

COASTAL GREENBELT AUTHORITY

13042 Old Myford Road
Irvine, CA 92602

September 15, 2026

Orange County Board of Supervisors
400 Civic Center Drive
Santa Ana, CA 92701

Regarding: Support for Laguna Canyon Foundation's Parcel 5 Phase 1 Habitat Restoration Project

Chair Chaffee and Board of Supervisors,

The Coastal Greenbelt Authority (CGA) is the cooperative management authority for Laguna Coast Wilderness Park and Aliso and Wood Canyons Wilderness Park. The CGA members represent the park's landowners – County of Orange, Cities of Laguna Beach and Laguna Woods, as well as local environmental organizations, and Laguna Canyon Homeowners (CANDO) who were part of the negotiations for the purchase of the Laguna Laurel Development land for parkland. The guiding documents for the CGA oversight are the General Development (GDP) and Resource Management (RMP) Plans for Laguna Coast Wilderness Park and the Resource Management Plan for Aliso and Wood Canyons Wilderness Park.

CGA received in January 2025 a presentation by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service regarding the proposed restoration project on the Laguna Laurel Parcel 5 in Laguna Canyon by Laguna Canyon Foundation. In July 2025 CGA sent the attached letter to the Wildlife Conservation Board supporting the project and grant funding.

The restoration project reflects the habitat restoration on natural lands that adjoin our 22,000-acre south coast wilderness. The project will remove invasive species and reseed with appropriate native species restoring 3 acres of coastal sage scrub, 8 acres of cactus scrub and 3 acres of riparian scrub.

The project is a continuation of collaboration between public agencies and nonprofit organizations working together to preserve federal and state listed species while restoring ecological functions to our preserved lands.

Laguna Canyon Foundation reported at our September 9, 2026 meeting that the grant funding is pending and requires a letter of support from the Orange County Board of Supervisors. We ask that you provide this Support Letter as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

Mary Fegraus

Mary Fegraus, Chair Coastal Greenbelt Authority

cc: Coastal Greenbelt Authority Members

OC Parks Director Pam Passow

Laguna Canyon Foundation Executive Director Scott Thomas

Scott Thomas, Executive Director, Laguna Canyon Foundation

COASTAL GREENBELT AUTHORITY

13042 Old Myford Road
Irvine, CA 92602

July 10, 2025

Wildlife Conservation Board
P. O. Box 944209
Sacramento CA 94244-2090

WCB@wildlife.ca.gov

Regarding: Support for Laguna Canyon Foundation's Parcel 5 Phase 1 Habitat Restoration Project

Chair Bonham and Wildlife Conservation Board Members:

The Coastal Greenbelt Authority (CGA) is the cooperative management authority for Laguna Coast Wilderness Park and Aliso and Wood Canyons Wilderness Park. The CGA members represent the park's landowners – County of Orange, Cities of Laguna Beach and Laguna Woods, as well as local environmental organizations, and Laguna Canyon Homeowners (CANDO) who were part of the negotiations for the purchase of the Laguna Laurel Development land for parkland. The guiding documents for the CGA oversight are the General Development (GDP) and Resource Management (RMP) Plans for Laguna Coast Wilderness Park and the Resource Management Plan for Aliso and Wood Canyons Wilderness Park.

Our July 9, 2025 agenda included a presentation by Laguna Canyon Foundation about their Parcel 5 Phase 1 Habitat Restoration initiative. The restoration project reflects the habitat restoration on natural lands that adjoin our 22,000-acre south coast wilderness. The project will remove invasive species and reseed with appropriate native species restoring 3 acres of coastal sage scrub, 8 acres of cactus scrub and 3 acres of riparian scrub.

At the July 9th meeting the CGA members voted to send a letter of support to your Board for the Laguna Canyon Foundation's funding request.

The project is a continuation of collaboration between public agencies and nonprofit organizations working together to preserve federal and state listed species while restoring ecological functions to our preserved lands.

