

**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 6: 02 p.m. on Tuesday, May 15, 2007 in the City Council Chambers at Torrance City Hall.

ROLL CALL

Present: Councilmembers Brewer, Drevno, Nowatka, Sutherland, Witkowsky, and Mayor Scotto.

Absent: Councilmember McIntyre.

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

Agenda Item 18 was considered out of order at this time.

18. EXECUTIVE SESSION

The City Council immediately recessed to closed session to confer with the City Manager and the City Attorney on agenda matters listed under 18A) Conference with Labor Negotiator, 18B) Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation, 18C) Conference with Legal Counsel – Initiation of Litigation: 18D) Public Employee Performance Evaluation – City Attorney, and 18E) Real Property – Conference with Real Property Negotiator, pursuant to California Government § 54957.6, 54956.9(a), 54956.9(c), 54957 and 54956.8.

The City Council reconvened at 7:19 p.m. No formal action was taken on any matter considered in closed session.

2. FLAG SALUTE/INVOCATION

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by General Services Director Sheryl Ballew.

Councilmember Witkowsky gave the non-sectarian invocation.

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, May 10, 2007.

MOTION: Councilmember Sutherland 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 Witkowsky and passed by unanimous roll call vote (absent Councilmember McIntyre).

4. WITHDRAWN OR DEFERRED ITEMS

Agenda Items 12F and 12H were withdrawn.

5. COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Councilmember Nowatka announced the Armed Forces Day Parade and Celebration, May 18 through May 20, which will include static displays at Del Amo Fashion Center throughout the weekend and the Armed Forces Day parade on Saturday, May 19, along Torrance Boulevard at 1:30 p.m.

Police Chief Neu announced that Peace Officers Memorial Week/Blue Ribbon Week would be May 13 through May 19 with the Torrance Police Memorial Service to be held on Wednesday, May 16, at 10:00 a.m. in the Toyota Meeting Hall.

General Services Director Ballew announced that the City Yard Open House will be held on Saturday, June 2, at the city yard located at 20500 Madrona Ave. from 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. with displays of City equipment and games and giveaways.

Councilmember Brewer invited the public to attend a joint meeting of the City Council and the Youth Council at the Nakano Theatre on Tuesday, May 22 at 5:30 p.m.

Mayor Scotto wished Councilmember Witkowsky a happy birthday.

6. COMMUNITY MATTERS

6A. RESOLUTION NO. 2007-42 RE 48TH ANNUAL ARMED FORCES DAY PARADE AND CELEBRATION

RESOLUTION NO. 2007-42

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE DECLARING MAY 18 THROUGH MAY 20, 2007 FOR OBSERVANCE OF THE 48TH ANNUAL ARMED FORCES DAY PARADE AND CELEBRATION

MOTION: Councilmember Nowatka moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 2007-42. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Brewer and passed by unanimous roll call vote (absent Councilmember McIntyre).

Mayor Scotto presented the resolution to Police Lieutenant Tom Stark.

Lieutenant Stark noted that the Armed Forces Day Celebration will include a concert featuring the U.S. Air Force band on Friday, May 18, at 2:30 and 7:30 p.m., with tickets available at the Armstrong Theatre box office.

6B. RESOLUTION NO. 2007-43 RE GENERAL KEVIN P. CHILTON

RESOLUTION NO. 2007-43

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE EXPRESSING APPRECIATION TO GENERAL KEVIN P. CHILTON OF THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE FOR SERVING AS GRAND MARSHAL OF THE 48TH ANNUAL ARMED FORCES DAY PARADE AND OBSERVANCE

MOTION: Councilmember Nowatka moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 2007-43. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Witkowsky and passed by unanimous roll call vote (absent Councilmember McIntyre).

To be presented at a later date.

6C. RESOLUTION NO. 2007-44 RE HAROLD GREENE

RESOLUTION NO. 2007-44

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE EXPRESSING APPRECIATION TO HAROLD GREENE FOR SERVING AS GUEST GRAND MARSHAL OF THE 48TH ANNUAL ARMED FORCES DAY PARADE AND OBSERVANCE

MOTION: Councilmember Nowatka moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 2007-44. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Witkowsky and passed by unanimous roll call vote (absent Councilmember McIntyre).

To be presented at a later date.

6D. PROCLAMATION RE “BLUE RIBBON WEEK” AND “CALIFORNIA PEACE OFFICERS MEMORIAL DAY”

Mayor Scotto presented a proclamation declaring **May 13 through 19, 2007** as **Blue Ribbon Week** in the City of Torrance, and further proclaim **May 15, 2007** as **California Peace Officers Memorial Day** in Torrance to Police Services Officers Luze Aceves and Kristine Kiesling.

Officer Aceves reviewed Torrance Police Department’s accomplishments over the past year, including drug-related arrests that resulted in the seizure of 30 lbs. of methamphetamines, 331 lbs. of cocaine, and 11,000 lbs. of marijuana; recognition of officers by Mothers Against Drunk Drivers (MADD) for their efforts to curb drunk driving by making 335 DUI arrests; the recovery of approximately \$800,000 in stolen merchandise; and a cold case investigation that resulted in a longtime suspect being indicted for a 1984 murder. She encouraged everyone to wear and/or display blue ribbons during the week of May 13 through May 19 to show their support and gratitude for all law enforcement officers.

6E. PROCLAMATION RE “BIKE TO WORK WEEK”

Mayor Scotto presented a proclamation declaring the week of **May 14 through May 18, 2007** as **Bike to Work Week** in the City of Torrance to Eddie Harris, Torrance Transit; Jill Crump, Community Development Department; and Kim Fuentes, Torrance Ride Share Coordinator.

