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**TORRANCE CITY COUNCIL – FEBRUARY 23, 2010**

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At 10:10 p.m., the meeting was adjourned to Tuesday, March 9, 2010 at 5:30 p.m. for an executive session, with the regular meeting commencing at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers.

February 23, 2010

**MINUTES OF AN ADJOURNED REGULAR  
MEETING OF THE TORRANCE CITY COUNCIL**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The Torrance City Council convened in an adjourned regular session at 7:03 p.m. on Tuesday, February 23, 2010 in City Council Chambers at Torrance City Hall.

**ROLL CALL**

Present: Councilmembers Barnett, Brewer, Furey, Numark, Rhilinger, Sutherland, and Mayor Scotto.

Absent: None.

Also Present: City Manager Jackson, City Attorney Fellows, City Clerk Herbers, and other staff representatives.

**2. FLAG SALUTE/INVOCATION**

The flag salute was led by Southeast Homeowners Association President John Bailey.

Councilmember Rhilinger gave the non-sectarian invocation.

The National Anthem was performed by the C-Nile Sound South Bay Coastliners Quartet.

John Bailey announced that the South Bay Coastliners would be performing "Hoarse Feathers" at the Armstrong Theatre February 26 through February 28 with evening and matinee shows. For more information contact the box off at 310.781.7171 or [www.coastliners.org](http://www.coastliners.org).

**3. REPORT OF CITY CLERK ON POSTING OF THE AGENDA / MOTION TO WAIVE FURTHER READING**

City Clerk Herbers reported that the agenda was posted on the Public Notice Board at 3031 Torrance Boulevard on Thursday, February 18, 2010.

**MOTION:** Councilmember Numark moved that after the City Clerk has read aloud the number and title to any resolution or ordinance on the meeting agenda, the further reading thereof shall be waived, reserving and guaranteeing to each Councilmember the right to demand the reading of any such resolution or ordinance in regular order. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Furey and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

**4. WITHDRAWN, DEFERRED OR SUPPLEMENTAL ITEMS**

Agenda Item 18 Executive Session was withdrawn.

**5. COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Councilmember Sutherland announced that the Finance and Governmental Operations Committee had met earlier in the evening to discuss the 2009-2010 mid year budget and the Committee would present an item to City Council for consideration at a future meeting.

Community Development Director Gibson provided clarification regarding the notification process for public hearings, explaining that at the Council's request, the department has expanded its notification for public hearings from 300 feet to 500 feet of a proposed project.

Fire Chief Racowski announced that ExxonMobil would be conducting their monthly community alert siren testing on Wednesday, March 3, at approximately 11:30 a.m.

Fire Chief Racowski announced the 38th Annual Spaghetti Dinner sponsored by the Torrance Fire Fighters Association on Saturday, March 13 from 4:30 - 8:00 p.m. at the Ken Miller Recreation Center with proceeds benefiting the Alisa Ann Ruch Burn Foundation.

Fire Chief Racowski thanked those who attended the ISO Class 1 celebration at Fire Station #1. He noted that the Class 1 rating is the highest rating awarded; that the City of Torrance Fire Department has been rated Class 1 since 1995; and that the department is 1 of 12 in California and 1 of 57 in the nation to receive this rating.

City Clerk Herbers announced that nominations are currently open for the June 8, 2010 general municipal election and that voter registration is open until May 31. She noted that additional information is available online at the City Clerk's webpage or by calling the City Clerk's office at 310.618.2870.

**6. COMMUNITY MATTERS**

**6A. PRESENTATION ON "HEALTHY EATING, ACTIVE LIVING CITIES" CAMPAIGN**

Councilmember Numark introduced Kanat Tibet, California Center for Public Health Advocacy, who gave a brief Powerpoint presentation on the Healthy Eating, Active Living (HEAL) Cities campaign, which is designed to combat the obesity epidemic by promoting policies that encourage a healthier lifestyle.

