CREATING AN ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE
A seven member public advisory committee was established to provide the Laguna Beach City Council with recommendations for improvements, projects, and policies that encourage and model sustainable development and practices, lower the City’s ecological impact, and ensure restoration and stewardship of our natural environments.

DEVELOPING A PARKING MANAGEMENT PLAN
Though in its early stages, city staff are working on a parking management plan that has the potential to improve parking and pedestrian and vehicle circulation in the downtown.

ESTABLISHING A “COMPLETE STREETS” TASK FORCE
In addition to looking at parking management, a new Complete Streets Task Force was recently established to look at how to accommodate all the various modes of transportation. Pedestrians and those with disabilities need sidewalks, while bicyclists need a bike lane, in conjunction with the existing street layout.

CREATING A PLASTIC BAG BAN
To reduce the proliferation of plastic litter in the ocean and create a more sustainable future, the Laguna Beach City Council has directed its staff to create an ordinance to prohibit the distribution of plastic carry-out bags from local retailers. The ordinance would also require a fee for paper bags to encourage the use of reusable bags.

ADDING ELECTRIC CHARGING STATIONS
As a benefit to those that drive electric vehicles, the City has established two electric vehicle charging stations. This gives drivers a reward for investing in a zero emissions vehicle and allows them to recharge the car’s battery while they get their activities accomplished.

CONSIDERING A LIGHT ORDINANCE (DARK SKIES)
Light pollution is one of the reasons our beautiful night sky is so difficult to see. The City of Laguna Beach has adopted a light ordinance that reduces light pollution, saves money, and preserves and protects the natural heritage of our nighttime environment.

For more information on the City of Laguna Beach’s Smart Investments, please contact: the City of Laguna Beach at 949-497-3111.

Photos (left) provided by the City of Laguna Beach, (right) by Melanie Schlotterbeck.

FHBP works to protect the natural lands, waterways, and beaches throughout Orange County. Learn More at: www.FHBP.org