Mr. Harris noted that on Thursday, May 17, bike riders will be given free rides on Torrance Transit and MAX buses and that there will be refreshments and giveaways at the Artesia Transit Center from 7:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.

Ms. Crump encouraged everyone to participate in “Bike to Work Day,” Thursday, May 17, noting that breakfast will be served in front of City Hall between 6:00 a.m. and 8:00 a.m. She presented the Mayor and Council with “Bike to Work Day” T-shirts.

6F. PROCLAMATION RE “NATIONAL PRESERVATION MONTH”

Mayor Scotto presented a proclamation declaring the month of **May 2007** as **National Preservation Month** in the City of Torrance to Debbie Hayes and Janet Payne, Torrance Historical Society.

7. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS #1

7A. Janet Payne, Torrance Historical Society, announced a special exhibit at the museum regarding Armed Forces Day.

7B. Jim Jenson, A & J Antiques, asked the City Council for input on the vision meetings for the revitalization of downtown Torrance.

8. CONSENT CALENDAR

8A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – MARCH 27, 2007

8B. PURCHASE ORDERS FOR ANNUAL REQUIREMENT OF OFFICE SUPPLY ITEMS

Recommendation

The **Finance Director** recommends that City Council:

- 1) Award purchase orders in an aggregate amount of not to exceed \$220,000 to Office Depot Business Services Division for the purchase of the City's annual requirement of office supply items from July 1, 2007 through June 30, 2008; and
- 2) Approve change orders to the City's current annual purchase orders in an aggregate amount not to exceed \$20,000.

8C. PURCHASE ORDER INCREASE FOR ANNUAL REQUIREMENT OF UNIFORMS AND EQUIPMENT

Recommendation

The **Chief of Police** recommends that City Council authorize a \$6,000 increase to blanket purchase order issued to Gall's/Long Beach Uniform of Long Beach, CA (PO # 24824) for a total amount not to exceed \$36,000, and extend the term 60 days to August 30, 2007 for police uniforms and equipment on an as needed basis.

8D. AMENDMENT TO AGREEMENT WITH AT SYSTEMS WEST INCORPORATED

Recommendation

The **Transit Director** and the **City Treasurer** recommend that City Council approve an amendment to agreement with AT Systems West Incorporated (C2005-104) for \$54,000. Funding is available in both the Transit Department's Fiscal Year 2007-2009 operating budget (\$50,000) and the City Treasurer Department's 2007-2009 operating budget (\$4,000).

8E. CONTRACT SERVICE AGREEMENTS FOR REPAIR OF BUS ENGINES AND TRANSMISSIONS

Recommendation

The **Transit Director** recommends that Council approve two-year contract service agreements

- 1) with S & J Chevrolet for \$70,000 (annual cost not to exceed \$35,000) and
- 2) with Valley Power Systems, Inc. for \$40,000 (annual cost not to exceed \$20,000) to repair and rebuild the Allison Transmissions and Detroit Diesel engines of Torrance Transit Buses:

Funding is available in the Transit Department's Fiscal Year 2007-2009 Federal Capital Grant budget (CA90-Y394).

8F. AMENDMENT TO FEE AGREEMENT TO PROVIDE LEGAL SERVICES

Recommendation

The **City Attorney** recommends that City Council approve the Third Amendment to the fee agreement with the law firm of Theodora Oringer Miller & Richman (C2004-074) to provide legal services in the case of Shotland V. City of Torrance in the additional amount of \$50,000 for a not to exceed amount of \$109,000.

MOTION: Councilmember Drevno moved for the approval of Consent Calendar Items 8A through 8F. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Brewer and passed by unanimous roll call vote (absent Councilmember McIntyre).

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At 7:50 p.m., City Council convened in joint session with the Redevelopment Agency.

10. PLANNING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

10A. HISTORIC PRESERVATION ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN GUIDELINES

Recommendation

The **Community Development Director** recommends that City Council approve the Architectural Design Guidelines for the area bounded by Dominguez Way to the north, Western Avenue to the east, Plaza del Amo to the south, and Crenshaw Boulevard to the west for historic preservation.

LUS04-00001: Historic Preservation (*Companion to Redevelopment Agency Item 4A*)

Sr. Planning Associate Chun reported that, in accordance with the Council's direction, staff has worked with the Torrance Historical Society to develop voluntary architectural design guidelines to provide a resource for homeowners who wish to restore, rehabilitate and preserve their homes.

Councilmember Witkowsky commended Debbie Hays and Janet Payne, along with other members of the Historical Society, for their efforts in devising the guidelines. She requested that staff bring back an item to enable residents to take advantage of tax incentives offered by the Mills Act and thanked former Councilmember Mike Mauno for originally bringing the Mills Act to the Council's attention.

Debbie Hayes, president of Torrance Historical Society, reported that the guidelines include photographs of actual homes in old Torrance; examples of the primary components and architectural features of historic homes; a glossary of architectural terms; and a list of resources available at the Torrance Library and the Community Development Department. She noted that the guidelines will help homeowners who want to update their homes while still maintaining the charm and architectural characteristics of the old Torrance neighborhood.

Janet Payne, Torrance Historical Society, thanked the former Mayor and Council along with the current Mayor and Council for their support of the project. She also thanked Community Development Department, Library and Central Services staff for their assistance in creating the guidelines.

Bonnie Mae Barnard, Save Historic Old Torrance, commended City staff and the Torrance Historical Society for doing an excellent job of preparing the informative, easy-to-use guidelines.

Mayor Scotto noted that the guidelines will be available in the Community Development Department.