**6B. COMMISSION APPOINTMENTS**

**Recommendation**

Recommendation of the City Clerk that City Council review applications and make appointments to fill one vacancy on the Cable TV Advisory Board, one on the Commission on Aging, three on the Library Commission, and two on the Traffic Commission and give the City Clerk direction on action to fill the vacancy on the Civil Service Commission. The City Clerk will administer the oath of office to commissioners present.

The following appointments were made: Library – Allen Ravine, Toni Sargent, and Gavin Wasserman; Traffic – Robert Rudolph and Doug Walter; Commission on Aging - Judy Robeletto. Direction was given to re-advertise to fill the vacancies on the Cable TV Advisory Board and Civil Service Commission.

City Clerk Herbers administered the oath of office to commissioners who were present at the meeting.

**7. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS #1**

**7A.** Lielani Kimmel-Dagostino, 2010 Census Complete Count Committee, announced that every resident will receive a census questionnaire by mail in early March and emphasized the importance of completing the census form because federal dollars supporting schools, employment services, housing assistance, highway construction, hospital services, programs for the elderly and more are distributed based on census figures. Additional information available by visiting [www.2010census.gov](http://www.2010census.gov).

**7B.** Debbie Hays invited staff and public to attend a Relay for Life fundraiser hosted by the Torrance Employee Variety Show team at the Red Car Brewery on February 24 from 5:00 to 9:00 p.m., with proceeds from Tip a Torrelle and 15% of food bill to go to the American Cancer Society - Relay for Life.

**7C.** Gene Higginbotham, president of the Torrance Historical Society, announced that the society has received a \$10,000 grant from the National Trust for Historical Preservation to assist with the cost of conducting a survey of historic resources in Torrance.

**7D.** Amy Rochford, Eagle Education Alliance, invited staff and public to attend a Casino Night fundraiser on February 26 at the Torrance Women's Club located at 1422 Engracia Avenue from 6:00 to 11:00 p.m. with all proceeds to benefit Anza Elementary School students. Visit [www.eagleeducationalliance.org](http://www.eagleeducationalliance.org) for more information.

**7E.** Nancy Clinton, Torrance Airport Association, announced a special event at Torrance Airport featuring the B-17 bomber on April 9 through April 11 with rides available from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. For more information call 1.800.359.6217 or visit [www.b17.org](http://www.b17.org).

**7F.** Bonnie Mae Barnard, Save Historic Old Torrance, announced a Wine and Win event at the Toyota Auto Museum on Saturday, March 13, for more information call 310.320.0629 or visit [www.savehistoricoldtorrance.com](http://www.savehistoricoldtorrance.com).

**7G.** Bonnie Mae Barnard announced the Torrance Hope Chapel rummage sale on February 27 from 8:00 - 2:00 p.m. at 3555 Lomita Boulevard and noted that Hope Chapel is looking for someone to lease a portion of the building or parking lot, with additional information at 310.539.2896.

**8. CONSENT CALENDAR**

**8A. RENEWAL OF HR/PAYROLL SYSTEM ANNUAL MAINTENANCE AGREEMENT**

**Recommendation**

Recommendation of the Information Technology Director that City Council approve the renewal of the annual software maintenance agreement (C2003-061) with Now Solutions, LLC. for the support and maintenance of the HR/Payroll system for the amount of \$76,965.

**8B. YEARLY MAINTENANCE FOR PUBLIC SAFETY INFORMATION SYSTEM**

**Recommendation**

Recommendation of the Police Chief, Fire Chief, and Information Technology Director that City Council authorize payment of \$111,949.00 to Spillman Technologies, Inc., for yearly maintenance of the Public Safety Information System, for the period from February 1, 2010 through January 31, 2011.

**8C. AGREEMENT FOR ENGINEERING SUPPORT SERVICES RE DEL AMO BOULEVARD EXTENSION, T-30**

**Recommendation**

Recommendation of the Public Works Director that City Council approve a consulting services agreement for an amount of \$75,000 and for a term through December 31, 2012 with Moffatt & Nichol to provide engineering support services during the construction phase of the Del Amo Boulevard Extension, T-30.

