

**Laguna Canyon Conservancy**  
**P.O. Box 1383**  
**Laguna Beach CA 92652**



January 12, 2021

Mayor Bob Whalen  
City of Laguna Beach  
505 Forest Avenue  
Laguna Beach CA 92651

Dear Mayor Whalen,

Subject: Aliso Beach Sand Berm

The Laguna Canyon Conservancy (LCC) is a volunteer environmental group dedicated to saving Laguna Canyon and preserving it as natural. See our website at [www.LagunaCanyonConservancy.org](http://www.LagunaCanyonConservancy.org). Laguna Canyon Conservancy has supported the preservation of Laguna Canyon since 1988, was the lead sponsor of the November 11, 1989 Walk in the Canyon and has helped to place park bond measures on the state ballot.

While we do not object to people enjoying Aliso Creek and the Pacific Ocean by skimboarding, having fun and getting exercise we must speak up when their actions remove the natural sand berm that dams up the creek preventing it from flowing into the ocean. Then they are interfering with the natural environment. The Aliso Beach sand berm is a natural coastal resource protecting ocean water quality from dry weather inland urban runoff. Unfortunately inland cities use great quantities of pesticides and herbicides; in addition the runoff includes fecal material and is a known source of ocean pollution and threat to public health.

Like the Main Beach sand berm, the Aliso Beach sand berm only opens naturally during major storm events. Illegal destruction of the beach sand berm violates the City's approved Local Coastal Program and commitments to restore the Aliso Lagoon.

The Board of the Laguna Canyon Conservancy joins Surfrider Foundation and other community groups and citizens in requesting enforcement at Aliso Beach of posted Orange County Ordinances protecting the natural beach sand berm. Please immediately direct City Police and other enforcement agencies to properly patrol and ticket violators of posted County Ordinances.

LCC is a non-profit organization, however, donations are generally not tax deductible. Since we do take positions on issues of public policy, the LCC is not a 501 (c) 3 organization, but rather a 501 (c) 4. If you would like to discuss this matter with me, please contact me at [JustWaite@cox.net](mailto:JustWaite@cox.net); or 949-887-3247.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Gayle Waite". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Gayle Waite  
President  
Laguna Canyon Conservancy