MOTION: Councilmember Sutherland moved to concur with the staff recommendation. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Witkowsky and passed by unanimous roll call vote (absent Councilmember McIntyre).

At 8:04 p.m., the Redevelopment Agency recessed in place.

10B. FERAL CAT POLICY

Recommendation

The **Community Development Director** and the **Environmental Quality Commission** recommend that City Council authorize the formation of a Charter Club for feral cat feeders and approve the creation of an ordinance banning the feeding of feral cats on city property except at certain locations and under specific conditions.

Deputy Community Development Director Cessna reviewed the recommendation to authorize the formation of a Charter Club for feral cat feeders and to approve the creation of an ordinance that would specify locations and conditions under which the feeding of feral cats would be allowed on City property and provide for enforcement against unauthorized feeding at locations such as Madrona Marsh where the feeding of feral cats interferes with indigenous wildlife. She noted that once the ordinance has been drafted, it will be reviewed by the Environmental Quality Commission before being forwarded to the Council.

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

10C. CIRCULATION ENHANCEMENTS IN THE VICINITY OF SAM LEVY SCHOOL

Recommendation

The **Community Development Director** recommends that City Council review and consider the options presented by staff, accept public input, and concur with staff recommendations to improve and enhance traffic circulation at the vicinity of Sam Levy School. Staff recommends approval of improvements in Categories I and II, and further exploration of the recommended improvements in Category III.

Mayor Scotto noted supplemental material available at the meeting.

The Council recessed from 8:10 p.m. to 8:19 p.m. so that technical difficulties could be addressed.

With the aid of slides, Transportation Planning Manager Semaan reviewed recommended improvements to enhance traffic circulation in the vicinity of Sam Levy School, which were being proposed to minimize potential adverse impacts associated with the relocation of Hull Middle School students to the Sam Levy campus. He noted that Long-Range Improvements will affect the City's Capital Budget and may trigger a CEQA (California Environmental Quality Act) evaluation.

Short-Term Improvements - Category I (completion time 2-3 months)

- Create a drop off area within the parking lot off Madison Street (\$2,000);
- Intersection modifications on Madison at 230th St./229th Pl. (\$10,000);
- Create a drop off area within the parking lot off 229th Pl. (\$1,000); and
- Turn restriction on 229th Pl. during designated hours (\$1,000).

Mid-Range Improvements - Category II (completion time 4-8 months)

- Intersection modifications on 230th St at Hawthorne Blvd. (\$25,000);
- Intersection modifications on Madison at Sepulveda (\$50,000); and
- Improvements at Lomita and Madison (\$50,000).

Long-Range Improvements – Category II (completion time 12-24 months)

- Reconstruct the NE corner of Madison at Lomita (\$1,150,000); and
- Construction of Madrona Avenue exit road (\$500,000).

In response to Councilmember Brewer's inquiry, Transportation Planning Manager Semaan, reported that TUSD anticipates using Sam Levy School for approximately 3-5 years, depending on the availability of funding to rebuild Hull School. He reported that a traffic study was conducted by TUSD that focused on major streets, which indicated that the relocation would not have a significant impact, however, City staff focused on the impact on the immediate neighborhood surrounding Levy School. He explained that the most intense congestion occurs 15 minutes before and 15 minutes after school.

Mayor Scotto stated that he believed the school relocation would greatly impact the surrounding neighborhood and asked about the possibility of removing the barricade on Madison at Lomita Boulevard so that school traffic could be directed from westbound Lomita Boulevard to northbound Madison for the drop-off of students then westbound on 230th Street to Hawthorne Boulevard.

Mr. Semaan explained that the reconstruction of Madison at Lomita Boulevard was identified as a Long-Range Improvement because the City does not own the right-of-way needed to open the street up to two-way traffic.

Mayor Scotto suggested placing a barricade at designated times on Madison north of 229th Place to lessen the impact on this neighborhood and also suggested eliminating the student drop-off in the parking lot off 229th Place and limiting this parking lot to teachers only.

City Manager Jackson advised that staff did not recommend directing all traffic down 230th Street because the intersection at 230th Street/Hawthorne Boulevard is not equipped to handle this volume of traffic.

Dr. George Mannon, Torrance Unified School District Superintendent, reported that the school district will operate four buses, each making two trips, to Levy School for a total capacity of 400 students, and that the PTA will work with parents to promote carpooling. He advised that the relocation is part of a temporary plan while TUSD seeks the passage of bonds for the rebuilding of Hull School and should the bonds not be approved, the school district will have to re-examine all options and come up with a permanent plan. He reported that school hours are expected to be from 8:40 a.m. to 3:20 p.m.

Mayor Scotto asked about limiting permits for out-of-the-area students; Dr. Mannon advised that no permits for inter-district or intra-district transfers will be issued for sixth-grade students while those who are currently attending on permits will be allowed to continue.

Councilmember Brewer questioned whether staggering school hours for different grades would reduce the impact on traffic. Dr. Mannon responded that staggering school hours would not be possible due to bus schedules and also because it would be hard for parents with children in different grades to drop them off/pick them up at different times.

Mr. Semaan reported that the lowest volume of traffic at the affected intersections is between 7:45 a.m. and 8:00 a.m. so the City may request that school hours be adjusted accordingly.

Councilmember Brewer asked about having an early “zero” period. Dr. Mannon advised that middle schools typically do not have zero periods because some eighth-grade students attend early classes at high schools.

Councilmember Witkowsky expressed concerns that retail establishments on 230th Street could also be impacted by school traffic, as well as the residential neighborhood, and asked about the possibility of installing portable classrooms on the Hull campus to house students until the new school is built. As another alternative, she questioned whether there are other schools in the district that could accommodate the transfer of a large number of students.