**8D. AGREEMENT RE TEMPORARY LEASE OF GROUNDWATER RIGHTS**

**Recommendation**

Recommendation of the Public Works Director that City Council approve an agreement to temporarily lease 200 acre-feet of groundwater rights to the Roman Catholic Archbishop of Los Angeles, a non-profit California Corporation, at \$125 per acre-foot during the 2009-2010 fiscal year.

**8E. REVISED CLASS SPECIFICATION FOR BUYER POSITION**

Considered separately, see page 5.

**8F. AMENDMENT TO AGREEMENT FOR LEGAL SERVICES**

**Recommendation**

Recommendation of the City Attorney that City Council approve the third amendment to the fee agreement with the law firm of Liebert Cassidy Whitmore (C2008-212) to provide legal services in the matter of Brumbaugh v. City of Torrance, LA Superior Court Case No. BS116891, for an additional \$40,000 for a total not to exceed amount of \$120,000.

**MOTION:** Councilmember Sutherland moved for the approval of Consent Calendar Items 8A through 8D and 8F. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Brewer and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

Consent Calendar Item 8E was considered separately at this time.

**8E. REVISED CLASS SPECIFICATION FOR BUYER POSITION**

**Recommendation**

Recommendation of the Human Resources Director and the Civil Service Commission that City Council approve the revised class specification for Buyer position.

In response to Councilmember Sutherland's inquiry, Human Resources Manager Lawrence confirmed that there was no change in salary associated with the revised class specification.

**MOTION:** Councilmember Sutherland moved to concur with the staff recommendation. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Brewer and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

**12. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS**

Agenda Item 12 E was considered out of order at this time for process purposes.

**12E. RESOLUTION AMENDING ENGINEERS MOU RE FIRE PREVENTION SPECIALIST POSITION**

**Recommendation**

Recommendation of the Human Resources Director that City Council adopt a Resolution amending the Memorandum of Understanding for the Engineers to implement the title change for Fire Prevention Specialist position.

Human Resources Manager Lawrence reported that this is a companion item to Item 12D and implements the title change for this position.

**MOTION:** Councilmember Furey moved to concur with the staff recommendation. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Brewer and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2010-16**

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE  
AMENDING RESOLUTION NO. 2007-39 SETTING FORTH CHANGES  
REGARDING THE HOURS, WAGES AND WORKING CONDITIONS FOR  
EMPLOYEES REPRESENTED BY THE ENGINEERS

**MOTION:** Councilmember Brewer moved to adopt Resolution No. 2010-16. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Barnett and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

**12A. RESOLUTION RE TORRANCE FISCAL EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION AND ENGINEERS**

**Recommendation**

Recommendation of the City Manager that City Council adopt a Resolution pursuant to a Memorandum of Understanding setting forth the hours, wages and working conditions for employees represented by Torrance Fiscal Employees Association (TFEA) and Engineers for the period of February 23, 2010 to March 31, 2010 and repealing TFEA Resolution No. 2007-38 and Engineers Resolution No. 2007-39.

Assistant to the City Manager Sunshine reported that the Resolution implements the merging of the Torrance Fiscal Employees Association and Engineers and does not change any wages or benefits. He recommended that the Resolution be amended by changing any references to Fire Prevention Officer to Fire Prevention Specialist in accordance with action taken on Agenda Item 12E.

**MOTION:** Councilmember Furey moved to concur with the staff recommendation. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Brewer and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2010-17**

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE  
SETTING FORTH HOURS, WAGES, AND WORKING CONDITIONS FOR  
EMPLOYEES REPRESENTED BY THE ENGINEERS AND TORRANCE  
FISCAL EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION AND REPEALING RESOLUTION NOS.  
2007-39 AND 2007-38

**MOTION:** Councilmember Rhilinger moved to adopt Resolution No. 2010-17 as amended. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Barnett and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

**12B. RESOLUTION AMENDING TORRANCE POLICE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION MOU RE TEAM POLICING**

**Recommendation**

Recommendation of the City Manager that City Council adopt a Resolution pursuant to a Memorandum of Understanding amending Resolution No. 2009-17 setting forth hours, wages and working conditions for employees represented by the Torrance Police Officers Association (TPOA).

