

**SUMMARY ACTION MINUTES**  
(Action Items Displayed in Italics)  
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 14, 2026 — 3:00 p.m.

**I. ROLL CALL**

*Chair Fegraus, Vice Chair McCary, and Members Orgill (left during Item VI.A), Osborne (arrived during Item IV.A), Norton, Clark, and Felder were present. Members Lee, Conners, Jones, and Foley were absent.*

**II. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

At this time, members of the public may address the Authority on items of public interest that are within the jurisdiction of the Authority and are not contained in today's agenda.

*No comments were received from the public.*

**III. CONSENT CALENDAR (ITEM(S) A)**

The following item on the consent calendar will be approved by one motion unless an Authority Member requests to pull a specific item.

**A. APPROVE AUTHORITY MINUTES FOR THE NOVEMBER 12, 2025 MEETING.**

*Motion: Vice Chair McCary  
2nd: Member Orgill  
Unanimous vote to approve*

**IV. AUTHORITY MEMBERS AND PARTNERS ANNOUNCEMENTS AND UPDATES (ITEM(S) A–H)**

**A. LAGUNA CANYON FOUNDATION (LCF) UPDATE**

*Scott Thomas, LCF Executive Director, shared the following: positions are open for Office Manager and (2) field technicians.*

*Public Event – “Hike into 2026” talk by LCF Volunteer at the SusiQ on January 27. This is a continuing education series sponsored by the SusiQ and LCF; other coordinated educational events include Bio-Blast data collection with Laguna Ocean Foundation on January 31st and Walk & Wonder at Aliso and Wood Canyons Wilderness Park for a bi-lingual tour along Aliso Creek East, and a Land to Sea program with Crystal Cove Conservancy and Laguna Ocean Foundation for Title I 4th grade classes, also working on a program for Laguna Beach students.*

*10,000 volunteers from the public and corporations have helped with trail programs at both wilderness parks.*

*Conservation activities include the start of decommissioning of the Nose Trail in the Los Trancos area in Laguna Coast Wilderness Park along with the help of OC Parks and Irvine Ranch Conservancy. The funding for Parcel 5 restoration should be approved in May by the Wildlife Conservation Board.*

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**B. LAGUNA BEACH OPEN SPACE UPDATE**

*Member Orgill noted no open space related news but will make sure Authority receives information on relevant agenda items in the future.*

**C. NATURAL COMMUNITIES COALITION (NCC) UPDATE**

*Darin Loughrey, NCC Outreach and Engagement Coordinator, shared the following: restated that the purpose of NCC is to coordinate the land management, monitoring and research with partners across the nearly 38,000-acre Habit Preserve System known as the Nature Reserve of Orange County (NROC). These lands remain under a 75-year permit issued by California Department of Fish and Wildlife and United States Fish and Wildlife Service, as permanently protected open space, managed for the benefit of plants and wildlife that define the character, uniqueness and natural diversity of Orange County. Currently, NCC is gearing up to initiate the process of developing a rare plant monitoring and management program. A prioritized list of rare plant species is being considered for the study. The list is being sourced from identified species in the NCCP/HCP as well as plants recommended by the California Native Plant Society and the California Department of Fish and Wildlife. Likely the Laguna Beach Dudleya, also known as the Laguna Beach Liveforever may be one of the rare plants included in the study. Included in the Scope of Work will be the development of Goals and Objectives to guide the monitoring protocols and the designation of a data collection platform. This information will ultimately lead to the development of a rare plant monitoring protocol and subsequent rare plant management plan. NROC landowners and managers, such as OC Parks and LCF will benefit from this project as it creates a formalized process for monitoring rare plants, which entails a structured approach to tracking plant populations, plant health, and identifying threats and stressors. AECOM, a large infrastructure San Diego firm is the lead consultant and will be engaging a local group of land management professionals and plant experts throughout the project. The final product will be a Rare Plant Management Plan adopted and implemented across the NROC.*

*Chair Fegraus noted that there is still pressure for the City of Laguna Beach to enroll all their open space lands not managed by OC Parks in the NROC.*

**D. IRVINE OPEN SPACE PRESERVE UPDATE**

*Representative not available to provide an update at this time.*

**E. NEWPORT BEACH OPEN SPACE UPDATE**

*Representative not available to provide an update at this time.*

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**F. ALISO VIEJO OPEN SPACE UPDATE**

*Representative not available to provide an update at this time.*

**G. LAGUNA NIGUEL OPEN SPACE UPDATE**

*Representative not available to provide an update at this time.*

**H. CRYSTAL COVE CONSERVANCY UPDATE**

*Jen Mendez, Crystal Cove Conservancy (CCC) Senior Conservation Manager, shared the following: Cactus Wren Connectivity project with CCC partnering with California State Parks has received grant funding by the Transportation Corridors Agency for a new restoration project in Crystal Cove State Park (CCSP) backcountry. The goals are to restore a 3.68-acre site creating more opportunities for breeding, nesting and foraging to support the recovery of the state-sensitive coastal Cactus Wren.*