Please fund the Laguna Canyon Foundation's grant request for the Parcel 5 Phase 1 Habitat Restoration project. Thank you.

Sincerely,
Mary Fegraus
Mary Fegraus, Chair Coastal Greenbelt Authority

cc: Coastal Greenbelt Authority Members
OC Parks Director Pam Passow
County of Orange Fifth District Supervisor Foley
Scott Thomas, Executive Director, Laguna Canyon Foundation

COASTAL GREENBELT AUTHORITY

The Cooperative management authority for Laguna Coast Wilderness Park and
Aliso and Wood Canyons Wilderness Park
13042 Old Myford Road
Irvine, CA 92602

October 18, 2026

Ahmed Elsadek Manhy and the Caltrans Team

RE: Laguna Canyon Road and El Toro Road Construction Project

Thank you again for the excellent and informative PowerPoint presentation at our March 11, 2026 Coastal Greenbelt Authority meeting. Congratulations on the Ribbon Cutting Ceremony celebrating the completion of this important project.

At our September 9th meeting, members of the public and CGA raised questions regarding the temporary black and orange fencing (Environmentally Sensitive Area ESA) fencing that remains along both sides of the improved Laguna Canyon Road. Portions of the fencing are beginning to deteriorate, and its continued presence gives the appearance that construction is not yet complete.

We understand that Caltrans would like to retain the fencing for approximately one year to help manage vegetation. However, we would appreciate your reconsideration of this approach and ask whether the fencing could be removed before the upcoming rainy season. Ideally, the temporary fencing could be replaced with cable fencing, or alternatively, the ESA T posts could remain in place for OC Parks to use in installing cable fencing.

It would be helpful for Caltrans and OC Parks to meet to discuss the purpose of retaining the ESA fencing, including whether its continued presence is necessary for environmental mitigation, restoration monitoring, or permit compliance. While OC Parks had not anticipated assuming responsibility for installing and maintaining the cable fencing using the existing T-post, they would welcome the opportunity to discuss this further.

CGA members also raised questions about the plastic construction silt fencing that remains at the southeast corner of the 133/El Toro Road intersection near the entrance to the Anneliese School. We would appreciate having this fencing removed as well, as it is no longer needed.

Thank you again for the realignment and other improvements associated with this much needed project. We appreciate Caltrans' efforts and look forward to seeing these remaining items addressed as part of the project's completion this year.

Best Regards,

Mary Fegraus

Mary Fegraus, Chair, Coastal Greenbelt Authority

Cc: CGA Members, Supervisor Foley, City of Laguna Beach and OC Parks representatives

COASTAL GREENBELT AUTHORITY

13042 Old Myford Road
Irvine, CA 92602

March 25, 2025

Regarding: Future Rules Governing the Use of the Irvine Bowl

Mayor Rounaghi and Laguna Beach Councilmembers and the Irvine Bowl Policy Committee,

The Coastal Greenbelt Authority (CGA) is the cooperative management authority for Laguna Coast Wilderness Park and Aliso and Wood Canyons Wilderness Park. The CGA members represent the park's landowners – County of Orange, Cities of Laguna Beach, and Laguna Woods, as well as local environmental organizations, and Laguna Canyon Homeowners (CANDO) who were part of the negotiations for the purchase of the Laguna Laurel Development land for parkland. The guiding documents for the CGA oversight are the General Development (GDP) and Resource Management (RMP) Plans for Laguna Coast Wilderness Park and the Resource Management Plan for Aliso and Wood Canyons Wilderness Park.

Our March 12, 2025 agenda included some information about a change in the decibel level from 70 to 105 for events at the Irvine Bowl. Although the CGA members did not have a great deal of information we voted unanimously to send a letter of concern to the City of Laguna Beach.