Assistant to the City Manager Chaparyan reported that the Resolution makes minor changes regarding the use of compensatory time and the scheduling of training, which are necessary to implement team policing.

**MOTION:** Councilmember Furey moved to concur with the staff recommendation. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Brewer and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2010-18**

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AMENDING RESOLUTION NO. 2009-17 SETTING FORTH CHANGES REGARDING THE HOURS, WAGES, AND WORKING CONDITIONS FOR EMPLOYEES REPRESENTED BY THE TORRANCE POLICE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION (TPOA)

**MOTION:** Councilmember Rhlinger moved to adopt Resolution No. 2010-18. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Barnett and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

**12C. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AGENCY-STATE AGREEMENT AND APPROPRIATION OF GRANT FUNDS FOR DEL AMO BLVD. EXTENSION**

**Recommendation**

- 1) Adopt a Resolution authorizing approval of Program Supplement No. N011 to Administering Agency-State Agreement for Federal-Aid Projects No. 07-5249R with the State of California for the Del Amo Boulevard Extension, T-30; ESPLRSTP-5249(021); and
- 2) Appropriate \$2,355,000 of federal-aid grant funds from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 to the Del Amo Boulevard Extension, T-30; and
- 3) Appropriate \$2,070,093 of Prop C funds from the City's un-appropriated fund balance to the Del Amo Boulevard Extension, T-30.

Engineering Manager Overstreet reported that the Resolution is necessary to secure grant funding for the Del Amo Boulevard extension project. She noted that Phase I is currently underway and the project is scheduled to be completed in the summer of 2012.

**MOTION:** Councilmember Furey moved to concur with the staff recommendation. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Brewer and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2010-19**

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR AND THE CITY CLERK TO EXECUTE AND ATTEST TO PROGRAM SUPPLEMENT NO. N011 TO ADMINISTERING AGENCY-STATE AGREEMENT FOR FEDERAL-AID PROJECTS NO. 07-5249R WITH THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

**MOTION:** Councilmember Rhlinger moved to adopt Resolution No. 2010-19. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Barnett and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

**12D. REVISED CLASS SPECIFICATION FOR FIRE PREVENTION SPECIALIST POSITION**

**Recommendation**

Recommendation of the Human Resources Director and the Civil Service Commission that City Council approve the revised class specification for Fire Prevention Specialist position.

Human Resources Manager Lawrence reported that the revised class specification incorporates responsibilities for the NPDES program.

**MOTION:** Councilmember Furey moved to concur with the staff recommendation. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Brewer and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

**12E. RESOLUTION AMENDING ENGINEERS MOU RE FIRE PREVENTION SPECIALIST POSITION TITLE CHANGE**

Considered out of order, see page 5.

**12F. CREATION OF TWO FIRE PREVENTION SPECIALIST POSITIONS**

**Recommendation**

Recommendation of the City Manager that City Council approve the reallocation of one (1) Administrative Analyst position and one (1) Public Education Officer position in the Fire Department to the two (2) newly created Fire Prevention Specialist positions and deletion of a 0.5 intern position from the NPDES program budget to offset the position upgrades.

Assistant to the City Manager Chaparyan reported that this action will create a team of six Fire Prevention Specialists capable of handling a variety of collateral duties and assignments.

**MOTION:** Councilmember Furey moved to concur with the staff recommendation. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Brewer and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

**12G. REVISED CLASS SPECIFICATION FOR POLICE SERVICES OFFICER POSITION**

**Recommendation**

Recommendation of the Human Resources Director and the Civil Service Commission that City Council approve the revised class specification for Police Services Officer position.