Dr. Donald Stabler, TUSD Deputy Superintendent, reported that portable classrooms would cost \$4.8 million, therefore, this option was not feasible, and that there is not a significant amount of available space at any of the campuses.

Councilmember Witkowsky suggested that a hotline be set up for residents to call if they experience problems with school traffic.

Councilmember Drevno voiced support for the Category I Improvements as they would have the least impact on surrounding residents.

Mayor Scotto invited public comment.

Charles Browning, Madison Street, expressed concerns that Madison would be inundated with traffic from industrial complexes on Lomita Boulevard should the barricade on Madison at Lomita Boulevard be removed. He voiced support for staff's recommendation to install crosswalks and stop signs at Madison and 229th Place and for adding a dedicated left-turn lane on 230th Street at Hawthorne Boulevard. He noted that the problem of school traffic will be compounded as residents in this area must transport their children to Arnold and Hickory schools.

Heidi Adler, 227th Street, echoed concerns about removing the barricade on Madison Street at Lomita Boulevard and recommended that stop signs or red curbing be installed at the intersection of Madison/227th Street to make it safer for motorists making left turns.

Richard Mullen, Madison Street, stated that he was opposed to the removal of the barricade on Madison for aesthetic reasons because adding a northbound lane would necessitate the removal of several mature trees. He suggested the possibility of making that section of Madison one-way northbound at certain times of day to facilitate school traffic.

Debby Unoura, Samuel Street, commented on existing problems in this area with regard to speeding traffic and parking congestion. She reported that there are frequent backups on westbound Lomita Boulevard as vehicles wait to turn right onto Hawthorne Boulevard and school traffic is likely to exacerbate this problem. She called for the installation of a four-way stop at the intersection of Samuel/ 230th Street to address safety concerns and questioned whether there would be parking restrictions on Madison during school hours.

Jeffrey Young, Samuel Street, indicated that he favored a cautious approach and implementing the items in Categories I and II before taking more drastic action. He noted his opposition to the removal of the barricade on Madison.

Newt Young, Hickory Avenue, maintained that the school district should have done something sooner about Hull School because the need to rebuild it has been known for some time. He voiced support for Category I Improvements as they would have the least impact on the neighborhood and noted his objections to the Category III Improvements, citing their cost and the fact that the relocation to Levy School is supposed to be temporary.

Elaine Wagner, 229th Place, stated that she welcomes Hull students to this location and does not believe the traffic will be any worse than when Levy School was an adult school with classes every hour until 10:00 p.m. She voiced objections to the proposed placement of barricades on 229th Street to block access to Nadine Circle during designated hours because she felt it was unnecessary. She suggested the installation of speed bumps on 229th Place to slow down traffic. She expressed the hope that Levy School would eventually be used again for students who live in this neighborhood.

John Sanders, owner of apartment building at 23125 Madison Street, reported that he and his tenants support Category I and Category II Improvements, but strongly object to the removal of the barricade on Madison. He noted that the barricade was installed 25 years ago to eliminate cut-through traffic from commercial/industrial areas to the south and that its removal would make it extremely difficult and unsafe for his tenants to exit from the apartment complex's below-grade driveway.

The property manager of apartments at 23015 Madison Street, (name inaudible/no speaker card) voiced support for Category I Improvements and stressed the need for more traffic enforcement to ensure the safety of school children.

David Smock, Samuel Street, urged the Council to delay taking any action on the removal of the barricade on Madison until at least June 2008. He recommended the installation of a four-way stop at 230th Street/Samuel to slow traffic and to facilitate left turns due to the increased volume of traffic.

Judith McCoy, Nadine Circle, recommended that the signal at Maple/Nadine Circle be adjusted to allow a longer green phase for traffic on Nadine Circle in order to prevent back-up.

Lenore Johnson, Nadine Circle, requested that the Council consider replacing the existing three-way stop at Nadine Circle and 229th Place with a traffic signal.

Chuck Hone, Nadine Circle, voiced objections to the spending of almost \$2 million to address traffic problems created by the temporary relocation of Hull School students and suggested that the City may be better off allocating this money to help defray the cost of temporary classrooms on the Hull campus.

Robert Schlerman, Nadine Circle, recommended the installation of a permanent barrier on Madison at 223rd Street to reduce cut-through traffic. He expressed concerns about adding traffic to 230th Street, which is already congested, and related his experience that peak traffic around schools lasts much longer than the 15 minutes before and after school. He recommended that the temporary barricade to be placed at 229th Street and Nadine Circle be relocated to the boundary of New Horizons and Levy School because, as proposed, it would interfere with access to parking lots and streets within New Horizons. He also suggested having a temporary road for northbound traffic in the right-of-way west of New Horizons.

Karen Cristy, president of Hull Middle School PTA, stated that she appreciates efforts to provide for the safety of students being relocated to Levy School and expressed the hope that school bonds will pass so that students can return to Hull School as soon as possible.

Marie Sasaki, Nadine Circle, noted that the staff report mentions crossing guards as an option and requested that this be made mandatory. She related her understanding that the school bonds will not be on the ballot for the November election, therefore the rebuilding could take much longer than 3 – 5 years.

Dr. Mannon clarified that the school bonds could be on either the November 2007 or June 2008 ballot as that decision has not yet been made.

Sumie Imada, Nadine Circle, stated that New Horizons residents appreciate the City's efforts to work with the school district to enhance traffic circulation in the Levy School area.

Mayor Scotto asked about possible modifications to improve the flow of westbound traffic on Lomita Boulevard at Hawthorne Boulevard.

