



South Laguna Specific Plan

ORANGE COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

The South Laguna Specific Plan provided the County of Orange with a vehicle to resolve conflicts agendas on the between builders, environmental groups and neighborhood advocates on issues such as hillside development and beach access through gated communities. The plan also served as the first Local Coastal Plan for the community.

South Laguna is a unique coastal community in southwestern Orange County consisting of approximately 1811 acres of steep hillsides, terraces and ocean frontage. The Specific Plan represented a continuation, refinement and consolidation of numerous planning activities that have occurred over the years focusing upon preservation, recreation, coastal access and infrastructure. In response to these activities, the plan developed a series of recommendations to amend the general plan, prepare new implementing ordinances, implement specific circulation and infrastructure improvements and develop procedures for new beach access opportunities. Major issues addressed in the accompanying EIR involved a

variety of new development proposals (by others) up canyons, along ridgelines and along the bluff, traffic/circulation impacts along Highway 1, beach access through gated communities, open space preservation and inadequate drainage facilities. Portions of the plan area also involved habitat housing potentially rare and endangered species. An ongoing Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) and a series of community-wide workshops provided a public forum for plan development and dissemination. The approved plan also served as the framework for the preparation of the Local Coastal Plan.

