

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR OF MEASURE R

Please vote “yes” on Measure R – the Great Park Ratification and Implementation Act. Your “yes” vote will keep Irvine on the path of progress that enabled us to defeat the County’s El Toro Airport plan and bring the El Toro property under Irvine’s land-use control.

Measure R provides that the City of Irvine will keep control of the process to plan, design and build the Great Park. Measure R also guarantees that the Great Park will be self-funding, and will be built and operated without any new taxes and without burdening our City’s General Fund.

Irvine led the way in defeating the County’s disastrous airport plan and replacing it with our own plan for the Great Park – America’s first great metropolitan park of the 21st Century. On July 12, 2005, the City finally took ownership of 1,347 acres of El Toro property (worth \$249 million) and received \$401 million in initial fees and Park infrastructure commitments from developers of adjacent property.

Measure R incorporates and reflects the prudent policies adopted by a majority of Irvine City Councilmembers. Measure R ensures that the Great Park – even larger than San Diego’s Balboa Park – will be built and operated in accordance with the highest standards and best practices. Measure R identifies priority projects for feasibility studies and later implementation, including: The Sports Park, Visitors Center, Aviation and Fire Museums, Demonstration Garden, Botanical Garden, Multi-Cultural Center, Water Science Park, Library, National Archives, Center for Community Organizations, Amphitheater, Cultural Terrace, and the Great Park Community Farm.

Your “yes” vote on Measure R will ensure that the next City Council stays on a steady, positive path of progress in building the Great Park without any new taxes. Please vote “yes” on Measure R.

s/ Larry Agran
Irvine City Councilmember
Chair, Great Park Corporation