



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

November 20, 2023

Laguna Beach Mayor Bob Whalen
City Council members Sue Kempf, Alex Rounaghi, Mark Orgill and George Weiss
505 Forest Avenue, Laguna Beach, CA 92651
Via Email to City Clerk

RE: City Council Agenda Item #10 – Nov. 21, 2023-Joining the Natural Communities Coalition

Dear Mayor Whalen and Councilmembers,

The Board of Directors of the Laguna Canyon Conservancy strongly supports having the City of Laguna Beach evaluate the benefits and implications of joining the **Natural Communities Coalition (NCC)**.

Laguna Beach is very fortunate to be surrounded by thousands of acres of open space filled with rich habitat that the city must be a fierce protector of. Residents and visitors alike enjoy the beauty of Laguna Canyon and want to see it maintained but it is under frequent threats that are hard to monitor and control.

Continuing the preservation and conservation of these natural resources can be better managed if Laguna Beach collaborates with NCC's impressive list of partner agencies and stakeholder agencies in the area. They have experience in science, land management, species monitoring, fire mitigation studies and more that will potentially augment the city's environmental efforts.

Thank you for giving serious consideration to this recommendation to join the NCC, hopefully a positive outcome will contribute to more protection of the surrounding open space this city is so proud of.

Laguna Canyon Conservancy is a non-profit, all-volunteer environmental organization founded in 1988 to Save and Protect Laguna Canyon. LCC members have been involved in expanding the South Coast Wilderness nature reserves of Orange County that now include over 22,000 acres of parks, open space, and marine preserves. For more information, please visit: www.LagunaCanyonConservancy.org

Sincerely,

Gayle Waite
President, Laguna Canyon Conservancy