Transportation Planning Manager Semaan advised that staff has looked into adding a second right-hand turn lane on Lomita Boulevard but did not include it as part of this item.

Mayor Scotto indicated that he favored adding this lane as soon as possible. He asked about restricting parking on the east side of Madison next to the school.

Transportation Planning Manager Semaan advised that staff was reluctant to restrict parking at this location because there is a high demand due to the many apartment complexes, however, it could be restricted for a short period when students are being dropped off and picked up.

Councilmember Brewer asked about the feasibility of Mr. Mullen's suggestion to make a segment of Madison one-way northbound during peak hours.

Transportation Planning Manager Semaan advised that temporary changes in direction have been found to be very confusing for residents and can create safety issues.

Councilmember Sutherland expressed concerns that the City may be creating problems by closing off access to the school from Nadine Circle and suggested waiting to see if problems develop before implementing the barricades.

Mayor Scotto emphasized the need to be able to react quickly if the proposed improvements are not effective and suggested that traffic counts be taken in the first two weeks of school.

Transportation Planning Manager Semaan stated that the first weeks of school tend to be chaotic at any location and recommended that the City wait at least one month before accessing the effectiveness of the improvements.

Mayor Scotto asked about efforts to encourage carpooling, and Dr. Mannon reported that the PTA has already begun work on coordinating carpooling for each region.

MOTION: Councilmember Witkowsky moved to concur with the staff recommendation with modifications as follows:

Short Term improvements in Category 1 - Cost \$70,000

- Create a drop off area within the parking lot off Madison Street;
- Intersection modifications on Madison at 230th St./229th PI;
- Create a drop off area within the parking lot off 229th PI;
- Turn restriction on 229th PI during designated hours;
- Utilization of a crossing guard: and
- Parking restrictions on Madison fronting Levy School during school drop-off and pick-up.

Mid-Range improvements Category 2 - Cost \$100,000

- Intersection modification on 230th St at Hawthorne Blvd. - \$25,000; and
- Installation of a second right turn lane for westbound Lomita to northbound Hawthorne: \$75,000.

The motion was seconded by Councilmember Brewer and passed by unanimous roll call vote (absent Councilmember McIntyre).

The Council recessed from 10:00 p.m. to 10:19 p.m.

11. PUBLIC SAFETY

11A. AGREEMENT WITH GERBER AMBULANCE SERVICE, INC.

Recommendation

The **Fire Chief** and the **Chief of Police** recommend that City Council authorize the Fire Chief to exercise the City's option to extend the agreement for ambulance services with Gerber Ambulance Service, Inc. (C2001-132) under the same terms and conditions for an additional two-year term through July 15, 2009.

Fire Chief Bongard reported that the Fire Department is satisfied with the service Gerber Ambulance has provided for the past 13 years and would like to extend the current contract for an additional two-year term.

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

12. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

12A. RESOLUTIONS RE CERTAIN FULL-TIME SALARIED AND HOURLY EMPLOYEES AND CERTAIN PART-TIME HOURLY EMPLOYEES

Recommendation

The **City Manager** recommends that City Council adopt Resolutions setting forth the hours, wages, and working conditions for Certain Full-Time Salaried and Hourly Employees and Certain Part-Time Hourly Employees for the period of March 1, 2007 to February 28, 2010.

Expenditure: 4% year one; 3.5% year two and 3.5% year three of contract; 0.5% health year two and 0.5% health year three, for a total package of 12% over three years.

MOTION: Councilmember Sutherland moved to concur with the staff recommendation. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Nowatka and passed by unanimous roll call vote (absent Councilmember McIntyre).

RESOLUTION NO. 2007-45

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE SETTING FORTH THE HOURS, WAGES AND WORKING CONDITIONS FOR CERTAIN FULL-TIME SALARIED AND HOURLY EMPLOYEES BEGINNING MARCH 1, 2007 THROUGH FEBRUARY 28, 2010 AND REPEALING RESOLUTION NO. 2005-117

MOTION: Councilmember Nowatka moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 2007-45. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Brewer and passed by unanimous roll call vote (absent Councilmember McIntyre).

RESOLUTION NO. 2007-46

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE SETTING FORTH THE HOURS, WAGES AND WORKING CONDITIONS FOR CERTAIN PART-TIME HOURLY EMPLOYEES BEGINNING MARCH 1, 2007 THROUGH FEBRUARY 28, 2010 AND REPEALING RESOLUTION NO. 2005-118

MOTION: Councilmember Nowatka moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 2007-46. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Brewer and passed by unanimous roll call vote (absent Councilmember McIntyre).

12B. RESOLUTIONS RE TORRANCE CITY EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION AND TORRANCE RECURRENT RECREATION EMPLOYEES ORGANIZATION

Recommendation

The **City Manager** recommends that City Council adopt Resolutions pursuant to Memoranda of Understanding setting forth the hours, wages and working conditions for employees represented by Torrance City Employees Association (TCEA) and Torrance Recurrent Recreation Employees Organization (TRREO) for the period of March 1, 2007 to February 28, 2010.

Expenditure: 4% year one; 3.5% year two and 3.5% year three of contract; 0.5% health year two and 0.5% health year three, for a total package of 12% over three years.

MOTION: Councilmember Sutherland moved to concur with the staff recommendation. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Nowatka and passed by unanimous roll call vote (absent Councilmember McIntyre).

RESOLUTION NO. 2007-48

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE SETTING FORTH THE HOURS, WAGES AND WORKING CONDITIONS FOR EMPLOYEES REPRESENTED BY THE TORRANCE CITY EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION (TCEA) AND REPEALING RESOLUTION NO. 2005-106

MOTION: Councilmember Nowatka moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 2007-48. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Witkowsky and passed by unanimous roll call vote (absent Councilmember McIntyre).

