Plan and the incorporation documents by September 15, 1971. The incorporation election was set for December 21, 1971, and the measure passed with a 2 to 1 margin.

On December 28, 1971, the County Supervisors certified the incorporation vote, the city was registered with the state and county, and Irvine was declared the 26th city in Orange County.

We are deeply grateful to the individuals who have established the following Named Library Funds:

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Welcome to the UC Irvine Libraries’ spring 2011 exhibition, *Irvine: the Vision, the Plan, the Promise*. This exciting exhibit chronicles the origins and development of three community pillars: the City of Irvine, Irvine Company, and the University of California Irvine: and how each played a key role in the evolution of Irvine into a nationally recognized model planned community. Artifacts and planning documents from the UC Irvine Libraries’ Orange County collection and papers from the Raymond L. Watson archive are on display as well as original advertisements marketing the new city. Yvonne Wilson, Research Librarian for California and Orange County Government Information, is the curator.

We are honored to have UCI’s Interim Vice Chancellor for Advancement Daniel Aldrich, III, and City of Irvine Councilmember Larry Agran as the featured speakers for our exhibit opening on May 11. We are deeply grateful to Ray Watson for his generous support of the Libraries’ Regional History Collections through the Watson Library Fund.

I hope you enjoy the exhibit and return to view others in the future.

Lorelei Tanji,
Interim University Librarian

**VISION**
The Irvine Ranch, located between Los Angeles and San Diego, was strategically located to take advantage of the population explosion in post-World War II Southern California. Officials of the Irvine Company decided not to sell their land to developers, but to develop it themselves. Between the years of 1959 and 1971, the Irvine Company moved from mainly an agricultural operation to a diversified development corporation. This transformation was secured by providing 1,000-acres for the University of California, Irvine, creating a community around the University and moving on to design and build the villages of Irvine.

**PLAN**
The Irvine Company created a new land development division in 1961, which included professional planners and architects, such as Raymond L. Watson. The Irvine Company spent the 1960s planning first for the “southern sector”—35,000-acres south of the San Diego Freeway, including the University and the Irvine Industrial Complex and then the 32,000-acre “central basin” between the foothills and the San Diego Freeway. On March 19, 1970, the Irvine Company submitted the Irvine General Plan of 1970 to the Orange County Planning Commission. This plan covered the development of both sectors and addressed the need for a future City of Irvine.

**PROMISE**
Formed on June 24, 1970, the Council of the Communities of Irvine was the leading Irvine citizen’s group promoting city incorporation and writing the necessary documents. The County of Orange approved both the Irvine General