to

get Irvine voters to approve their huge development projects. Of course, we

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

But to reach Irvine voters with our message, we need you and others to volunteer and to donate to our grassroots campaign. Can we count on your help, right now?



To see how **YOU** can help us win this fight — please visit our website:  
**[SaveTheVeteransCemetery.org](http://SaveTheVeteransCemetery.org)**.  
**Please make a donation, today!**

*Edward S. Pope*

**Edward S. Pope**

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