Our concerns and suggestions include:

- Consideration of the land use now for adjacent parcels to the Irvine Bowl – City of Laguna Beach Open Space and Laguna Coast Wilderness Park. These are habitat areas and also include public trails to and within Laguna Coast Wilderness Park.
- The open space and wilderness park lands are coastal sage habitat for the Coastal California Gnatcatcher which is listed as federally threatened and designated as a Bird Species of Special Concern by the State of California.
- CEQA would have to be included in any change to the adjacent land use to this nesting area and public trails. Change of use would include sound and light levels.
- A permanent increase in the sound level is a health hazard to humans and wildlife.
- We encourage the council to retain a consultant to review all impacts of an increase in decibel level for off-Festival Season use at the Irvine Bowl. The study could include sound and light management with options for improvement.
- The CGA members are not opposed to more utilization of the Irvine Bowl during offseason-Festival times, but only that the new use be compatible with the adjacent land use.

Thank you for considering our concerns.

Mary Fegraus

Mary Fegraus, Chair Coastal Greenbelt Authority

cc: Coastal Greenbelt Authority Members

OC Parks Director Pam Passow

County of Orange Fifth District Supervisor Foley

Ann Marie McKay, City Clerk, City of Laguna Beach, amckay@lagunabeachcity.net

COASTAL GREENBELT AUTHORITY

13042 Old Myford Road
Irvine, CA 92602

May 15, 2026

Regarding: Future Rules Governing the Use of the Irvine Bowl

Laguna Beach Mayor Orgill, Councilmembers, Laguna Beach Community Development Staff, and the Irvine Bowl Policy Committee,

The Coastal Greenbelt Authority (CGA) is the cooperative management authority for Laguna Coast Wilderness Park and Aliso and Wood Canyons Wilderness Park. The CGA members represent the park's landowners – County of Orange, Cities of Laguna Beach, and Laguna Woods, as well as local environmental organizations, and Laguna Canyon Homeowners (CANDO) who were part of the negotiations for the purchase of the Laguna Laurel Development land for parkland. The guiding documents for the CGA oversight are the General Development (GDP) and Resource Management (RMP) Plans for Laguna Coast Wilderness Park and the Resource Management Plan for Aliso and Wood Canyons Wilderness Park.

CGA has received very little information over the years about the Irvine Bowl issue, despite our March 2025 letter of concern specifically requesting such information and updates. Recently CGA received information of the 2025 and 2026 Irvine Bowl Committee meetings which advocated raising the sound level to 75 decibels and development of additional dates for concerts during the weeks and weekends outside the Festival of Arts time period.

On May 6, 2026 the Laguna Beach Administrative Community Director Meeting included an agenda item with the following Recommendation:

Adopt the Community Director Determination 26-0831 approving Coastal Development Permit 26-0831 for a change of the intensity of use of land as it relates to an update to the Irvine Bowl Sound Policy to allow for an increase in the sound limit at the Neighborhood Sound Boundary at and around the Irvine Bowl located at 650 Laguna Canyon Road and finding said action exempt from CEQA under Sections 15304 and 15323.

The May 6, 2026 agenda item was continued with no Public Participation or explanation of why it was continued.

Once again, CGA did not directly receive an announcement of this meeting nor advance receipt of the Staff Report, though our membership includes stakeholders and landowners whose property is immediately adjacent to the Irvine Bowl.

CGA's concerns about this Recommended Action involving a Coastal Development Permit and exemption from CEQA include these points:

- Laguna Coast Wilderness Park and the City of Laguna Beach Open Space are adjacent to the Irvine Bowl. These coastal sage areas are environmentally sensitive habitats and scenic resources and are mapped and identified as such.