*The Early Detection Rapid Response (EDRR) in partnership with CCSP is a new monitoring program schedule to pilot Spring 2026. We are recruiting volunteers to hike designated trails in CCSP's backcountry and coastal bluffs to search for emerging invasive plant species with a goal of identifying the invasive weeds before they become widespread.*

*Stewardship in partnership with CCSP is open to the public and focuses on hands-on-habitat restoration projects. Our first event was January 10th along the Reef Point coastal bluffs where volunteers cleared the site, installed predatory fencing and seeded the area. Next public event is February 14th. Check our website for future events most likely on the second Saturday of the month.*

**RECOMMENDED ACTION(S):**

Receive and File Agenda Items IV.A–H.

*Motion: Member Norton*

*2nd: Member Orgill*

*Unanimous vote to Receive and File Agenda Items IV.A–H*

**V. OC PARKS STAFF UPDATES (ITEM(S) A–B)**

**A. PARK OPERATIONS — ALL DEPARTMENTS UPDATE**

*Ev Mena, OC Parks Park Division Manager, shared the following: Park staff recruitment – Currently 21 in ranger training process, 7 park ranger positions open now. OC Parks staff is reviewing the Coastal Greenbelt Authority's Historical Update and Goal Summary for Laguna Coast Wilderness Park. Comments should be available for the March Authority meeting.*

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**B. LAGUNA COAST WILDERNESS PARK (LCWP) AND ALISO AND WOOD CANYONS WILDERNESS PARK (AWCWP) SPOTLIGHT**

1. AWCWP Update

*Annelise Gannaway, OC Parks Supervising Park Ranger I, shared the following: The grading completed on the fire roads helps to minimize erosion during heavy rains. During 2025 17 encampments along Aliso Creek Trail and El Toro Road were remediated and the areas are being restored. From December 24, 2025 to January 11, 2026 rain caused 19 days of park closure.*

2. LCWP Update

*Brad Barker, OC Parks Supervising Park Ranger II, shared the following: From July 2025 to current date the park received 14 inches of rain. Trails are rough now from the rain, but by Spring will be repaired incorporating preventive maintenance. The City of Laguna Woods received a grant to redo the park entrance at Woods End. In process now with completion within 75 days. Worked with Laguna Beach rangers to clear encampment near the ACT V parking lot. Facilitated the Laguna Plein Air Painters Association workshop at the Nix Nature Center. Responding to question of park closing procedures – coordinates with AWCWP, posts on OC Parks website, signage at entry/staging areas, social media posts.*

**RECOMMENDED ACTION(S):**

Receive and File Agenda Items V.A–B.

*Motion: Vice Chair McCary*

*2nd: Member Orgill*

*Unanimous vote to Receive and File Agenda Items V.A–B*

**VI. DISCUSSION CALENDAR (ITEM(S) A–G)**

**A. CITY OF LAGUNA BEACH BIKE PUMP TRACK**

The City of Laguna Beach is considering the construction of a bike pump track at a location adjacent to Aliso and Wood Canyons Wilderness Park. Authority Members will discuss any potential impacts to Aliso and Wood Canyons Wilderness Park and any needed response to the proposal.

*Penny Milne, Canyon Alliance of Neighborhoods Defense Organization President, commented regarding developments at recent City of Laguna Beach Recreation Committee meetings.*

*Cheryl Heichemer commented in opposition to the bike pump track at this location citing parking issues and searching for different location.*

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*David Browning, Orange County Mountain Bike Association President, commented on the City of Laguna Beach’s efforts to find a different proposed location for a bike pump track.*

**RECOMMENDED ACTION(S):**

Receive and file and continue the item.

*Motion: Vice Chair McCary*

*2nd: Member Norton*

*Approved 3–1–1 (Member Orgill recused himself; Member Osborne voted “Nay”)*

**B. CITY OF LAGUNA BEACH CITY COUNCIL DISCUSSION REGARDING IRVINE BOWL DECIBEL OUTPUT ADJUSTMENTS**

The City of Laguna Beach is considering an item regarding a potential regulation of the Irvine Bowl’s decibel output at concerts and events outside of the festival period. If available, the Authority will receive any new information and the potential impacts to LCWP.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION(S):**

Receive and file and continue the item

*Motion: Chair Fegraus*

*2nd: Member Norton*

*Approved 3–0–1 (Member Orgill was absent; Member Osborne voted “Nay”)*

**C. LAGUNA COLLEGE OF ART AND DESIGN STUDENT CENTER DEVELOPMENT**

City of Laguna Beach Staff, if available, will provide a report of the proposed developments at the Laguna College of Art and Design Student Center and any possible impacts to AWCWP.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION(S):**

Receive and file and continue the item, if appropriate.