RESOLUTION NO. 2007-49

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE SETTING FORTH THE HOURS, WAGES AND WORKING CONDITIONS FOR EMPLOYEES REPRESENTED BY THE TORRANCE RECURRENT RECREATION EMPLOYEES ORGANIZATION (TRREO) FOR THE PERIOD MARCH 1, 2007 THROUGH FEBRUARY 28, 2010 AND REPEALING RESOLUTION NO. 2005-59

MOTION: Councilmember Nowatka moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 2007-49. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Witkowsky and passed by unanimous roll call vote (absent Councilmember McIntyre).

12C. RESOLUTION RE TORRANCE PROFESSIONAL PARKS & RECREATION EMPLOYEE ORGANIZATION (TPPREO)

Recommendation

The **City Manager** recommends that City Council adopt a Resolution pursuant to Memorandum of Understanding setting forth the hours, wages, and working conditions for employees represented by Torrance Professional Parks & Recreation Employee Organization (TPPREO) for the period of March 1, 2007 to February 28, 2010.

Expenditure: 4% year one; 3.5% year two and 3.5% year three of contract; 0.5% health year two and 0.5% health year three, for a total package of 12% over three years.

MOTION: Councilmember Nowatka moved to concur with the staff recommendation. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Drevno and passed by unanimous roll call vote (absent Councilmember McIntyre).

RESOLUTION NO. 2007-50

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE SETTING FORTH THE HOURS, WAGES AND WORKING CONDITIONS FOR EMPLOYEES REPRESENTED BY THE TORRANCE PROFESSIONAL

PARK AND RECREATION EMPLOYEES ORGANIZATION (TPPREO) AND
REPEALING RESOLUTION NO. 2005-112

MOTION: Councilmember Nowatka moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 2007-50. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Drevno and passed by unanimous roll call vote (absent Councilmember McIntyre).

12D. RESOLUTION RE EMPLOYEE RETIREMENT HEALTH SAVINGS PLAN

Recommendation

The **City Manager** recommends that City Council adopt a Resolution relating to the Employee Retirement Health Savings Plan to allow distribution of non-vested funds to the deceased Participant's beneficiary.

MOTION: Councilmember Sutherland moved to concur with the staff recommendation. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Witkowsky and passed by unanimous roll call vote (absent Councilmember McIntyre).

RESOLUTION NO. 2007-51

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE
RELATING TO THE EMPLOYEE RETIREMENT HEALTH SAVINGS PLAN

MOTION: Councilmember Nowatka moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 2007-51. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Drevno and passed by unanimous roll call vote (absent Councilmember McIntyre).

12E. COUNCIL DARK NIGHTS - JUNE 2007 THROUGH JANUARY 2008

Recommendation

The **City Manager** recommends that City Council declare the following Tuesdays as City Council Dark Nights from June 2007 – January 2008: July 10, July 31, September 4, October 30, November 6, November 13, November 27, December 25, January 1, January 22, and January 29.

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

12F. AMENDMENT TO RESOLUTION RE CERTAIN FULL TIME SALARIED AND HOURLY EMPLOYEES

Recommendation

The **City Manager** recommends adoption of an amendment to the resolution for certain full time salaried and hourly employees to implement the recommended salary range for various positions as follows:

1. Re-title the position of Cable TV Operations Assistant to Cable TV Production Specialist I and
2. Create the position of Cable TV Production Specialist II and implement the new salary range.

Item was withdrawn.

12G. MEMORANDUM OF INTENT RE TORRANCE PROFESSIONAL AND SUPERVISORY ASSOCIATION (TPSA)

Recommendation

The **City Manager** recommends that City Council approve a Memorandum of Intent (MOI) outlining the deal points for a Successor Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for employees within the Torrance Professional and Supervisory Association. (TPSA)

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

12H. APPROVAL OF EXAMINATION FOR COMMUNITY SERVICES DIRECTOR

Recommendation

The **Human Resources Director** recommends that City Council approve the examination for Community Services Director on a promotional basis provided that a minimum of eight applications are accepted for filing by employees in the classified service. If there are less than eight qualified employees who apply and are accepted for the position, the promotional examination will be canceled and it will be conducted on an open competitive basis.

Item was withdrawn.

12I. TERMINATION OF AGREEMENT WITH PACIFIC SNAPPLE DISTRIBUTORS AND 7-UP ROYAL CROWN BOTTLING COMPANY

Recommendation

The **Community Services Director** and **City Attorney** recommend that City Council:

1. Authorize staff to submit a letter terminating the Strategic Alliance and Long Term Partnership Agreement between Pacific Snapple Distributors, Inc., 7up-Royal Crown Bottling Company, Inc. and the City of Torrance (C2004-019).
2. Authorize the Letter of Termination to include the removal of all vending machines as specified under the agreement by August 31, 2007.
3. Require Pacific Snapple Distributors, Inc., 7up-Royal Crown Bottling Company, Inc. to pay a pro-rated amount to City of Torrance for 2007 in the amount of \$43,725.
4. Authorize the City Attorney to take any necessary actions to collect appropriate payments and to ensure the removal of the vending machines.
5. Authorize the termination of the agreement between Michael Hogue of Educational Sponsorship Partners (C2003-154)

Acting Community Services Director Jones reported that the beverage vendors have defaulted on their agreement, therefore, staff was recommending that the agreement be terminated along with Mr. Hogue's.

Mayor Scotto directed staff to begin exploring an agreement with another vendor.

MOTION: Councilmember Sutherland moved to concur with the staff recommendation. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Drevno and passed by unanimous roll call vote (absent Councilmember McIntyre).

