Letters of Endorsement September 2023 for:

GEORGE WEISS — City Councilmember

"Mr. Weiss's integrity and honesty are above reproach. He also is the only council member with <u>no</u> personal, career or business agenda. He is strictly a public servant and the only true representative of the people. He is strongly supported for this reason." **Rio Phior**

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"For me, George Weiss is the freshest breeze to blow through Council chambers in a long time. I see him as principled and courageous in that he fights for transparency and stood up to a bullying, insulting former Council member. George's thinking is clear, independent, and fact-based. Moreover, he has a grasp of the environmental issues, including the need to lower carbon emissions, Council is contending with. I appreciate his work to bring Rivian electric trucks to Laguna." **Tom Osborne**

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"I had the privilege of checking out council members for 24 years. I have a little history. And I can tell you, no one ever worked as hard as George. I could not imagine where he found time to be with his lovely family and so forth because he was talking to people, getting information, and going far beyond what would ever be expected of a councilmember." **Toni Iseman, 24-years on City Council**

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"George's biggest fault--if it is one--is that if he sees what he believes to be an injustice he speaks out. Quite frankly he has done what the public lacked in alerting people to issues that needed a good public review. How else would we have learned:

- * Purchase of unsuitable land (TiAmo) without a financial appraisal.
- * The near loss of our local library in its current location.
- * The financial impropriety of the planned Presbyterian Church parking garage give away.
- * The complete design of the Promenade by outside paid consultants, shutting out our Planning Commission, local professionals, and the public.

We have been living through several years with a government that has strived for maximum secrecy and a disdain for public participation. George Weiss has been a life saver for keeping the public informed.

Thank you, George, for being our Paul Revere." Neil Fitzpatrick, 12 years on City Council

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"I have never been one to challenge issues or would ever go to Council meetings over topics the city discusses and debates but when it comes to safety, I felt like I needed to do something.

George always answered my emails, and you could tell he put so much thought into what he was saying and asking. I could tell through every interaction and email he was a man of integrity and principles. That he took being a Councilmember with great pride.

Even though I didn't have the story "I have lived here 30 plus years", George made me feel like my voice mattered, that my concerns were being heard. That he was going to put himself out there to help me. Because it was something he saw firsthand that needed to change.

When George asked for my support on Measure Q a few years ago, I had to kindly tell him it was something I didn't believe in and support. George did not challenge me or argue with me even though I knew it was a huge priority for him in this town. He was respectful and open to my family's views and understood that I thought differently.

Most people lead with ego, and most would have written a person off for not sharing and supporting a person who had done so much to help a resident. Not George. George continued to help me and my family because it was something he believed, and he made me feel like my concerns were a priority.

George has morals, he has principles, but most of all George cares truly for the residents and what he thinks and believes is right.

He wants people like me who are in their 30"s with young families to thrive so that we can have the safe lifestyle his generation gave their families.

Thank you, Councilmember George, for standing up for what you believe in, putting the residents first, and helping people like me feel safe and heard." **Natalie Hall**

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"George Weiss is an asset to Laguna Beach and a champion of causes dear to residents. He has been extremely professional, respectful, intelligent, and diligent in every exchange and on every project. " **Nazish Mir**

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"George Weiss has shown himself to be an honest and fair Councilmember, who values transparency and puts interests on a level playing field with those of special interests, the developers, and Chamber of Commerce.

He (and Toni Iseman before him) is the loudest voice for residents who don't have the same access or donor dollars to be fully heard. And access is really key. Studies have shown that deep pockets really afford greater access. My fear is that the Council allows the access for the deep-pocketed developers and Chamber of Commerce representatives that then influence decisions-- when resident voices cannot compare in the number of access points to make their opinions felt." **Michael Morris**

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"I'm so grateful for your transparency and honesty- you've been a breath of fresh air. Please don't quit. Laguna Beach needs you." **Teresa Siaca**

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"You provide much-needed transparency to city issues, and always seem to be scrupulously fact-based. I appreciate how you present facts and encourage readers to draw their own conclusions. Please continue to bring attention to questionable city decisions, to name names, and to act with integrity. You are a great civic role model." **Charlie Zender**

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"The more people I meet...the more I find that they support your efforts.

It's a thankless job but you go above and beyond.

Thank you! Refreshing to see a person of integrity representing the people..." Stacy Sea

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"Doing the right thing doesn't always reward one. Yet, you are doing what you were elected to do. Thank you for all your hard work!" **Gavin Jonas**

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"We are thankful for George. He always lets us know what's going on and will take the time to talk to us. We need transparency in all government. Let's all work together and put our energy into making Laguna a great place to live. Not just a great place for tourists to come."

Kathy Tanaka

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"I have found George to behave with exemplary professionalism in my dealings with him exploring various ideas to potentially benefit our city. In multiple meetings with me George has demonstrated genuine interest, wanting to learn as much as possible about each topic. His demeanor was always friendly, yet professional. In my view, he represents the best of Laguna." **Dr. Russ Hill**

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"My wife Jeanne and I have lived here for 28 years. We both have known George for 20 years. I am honored to call him my friend. I know that he is a good and honest man who loves Laguna Beach very much. I know that George has worked very hard to keep our City on the right track as much as local politics will allow." **David and Jeannie Sullenger**

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"We, as residents, have a promising opportunity in the next election cycle to retrieve our direction as citizenry and reclaim Laguna Beach for us residents. My thanks to Councilmember George Weiss for taking the constant attacks and not yielding to the thoughtless anti-resident direction that some of our elected officials have taken in the past and continue to grasp for in the future. Thank you." Claude Morgan

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"Since George was first elected to the Council, I have had many contacts with him over the years; always found him responsive, respectful to neighborhood concerns; a sorely needed advocate for residents' concerns, who put out a lot of effort, and takes initiative in following through, and is a man of his word. "Barbara Manalis

"I fully endorse Councilmember George Weiss. My father taught me that there are those that look and those that see. George goes beyond both. He looks into the soul of the situations in our small town, and sees the reality, and offers logical solutions." **Charles Michael Murray**

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"We thank you for your diligence in seeking answers to our questions and our concerns about City business and our finances, and demanding accountability and transparency. Please don't stop. We are counting on you to continue." M. J. Abraham

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"George Weiss is a hero to me. He has courage, respect for voters, and cares about our best interests. Our property rights, safety, rule of law and dignity are important to him. He lives his oath of office. "Tony Fisch

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"While serving as a Council member George has shown integrity and courage. Alerting the public to upcoming issues that involve taxpayer dollars is the responsibility of our City Council, yet George seems to be the only member determined to make this happen. He has enabled the public to get their voices heard before action is taken." **Vicki Crowe**