

Lopez, Maria [COB]

From: Anderson, Krystal (OCM - X41417) <Krystal.Anderson@hklaw.com>
Sent: Friday, August 12, 2022 7:43 AM
To: COB_Response
Subject: Re: Grand Jury Report regarding land transactions

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Dear OC Board of Supervisors,

I am a lifetime resident of Newport Beach, having grown up in Corona Del Mar, attended Corona Del Mar High School, and now living both in my childhood home in Corona Del Mar and my separate home in Huntington Beach.

I am also an attorney practicing complex commercial litigation, currently focused on high-stakes real estate and developer litigation in Newport Beach.

I was extremely surprised to hear about the County's sale of Back Bay public land, which was conducted in an inappropriate manner. Per the grand jury report, the County apparently disregarded covenants and easements on the land (which should have been and should still be recorded) and failed to properly and clearly notify residents of the sale. Further, the County has maintained a fence around the public property in anticipation the sale will move forward despite the grand jury report.

But I am most surprised that the County shamefully purports to take away some of the limited natural public land available to Newport Beach residents to feel at peace, and give it to one adjacent homeowner, which will certainly have a massive impact on the value of his home, and will have zero positive impact for the County or the public, for only \$13,000. This is highly suggestive of bad faith political favors being conducted behind the scenes.

I am also positive conservation groups could easily raise far greater funds than that if necessary to preserve and maintain this area of land as public park land. The County could likely also request funds from the State if needed to preserve and maintain this public park land. I would even, and gladly, personally pay far more than \$13,000 for this property, and would keep it public park land. Instead, the County wants to just sell it to one man at an extreme discount to expand the square footage of his property.

Please reconsider this sale altogether, and then clean up and enforce the processes required for any future sale considered, so residents can continue to trust in their OC leadership.

Thank you,
Krystal

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