



October 29, 2013

Chairman Jeff Lalloway
Orange County Great Park Board of Directors
One Civic Center Plaza
Irvine, CA 92612

Dear Chairman Lalloway and Board of Directors,

Build The Great Park Now is a volunteer-led grassroots organization made up of long-time Irvine residents who have come together to support the effort to get the Great Park built, beginning this year. We have attended and spoken at the September 10, 2013 City Council Study Session, the October 3, 2013 Planning Commission Study Session, the October 17, 2013 Planning Commission Study Session, and the October 24, 2013 Planning Commission hearing on the Five Points Communities approvals, which resulted in unanimous recommendation of approval.

In advance of the September 10, 2013 City Council Study Session, through a combination of social media, weekend meetings and other outreach, our group was able to get 2,000 signatures on our petition urging the Council to adopt the Five Points proposal. At that hearing, we had over 1,000 supporters show up at City Hall to express their support, many who were never able to come into the Council Chambers and who watched the hearing from the lobby or Conference and Training Center. Since then, we have received almost 1,000 additional signatures on the petition and the momentum and support continue to increase. We intend to be present at the November 12, 2013 City Council hearing as well as the November 26, 2013 City Council hearing to express our support for the proposal and to urge the Council to adopt the proposal without delay.

The Build The Great Park Now group is made up entirely of volunteer community members, and, unfortunately, today's meeting was scheduled at a time when many of us have professional responsibilities. Please let this letter serve as a statement of our continued support for this important project and proposal. The public benefits contained in this proposal are numerous and significant. We have outlined them again and again in public testimony and will continue to do so through the remainder of this process.

Lalloway, Jeff – Orange County Great Park Board of Directors

The sports-oriented members of our group have been waiting for over 10 years for the world-class sports facilities, which have been promised throughout the base closure process, the planning of the Park, the sports Charette conducted in 2006 and through today. There has always been a 165-acre sports park contained in the Master Plan for the Great Park and arguments that this runs contrary to this vision of the Park are simply false.

The environmental-oriented members of our group have been waiting for over 10 years for the connection from the Mountains to the Sea in the Wildlife Corridor. There has always been a plan for a Wildlife Corridor contained in the Master Plan for the Great Park and there was never a funding priority or timeline attached to this amenity. The Five Points plan provides both.

The business-oriented members of our group understand that the collateral benefits of the Five Points proposal are numerous and significant. The increase in transient occupancy tax and hotel room stays which will be created by a world-class sports facility such as the one proposed by Five Points will create financial benefits for the City of Irvine directly and indirectly. The changes requested by Five Points to their Master Plan will allow them to potentially site a major corporate user near the Park who will bring 4,000 - 8,000 high paying jobs to the edge of the Park. The taxes generated from these properties and the sales taxes from the workers eating and shopping in the area will create significant financial benefits for the City. These changes are all in the best interests of the City of Irvine and Great Park.

We can't emphasize enough how imperative it is that this proposal is approved now. The residents of Irvine have waited long enough for the promises of the Great Park to materialize. The Five Points plan is consistent with the Great Park Master Plan and promises made to voters and residents, and creates significant public benefits immediately and for the future. We strongly urge the Great Park Board to positively consider this proposal and the Irvine City Council to approve it as soon as possible and to finally decide to BUILD THE GREAT PARK NOW.

Guy Lemmon, chairman Build the Great Park Now and Ryan Lemmon Foundation

Jason Szczuka, soccer coach and player

Rose Marie Kacic, Irvine Educator

Jon Szczuka, director Irvine Pateadores, Southern California Developmental Soccer League

Rob Ferguson, former Chair, Irvine Sports Committee/AYSO

Dick Owens, Irvine Sports Committee member

Mike Folia, former Irvine Pony Baseball, Irvine Chargers Football, Irvine High Football/Baseball

Mark Pannier, AYSO and Irvine Ranch Little League

Blair Ota, Northwood High School Softball, Irvine Travel Softball Association, Irvine Sports Committee member, healthcare practitioner