



P.O. Box 1383, Laguna Beach, CA 92652 • www.LagunaCanyonConservancy.org

January 16, 2023

Laguna Beach City Council
City of Laguna Beach
505 Forest Avenue
Laguna Beach CA 92651

Dear City Council Members,

Via Email: citycouncil@lagunabeachcity.net; amckay@lagunabeachcity.net; sjoyce@lagunabeachcity.net;

Dear Mayor Kempf and City Manager Joyce,

Subject: Bulldozed Road at Top of the World (TOW)

The Board of Directors of Laguna Canyon Conservancy understands that you will be meeting with Southern California Edison (SCE) regarding the pole replacement project that has carved through our open space below the north end of Alta Laguna Boulevard, and behind upper Park Avenue today. We urge you to hold SCE to the strictest environmental standards from this point forward, and to be in compliance with all protocols and California State laws protecting open space prior to resuming the project.

Based on the fact that helicopters have been used for multiple reasons in and around wilderness park areas and open spaces, including to replace telephone poles, we feel the destruction to habitat that has already taken place was unnecessary and that there could have been other less invasive ways to accomplish their goals.

We also urge the council to make sure the mitigation and rehabilitation of this parcel is full and complete. We suggest that there be oversight by both the city and representation of local environmental groups as SCE resumes both phases of this project.

As you know, this parcel of land was dedicated as open space in 1982 in perpetuity as protected open space.

The Board of Directors is aware and appreciative of the City Council's dedication to keeping Laguna Beach's open spaces wild and green.

Sincerely,

Gayle Waite
President
Laguna Canyon Conservancy