- These coastal sage areas provide habitat for the Coastal California Gnatcatcher, listed as Federally Threatened and designated as a Bird Species of Special Concern by the State of California.
- The area adjacent to the Irvine Bowl is a known Gnatcatcher nesting site. The area is also part of the Natural Communities Conservation Plan/Habitat Conservation Plan (NCCP/HCP) program coordinated by the nonprofit, Natural Communities Coalition.
- CGA requests more information about the findings used for recommendations regarding the Coastal Development Permit and exemption from CEQA.
- Concert-related cumulative noise and activity from the Bowl within a narrow canyon may result in adverse impacts to sensitive coastal birds (e.g., California Gnatcatchers) and small mammals with the proposed increased sound decibels and cumulative number of concerts.
- A biologist familiar with these environmentally sensitive lands should be included in the review of any proposed changes and identified in any resultant report.
- Timely notifications of any further meetings about the proposed changes of off-season concerts and increased sound levels need to include the California Department of Fish & Wildlife, US Fish and Wildlife, Natural Communities Coalition, OC Parks as well as the Coastal Greenbelt Authority which meets bi-monthly.

In order to address CGA concerns it is imperative that all adjacent landowners are included in the decision process and receive meeting notifications and staff reports. Before any decisions can be made regarding the Sound Policy and additional concerts, the landowners and managers of the open space land adjacent to the Irvine Bowl must have an opportunity to present their concerns and if necessary, request further studies.

CGA Members approved this letter at their May 13, 2026 meeting.

Thank you for considering our points of concern.

Mary Fegraus

Mary Fegraus, Chair Coastal Greenbelt Authority

cc: Coastal Greenbelt Authority Members
OC Parks Director Pam Passow
County of Orange Fifth District Supervisor Foley

For the City Council Members: Ann Marie McKay, City Clerk, City of Laguna Beach, amckay@lagunabeachcity.net
Dave Kiff, Laguna Beach City Manager dkiff@lagunabeachcity.net
Matt Schneider, LB Community Development Director mkschneider@lagunabeachcity.net
Shaveta Sharma, LB Community Development Department ssharma@lagunabeachcity.net
Irvine Bowl Committee

Jim Sulentich, Natural Communities Coalition jsulentich@occonservation.org

COASTAL GREENBELT AUTHORITY

13042 Old Myford Road
Irvine, CA 92602

September 20, 2026

Re: Council Agenda September 22, 2026 Irvine Bowl Sound Levels,
Consent Calendar Item C. 24.

Mayor Orgill and Members of the City Council

Please note the previous letters of May 15, 2026 and March 25, 2025 regarding this issue.

Concerns with the proposed city actions:

- Rincon Consultants did not perform an adequate job with the past sound measurement and analysis.
- CEQA can not be exempted from this issue.
- Adjacent landowners/managers (OC Parks – Laguna Coast Wilderness Park) were not notified and involved in this process.

This Irvine Bowl issue was on the September 9, 2026 Coastal Greenbelt Authority meeting agenda. There was a report of the Community Meeting sponsored by Coast Films. CGA members agreed that it best to work with Coast Films to make sure the sound measurement and analysis is done properly this time. There has been another Community Meeting sponsored by Coast Films since September 9th. Key points at that meeting included working with OC Parks staff to determine the best testing locations, using Modern Illuminations Productions working with a Community Sound Group of William Nash, Mark Christy, Dan McInerney and Mike Gonzalez.

Please make sure this sound measurement and analysis is done properly and involves all adjacent landowners, managers and CGA. Again please note the attached letters.

Mary Fegraus

Mary Fegraus, Chair Coastal Greenbelt Authority

cc: Coastal Greenbelt Authority Members
OC Parks Director Pam Passow

County of Orange Fifth District Supervisor Foley

For the City Council Members: Ann Marie McKay, City Clerk, City of Laguna Beach,
amckay@lagunabeachcity.net

Dave Kiff, Laguna Beach City Manager dkiff@lagunabeachcity.net

Matt Schneider, LB Community Development Director mkschneider@lagunabeachcity.net

Shaveta Sharma, LB Community Development Department ssharma@lagunabeachcity.net
Irvine Bowl Committee