Human Resources Manager Lawrence reported that the revised class specification updates the Police Services Officer position to reflect the full range of responsibilities.

**MOTION:** Councilmember Furey moved to concur with the staff recommendation. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Brewer and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

**12H. RESOLUTION AMENDING MOU FOR TME-AFSCME, LOCAL 1117, RE POLICE SERVICES OFFICER POSITION**

**Recommendation**

Recommendation of the Human Resources Director that City Council adopt a Resolution amending the Memorandum of Understanding for the Torrance Municipal Employees - AFSCME, Local 1117 implementing the title change for the Police Services Officer position.

Human Resources Manager Lawrence noted that this is a companion item to Agenda Item 12G.

**MOTION:** Councilmember Furey moved to concur with the staff recommendation. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Brewer and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2010-20**

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AMENDING RESOLUTION NO. 2007-78 SETTING FORTH CHANGES REGARDING THE HOURS, WAGES, AND WORKING CONDITIONS FOR EMPLOYEES REPRESENTED BY THE TORRANCE MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES – AFSCME, LOCAL 1117

**MOTION:** Councilmember Rhilinger moved to adopt Resolution No. 2010-20. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Barnett and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

**12I. ORDINANCE NO. 3724 GRANTING PIPELINE FRANCHISE**

**Recommendation**

Recommendation of the City Manager that City Council adopt an Ordinance granting ConocoPhillips Pipe Line Company a pipeline franchise to repeal and replace expired Franchise Ordinance No. 2027 to construct, lay, operate, test, maintain, use, renew, repair, replace, move, change the size and number of, and remove or abandon in place a system of pipelines and appurtenances, for the purpose of conducting, transporting, conveying and carrying gas, oil, petroleum products and water, on, along, in, under and across public streets, ways, alleys and places within the City of Torrance and approve an ordinance summary for publication.

Assistant to the City Manager Sunshine reported that the Ordinance replaces an expired Ordinance and the initial term of the lease is 25 years, with options for 10-year extensions.

**MOTION:** Councilmember Furey moved to concur with the staff recommendation. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Brewer and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

## ORDINANCE NO. 3724

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE GRANTING TO CONOCOPHILLIPS PIPE LINE COMPANY, A FRANCHISE, TO CONSTRUCT, LAY, OPERATE, TEST, MAINTAIN, USE, RENEW, REPAIR, REPLACE, MOVE, CHANGE THE SIZE AND NUMBER OF, AND REMOVE OR ABANDON IN PLACE A SYSTEM OF PIPELINES AND APPURTENANCES, FOR THE PURPOSE OF CONDUCTING, TRANSPORTING, CONVEYING AND CARRYING GAS, OIL, PETROLEUM PRODUCTS AND WATER, ON, ALONG, IN, UNDER AND ACROSS PUBLIC STREETS, WAYS, ALLEYS AND PLACES WITHIN THE CITY OF TORRANCE

**MOTION:** Councilmember Rhilinger moved to adopt Ordinance No. 3724. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Barnett and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

The City Council recessed from 8:31 p.m. to 8:50 p.m.

### 13. **HEARINGS**

#### 13A. **CITY OF TORRANCE 2009 DRAFT GENERAL PLAN**

##### **Recommendation**

Recommendation of the Community Development Director that City Council:

- 1) Conduct a public hearing to receive public comments on the 2009 Draft General Plan and Environmental Impact Report (EIR);
- 2) Certify the Environmental Impact Report (EIR);
- 3) Adopt the Findings of Fact and Statement of Overriding Consideration;
- 4) Approve 2009 Draft General Plan.

Mayor Scotto announced that this was the time and place for a public hearing on this matter. City Clerk Herbers confirmed that the hearing was properly advertised.