13. HEARINGS

At 10:30 p.m., the Redevelopment Agency reconvened in joint session with the City Council.

13A. SECOND PUBLIC HEARING AND BUDGET WORKSHOP ON PROPOSED BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEARS 2007-09

Recommendation

The **Finance Director** recommends that City Council open and continue the second public hearing and budget workshop on the City of Torrance proposed two-year operating budget for fiscal years 2007-2009. (*Companion to Redevelopment Agency Item 5A*)

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, Finance Director Tsao reviewed information requested at the previous budget hearing per written material of record.

Mayor Scotto questioned whether additional parking enforcement staff was needed to enforce new recreation vehicle parking restrictions. Police Chief Neu advised that an analysis was done at the time the Recreation Vehicle Ordinance was adopted, which confirmed that existing staffing levels were adequate for this purpose.

In response to Councilmember Witkowsky's inquiry, City Manager Jackson provided clarification regarding the proposed Rental Assistance Program for mobile home residents. He explained that it would not be possible to extend the program to apartment tenants at this time because, with 24,000 apartments in Torrance, the pool of potential applicants is much greater.

Mayor Scotto proposed that \$120,000 be set aside for a Rental Assistance Program for mobile home residents, with the details to be discussed at a later date. He also recommended that staff be directed to explore the Community Development Block Grant program, either as a direct participant or as a partner with another jurisdiction in a swap.

Councilmember Brewer expressed concerns about the proliferation of temporary signs on weekends and questioned whether additional Environmental Division staff was needed to address this issue.

Community Development Director Gibson advised that an Environmental Quality Officer is assigned to patrol for un-permitted signs at least one weekend a month.

Mayor Scotto invited public comment.

With the aid of slides, Otto Stiefel, president of Torrance Firefighters Association, reviewed TFFA's proposal (Option F) to fully staff a fifth paramedic rescue unit by rearranging current personnel with recurring costs of \$257,269 and one-time costs of \$354,585.

Councilmember Brewer questioned whether the cost of overtime would increase with TFFA's proposal.

Mr. Stiefel reported that the cost of overtime was included in the proposal (Constant staffing - \$79,000).

Voicing support for the proposal, Councilmember Witkowsky congratulated TFFA on coming up with a workable proposal that does not require additional personnel.

Mayor Scotto stated that he believed TFFA had done a good job of finding a way to fully staff a fifth paramedic unit, but stressed the importance of allowing the Fire Chief some latitude with regard to the proposal to move the Engineer from Air & Lighting (A/L) to Hazmat due to operational concerns.

In response to Councilmember Nowatka's inquiry, Mr. Stiefel confirmed that there would still be the ability for both the A/L and Hazmat teams to respond at the same time under TFFA's proposal.

Fire Chief Bongard reported that TFFA's proposal is very similar to a proposal brought forward by the Fire Department three years ago with the exception of the moving

of the Engineer position from A/L to Hazmat, which he does not support because it creates an unnecessary premium position and could affect Torrance Fire Department's Class One status. He stated that the proposal is probably the most expedient way to fully staff the fifth paramedic unit and discussed possible savings in one-time costs that could be achieved through the hiring of firefighters already trained as paramedics. He noted that there have been discussions in the past about adding an on-shift Arson Investigator, which is one of the duties TFFA is proposing to add to the Engineer position, but an agreement could not be reached after TFFA rejected a 5% premium.

Councilmember Witkowsky noted that according to weekly reports from the Fire Department, a very high percentage of calls are for emergency medical services requiring paramedics.

Fire Chief Bongard reported that approximately 72% of calls are for emergency medical services and he expects the demand to rise in the coming years, but stressed the importance of maintaining the A/L unit as it is a critical piece of support equipment.

City Manager Jackson clarified that Class One status is based on staffing levels/support equipment for fire fighting and rescue personnel (paramedics) are not given the same weight as suppression personnel in these ratings.

Mr. Stiefel explained that TFFA proposed reassigning the A/L Engineer to Hazmat because it was felt that the 13% premium was appropriate compensation for the added duties and expressed TFFA's willingness to work with Chief Bongard on this issue. He clarified that the \$350,000 listed as One-Time Costs in the proposal was based on the worst case scenario, should the City have to pay for the training of all six paramedics.

Mayor Scotto noted that the reassignment of positions was subject to the labor negotiation process and expressed the hope that agreement could be reached so that the fifth paramedic unit could be fully staffed rather than having to rely on peak staffing.

Tim Cummings, resident and Torrance firefighter, encouraged the Council to fund a fully staffed fifth paramedic unit based in the west end of Torrance. He commented on the outstanding emergency medical services Torrance residents enjoy and the City's efforts to attract and retain well qualified paramedics. He contended that peak staffing is not effective because while there may be fewer calls in the middle of the night, response is often more critical as one minute can mean the difference between life and death.

Newt Young, resident, reported that Hawthorne is reactivating its police helicopter and expressed the hope that Torrance would band together with Hawthorne and other local cities to provide this valuable law enforcement tool.

Mayor Scott explained that Hawthorne has use of the helicopter only on Friday and Saturday nights and such a program would not meet the needs of Torrance.

Bonnie Mae Barnard, Save Historic Old Torrance, requested that \$30,000 be included in the budget to fund a survey of historic resources as outlined in the letter from SHOT's president dated May 14, 2007 (Supplement #1, Attachment A).

City Manager Jackson advised that staff was recommending that \$25,000 be set aside from the year end carry-over to be used to contract with the Torrance Historical Society to identify funding requirements and develop methodology for updating the City's Historic Buildings Inventory. He noted that the City already partners with the Historical Society, therefore, staff was recommending that this organization be charged with this task.

