

OC Post 8-5-08

FROM THE WEB FILES

Committee backs Deputy CEO

A finalist has emerged in the contentious year-long search for a Great Park chief executive, with a subcommittee backing the promotion of Deputy CEO Mike Ellzey to the top spot, surprising and angering some board members.

The full Great Park Board of Directors has not yet approved Ellzey's appointment, but his backing by a search committee led by Councilman Larry Agran, the park board chairman, was immediately questioned by critics on the board, who accused the committee of making the decision without their knowledge during a "private, secretive" meeting Thursday.

Agran said Ellzey, who was hired six months ago, was instrumental in overseeing the construction of the first portion of the 27.5-acre preview park, which opened last month.

Readers wrote: **DYSFUNCTIONAL POLITICS** I wish the opposing sides of the Irvine city council could work together to do the people's business. Instead, the majority acts in its own self-interest too often and the minority acts to rein in the majority. It's a shame these same council members sit on the Great Park board of directors.

Dysfunctional politics reigns in Irvine. – **yadthink**

DOWN WITH THE PARK Might as well let the developers elect a CEO. Biggest line of BS OC has ever put out. Down with the Great Park! – **pungacious**

A YES MAN Laying down sod, putting in umbrellas, and placing temporary toilets over 5 acres does not qualify someone for the executive director position. Mr. Ellzey has no experience, whatsoever, in developing a master plan or a park from the start up. This is all smoke and mirrors and more money will be wasted. Mr. Ellzey will be another in the long line of yes people who serve at Larry Agran's whim. – **doubtfulom**

WE HAVE NOTHING This is what you get when people manipulate the political system and cause us to vote 3 times on the same thing. Twice we voted for an airport and the final we were bate and switched with a park. Millions of dollars later we have squat. Insert animation of OC resident turning into a lollipop. – **thefloyd**