With the aid of slides, Deputy Community Development Director Cessna provided an overview of the 2009 Draft General Plan. She noted that the matrix included in the staff report (Attachment D) summarizes comments received during the public workshop process and the revisions that were made in response to this input and that if the Council approves the 2009 Draft General Plan this evening, the revisions will be incorporated into the final version and it will be brought back for approval on April 6, 2010.

Responding to questions from the Council, Deputy Community Development Director Cessna confirmed that the Housing Element identifies potential sites for the development of new housing units to satisfy the City's RHNA (Regional Housing Needs Assessment) allocation, which is necessary in order to have the Housing Element certified by the State. She noted that the City must only provide the opportunity for new housing and is not charged with developing it. She clarified that while other intersections in Torrance have been identified as needing traffic improvements, the five listed in the Transportation and Traffic section of the *Findings of Fact and Statement of Overriding Consideration* – Anza Avenue/Sepulveda Boulevard; Crenshaw Boulevard/190<sup>th</sup> Street; Crenshaw Boulevard/Pacific Coast Highway; Hawthorne Boulevard/Sepulveda Boulevard; and Hawthorne Boulevard/Lomita Boulevard – have been identified as mitigation measures necessary to maintain acceptable levels of service to accommodate future growth if the City was built-out in accordance with the Land Use Element of the General Plan.

Community Development Director Gibson noted that the City is not obligated to complete the traffic improvements within a set period of time and they will remain on the list of long-term capital improvements.

Mayor Scott invited public comment.

David Buxton, owner of Tormed Medical Building, 3440 Lomita Boulevard, noted that he had recommended at an earlier meeting that an unequivocal maximum floor area ratio (FAR) of 1.0 be set for the Hospital/Medical Land Use Designation instead of a range from 0.60 to 1.0; and Deputy Community Development Director Cessna confirmed that this revision would be incorporated into the General Plan.

Gary Elm, co-owner of 2426-2430 Amsler Avenue, urged the Council to reconsider the decision not to change land use designations in the Amsler Avenue/Crenshaw Boulevard focus area. He stated that this is an area of functional obsolescence; that half of the land is vacant and not generating any revenue or creating any jobs; and that it is an eyesore in need of redevelopment.

John Katnik, co-owner 2426-2430 Amsler Avenue, requested that the Council consider changing the land use designation of properties in the Amsler Avenue/Crenshaw Boulevard area to General Commercial in order to allow more flexibility because there is no demand for light industrial space in this area.

Responding to questions from the Council, Deputy Community Development Director Cessna reported that the Amsler Avenue/Crenshaw Boulevard focus area currently has a Business Park land use designation, which allows for light industrial uses; that staff originally recommended changing the designation of properties along Crenshaw Boulevard to General Commercial and interior properties to Residential; and that this idea was rejected due to concerns about over-development and the impact on traffic in this already congested area.

Councilmember Numark asked about the possibility of targeting the Amsler Avenue/Crenshaw Boulevard area for redevelopment; Community Development Director Gibson advised that it was not financially feasible to create another redevelopment project area in the City at this time.

Newt Young, Hickory Avenue, related his belief that land use and housing decisions should be made at the local level; voiced objections to the State's efforts to mandate a quota of affordable housing via the RHNA allocation; and urged the Council to resist the State's attempt to intrude on land use decisions.

Mayor Scotto stated that the Council shares Mr. Young's concerns about the State's intrusion on local matters, however, they do not want to jeopardize the City's ability to obtain state and federal funding by failing to meet the RHNA allocation. He noted that the City is only creating opportunities for housing and it does not mean that these housing units will be built.

Councilmember Numark stated that he was encouraged by the language that was added to the General Plan regarding historic preservation and expressed the hope that the City would consider adopting a Historic Preservation Ordinance in the future.

Councilmember Sutherland voiced his opinion that the 2009 General Plan will serve the City well and commended staff for doing an excellent job of listening to the public in drafting the plan.

Councilmember Brewer asked about the ramifications of changing the land use designation for the Amsler Avenue/Crenshaw Boulevard area to Local Commercial.