MOTION: Councilmember Witkowsky moved to close the public hearing. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Brewer and passed by unanimous roll call vote (absent Councilmember McIntyre).

The following straw votes were taken on the 2007-2009 Operating Budget:

City Treasurer:

- Add 1.0 Full Time Equivalent (FTE) Account Clerk to process cash deposits offset by parking citation revenue.

5-0 vote to approve, with Councilmember Sutherland abstaining (Witkowsky/Nowatka) (absent Councilmember McIntyre).

Communications Information Technology:

- Add 1.0 FTE Information Technology Analyst for departmental support for Human Resources, Community Development, Public Works and General Services. (\$125,600)
- Add 1.0 FTE Information Technology Analyst to support the Police Department's in-car digital video system (\$125,600)
- Add 1.0 FTE Systems Analyst for Network Support in Data Communications (\$139,900)

6-0 vote to approve (Witkowsky/Nowatka) (absent Councilmember McIntyre).

Community Services:

- Increase Library operating hours (\$97,000)
- Increase budget for concerts/movies in the park (\$22,110)

6-0 vote to approve (Sutherland/Nowatka) (absent Councilmember McIntyre).

Fire:

- Add Coordinator Nurse position offset from contract services.

6-0 vote to approve (Witkowsky/Brewer) (absent Councilmember McIntyre).

General Services

- Add 0.5 FTE Graphics Designer (\$38,800)
- Additional operating resources for the Cultural Arts Center Enterprise Fund (\$285,000).

6-0 vote to approve (Witkowsky/Nowatka) (absent Councilmember McIntyre).

Human Resources:

- Add 1.0 FTE Intern in Risk Management

6-0 vote to approve (Witkowsky/Nowatka) (absent Councilmember McIntyre).

Police:

- Reallocate 1.0 FTE vacant Typist Clerk position to Records Supervisor position (\$23,400)
- Reallocate 1.0 FTE vacant Services Officer position to Administrative Analyst position in Research and Training (\$21,300)
- Add 1.0 FTE Public Safety Communications Supervisor (\$85,700)
- Additional operating resources for the Animal Control Services Fund (\$62,000)

6-0 vote to approve (Nowatka/Brewer) (absent Councilmember McIntyre).

Use of 2006-07 Year End Carryover:

Capital Projects - \$1,300,000

Includes:

- \$750,000 for working capital for the acquisition of industrial property
- \$200,000 for providing open space at Lomita/Anza
- \$25,000 for City Historical Building Inventory
- \$120,000 for Housing Assistance for the next two years

Reserves

Economic Anomaly	\$3,000,000
Litigation Reserve	250,000
Program Contingency	50,000
Proposition A exchanges	400,000

- Digitization of historic newspapers \$20,000 funded from Program Contingency reserve.

6-0 vote to approve (Witkowsky/Nowatka) (absent Councilmember McIntyre).

Ongoing funding in Operating Budget

- Torrance Cultural Arts Foundation \$23,040
- Torrance Symphony \$4,000

6-0 vote to approve (Nowatka/Witkowsky) (absent Councilmember McIntyre).

Fire:

Add 5th paramedic unit

- Reassign 3 firefighters from Air/Light Unit
- Reassign 3 firefighters from Hazmat Unit

6-0 vote to approve (Witkowsky/Brewer) (absent Councilmember McIntyre).

Additional Action:

- Staff directed to explore Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program, either as a direct participant or as a partner with another jurisdiction in a swap;
- Staff directed to explore setting up an endowment fund for the Torrance Cultural Arts Center Foundation (TCACF)

6-0 vote to approve (Witkowsky/Brewer) (absent Councilmember McIntyre).

Base Budget which includes:

• Improve City Streetscape	\$ 370,000
• Maintenance of roadways	\$ 600,000
• Infrastructure	\$1,200,000
• Library Books	\$ 100,000

6-0 vote to approve (Brewer/Witkowsky) (Absent Councilmember McIntyre).

Financing option:

- Staff directed to return with item on Tax Revenue Anticipation Notes

6-0 vote to approve (Witkowsky/Brewer) (absent Councilmember McIntyre).

MOTION: Councilmember Nowatka moved to adopt the City Manager’s proposed 2007-2009 Operating Budget as modified. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Brewer and passed by unanimous roll call vote (absent Councilmember McIntyre).

Finance Director Tsao noted that Resolutions for appropriations will be brought forward for adoption at the May 22, 2007 Council meeting.

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The Redevelopment Agency continued in regular session and the Redevelopment Agency meeting was adjourned at 11:56 p.m.

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17. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

17A. Councilmember Brewer reminded the public about the Armed Forces Day Parade on Saturday.

17B. Councilmember Drevno commended Finance Director Tsao on the budget.

17C. Citing the new Western Museum of Flight, Councilmember Nowatka requested, with the concurrence of Council, that staff review available airport property and how it could be used to balance the competing needs of airport users.

17D. Councilmember Witkowsky noted a correction on the agenda cover; the Disaster Expo will not be held in conjunction with the Public Works Open House this year. A date of September 29 has been set for the Disaster Expo with additional information to follow.

17E. Mayor Scotto thanked staff for all their efforts on these late nights.

17F. City Manager Jackson thanked department heads and staff for the work put into the budget.

18. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Considered earlier in the meeting, see page 1.

19. ADJOURNMENT

At 12:02 a.m. on Wednesday, May 16, the meeting was adjourned to Tuesday, May 22, 2007, at 5:30 p.m. for a joint meeting with the Youth Council in the Nakano Theater, 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 July 17, 2007