*Motion to receive and file but not continue the item: Vice Chair McCary*

*2nd: Chair Fegraus*

*Unanimous vote to approve the recommended action as amended.*

**D. IRVINE WILDLIFE CORRIDOR UPDATE**

Receive information about the Science Advisors Series, Partner Charter, and other activities.

## SUMMARY ACTION MINUTES

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*Member Clark shared the following: In addition to the Irvine-Laguna Wildlife Corridor camera study there will be a roadkill study to understand how wildlife are navigating the landscape between the Inland Hills and the 22,000-acre South Coast Wilderness system. These are focused studies along the 133 highway funded by Laguna Greenbelt Inc and hopefully implemented with the additional help of Laguna Canyon Foundation. Goals include identify and document of linkages or barriers to the safe movement of wildlife, create a map of animal movement patterns throughout the parklands, collaborate with our stakeholders, partners and landowners to identify sensible and feasible solutions. Regarding recent signing on to the Partner Charter include the City of Irvine and thanks to the leadership of Supervisor Foley, the Orange County Board of Supervisors. A late February Zoom briefing is planned between the Rock Design Associates and interested partners/parties. OC Parks agreed to help with distribution of the Zoom briefing information along with a reminder of Brown Act restrictions for Authority members.*

### **RECOMMENDED ACTION(S):**

Receive and file and continue the item.

*Motion: Vice Chair McCary*

*2nd: Member Osborne*

*Unanimous vote to approve the recommended actions.*

### **E. REVIEW OF THE 1998 LCWP GENERAL DEVELOPMENT AND RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLANS**

Authority Members reviewing the LCWP General Development and Resource Management Plans will present the Coastal Greenbelt Authority's Historical Update and Goal Summary for Laguna Coast Wilderness Park. The Authority will share the schedule for completing an update for the Nix Nature Center and the final document of the References.

*Members Norton and Clark and Chair Fegraus will continue to work on a list of documents for references and the Nix Nature Center Update. Great news that OC Parks staff is reviewing the Historical Update and Goal Summary for LCWP.*

### **RECOMMENDED ACTION(S):**

Receive and file and continue the item.

*Motion: Vice Chair McCary*

*2nd: Member Norton*

*Unanimous vote to approve the recommended action.*

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**F. COASTAL GREENBELT AUTHORITY 2026 MEETING SCHEDULE AMENDMENT**

The Authority will discuss an amendment to its 2026 Meeting Schedule in light of one of the meetings scheduled falls upon a holiday.

*It was noted that November 11, 2026 is a national holiday, Veterans Day, and that the Laguna Woods City Hall will be closed. It was agreed to adjust the meeting schedule to accommodate this holiday at the January 2026 Authority meeting.*

**RECOMMENDED ACTION(S):**

Approve the amendment of the Coastal Greenbelt Authority's 2026 Meeting Schedule for the November 2026 meeting.

*Motion to amend the Authority's 2026 Meeting Schedule to make the November 11, 2026 meeting a field trip at the Nix Nature Center: Chair Fegraus  
2nd: Member Osborne  
Unanimous vote to approve the recommended action.*

**G. ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

The bylaws of the Authority require that the Authority elect a Chair and Vice-Chair annually during the January meeting to serve for a term of one year.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

Nominate and select Authority Members to serve in the following positions for one year:

1. Coastal Greenbelt Authority Chair.
2. Coastal Greenbelt Authority Vice Chair.

*Motion to select Chair Fegraus as Chair for one year: Vice Chair McCary  
2nd: Member Osborne  
Unanimous vote to select Chair Fegraus as Authority Chair for one year.*

*Motion to select Vice Chair McCary as Vice Chair for one year: Chair Fegraus  
2nd: Member Norton  
Unanimous vote to select Vice Chair McCary as Authority Vice Chair for one year.*

**VII. AUTHORITY COMMENTS AND REPORT**

At this time Authority Members may comment on agenda or non-agenda matters, provided that no action may be taken on off-agenda items unless authorized by law. Members may also suggest items for the March 11, 2026 meeting agenda.

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*Chair Fegraus noted that it would be helpful to have a final report from Caltrans on the Laguna Canyon Road Widening and Safety Project from the 133 at the El Toro Road intersection to the 73 intersection and the new entrance to Anneliese.*

**VIII. ADJOURNMENT TO MARCH 11, 2026 MEETING 5:08 p.m.**

*Motion: Vice Chair McCary*

*2nd: Member Norton*

*Unanimous vote to adjourn to the March 11, 2026 Meeting.*