Deputy Community Development Director Cessna advised that it could potentially change the character of the area and leave the door open for more intense retail uses such as "big box" stores.

**MOTION:** Councilmember Brewer moved to close the public hearing. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Barnett and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

**MOTION:** Councilmember Rhilinger moved to concur with the staff recommendation. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Brewer and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

\*

The City Council met as the Redevelopment Agency from 9:50 p.m. to 9:55 p.m.

## **17. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS**

**17A.** Councilmember Furey announced that the North Torrance Homeowners Association general meeting will be held on Thursday, February 25, at 7:00 p.m. at the North Torrance High School library with featured speaker Mayor Scotto.

**17B.** Councilmember Numark, with City Council concurrence, asked that the Vietnam Veterans of America South Bay chapter be recognized at a future City Council meeting and that March 30 be declared "Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans Day" in the City of Torrance.

**17C.** Councilmember Numark, with City Council concurrence, requested that the Radium Outdoor Market be recognized for fundraising efforts by presenting a Haiti relief contribution check at a future City Council meeting.

**17D.** Councilmember Numark also asked, with City Council concurrence, that the League of Women Voters be recognized at a future City Council meeting in honor of their 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

**17E.** Councilmember Numark, with City Council concurrence, requested that AB 1717, which would allow cities to distribute election information/sample ballots electronically, be added to the City's legislative agenda for advocacy.

**17F.** Councilmember Rhilinger announced a free workshop titled "If He's Not the One, Who Is?" at the Katy Geissert Civic Center Library on Wednesday, February 24, at 7:00 p.m.

**17G.** Councilmember Sutherland, with City Council concurrence, asked that the Pediatric Therapy Network be recognized at a future City Council meeting for being selected for federal funding to launch an Early Headstart Program.

**17H.** Mayor Scotto reported that he and Councilmember Rhilinger recently traveled to Sacramento to meet with state department heads and legislators to promote funding for the City's top priority capital projects and he learned useful information about funding sources and the application process.

He noted that the California Department of Housing and Community Development publishes a directory of financial assistance programs and requested that staff review the directory and provide more information to the City Council regarding the following programs: first time buyers, golden state heroes, enterprise zones, and mobile home enforcement.

**17I.** Councilmember Rhilinger reported that she and Mayor Scotto had discussions with State legislators about Proposition 42, explaining that it would negatively impact the City's transit operations, however, the legislators were not receptive to their arguments. She noted that they also discussed AB32 and SB375 in terms of the unfunded liabilities they present to local governments and suggested that implementation be delayed in order to mitigate the financial impact. She asked that staff compile a list of mandates contained in AB32 and SB375 that could be delayed so that this list could be forwarded to the City's representatives in the State legislature with a formal request that they support any legislative proposals that address these concerns. She reported that they also met with Caltrans officials to discuss the funding required to complete the relinquishment of Hawthorne Boulevard and plans for two parcels Caltrans owns in the north end of Torrance.

Mayor Scotto wanted to make clear that the Council supports the goals of AB32 and SB375 in terms of protecting the environment, but believes it is unreasonable for the State to mandate that cities spend millions of dollars replacing buses and equipment at a time when they are taking funding away from them.

**17J.** City Clerk Herbers reported the terms for the newly appointed Library Commissioners had been determined by drawing numbers (Ravine - 4-year; Sargent – 2-year; Wasserman – 1-year) and terms for the newly appointed Traffic Commissioners (Walter – 4-year; Rudolph – 1-year) had been determined by number of votes received.

**18. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Executive session was withdrawn.

**19. ADJOURNMENT**

At 10:10 p.m., the meeting was adjourned to Tuesday, March 9, 2010 at 5:30 p.m. for an executive session, with the regular meeting commencing at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers.

Attest:

/s/ Frank Scotto

Mayor of the City of Torrance

/s/ Sue Herbers

Sue Herbers,  
City Clerk of the City of Torrance

Approved on June 1, 2010