

INDEX
TORRANCE CITY COUNCIL – OCTOBER 8, 2013

<u>SUBJECT</u>	<u>PAGE</u>
<u>OPENING CEREMONIES</u>	
1. Call to Order/Roll Call	1
2. Flag Salute/Invocation	1
3. Affidavit of Posting/Waive Further Reading	1
4. Withdrawn, Deferred or Supplemental Items	1
5. Council Committee Meetings and Announcements	2
<u>COMMUNITY MATTERS</u>	
6A. Presentation on Yellow Arrow Traffic Signals	2
<u>ORAL COMMUNICATIONS #1</u>	
7.	2-3
<u>CONSENT CALENDAR</u>	
8A. August 2013 Monthly Investment Report	3
8B. Release of Subdivision Bond for Tract Map No. 69601	3
8C. Water Commission 2012-2013 Annual Report	3
8D. Contract Amendment re Transit Training Room Expansion	3
<u>PLANNING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT</u>	
10A. Public Electric Vehicle Charging Stations	4-6
<u>ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS</u>	
12A. Application for Proposition 84 Urban Greening Project Grant Funds	6
<u>SECOND READING ORDINANCES</u>	
16A. Second and Final Reading of Ordinance No. 3766	6
<u>ORAL COMMUNICATIONS #2</u>	
17.	6-7
<u>EXECUTIVE SESSION</u>	
18.	1, 7
<u>ADJOURNMENT</u>	
19.	7

At 9:17 p.m., the meeting was adjourned to Tuesday, October 15, 2013 at 5:30 p.m. for an executive session, with the regular meeting commencing at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chamber.

October 8, 2013

**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 5:31 p.m. on Tuesday, October 8, 2013 in the Council Chamber at Torrance City Hall.

ROLL CALL

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

Absent: None.

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, and 18B) Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation, pursuant to California Government Code §54957.6 and 54956.9(d)(1).

The City Council reconvened at 7:00 p.m. with all members present. No formal action was taken on any matter considered in closed session.

2. FLAG SALUTE/ INVOCATION

The flag salute was led by Mary Hoffman.

The non-sectarian invocation was given by Councilmember Barnett.

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, October 3, 2013.

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 Brewer and passed by unanimous vote.

4. WITHDRAWN, DEFERRED OR SUPPLEMENTAL ITEMS

No items were withdrawn or deferred.

5. COMMITTEE MEETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

City Clerk Herbers reminded voters of the November 5 election for seats on the Torrance Unified School District and the El Camino Community College District Boards of Trustees. She noted that registration closes on Monday, October 21; that Sample Ballot booklets will be mailed starting September 26; and that Vote-By-Mail (VBM) ballots may be requested October 7 through October 29, with additional information available at www.lavote.net.

City Clerk Herbers announced that a candidate forum sponsored by the League of Women Voters will be held on Tuesday, October 23, at 6:30 p.m. in the meeting room at Zamperini Airport and that additional information about candidates is available at www.SmartVoter.org.

City Clerk Herbers announced that a Commissioner Certification class will be held on Thursday, October 24. She noted that certification is required in order to apply for appointment to a commission in January 2014; that interested parties can reserve a space online at www.TorranceCa.gov/commissionercert.htm; and that additional information about Torrance Commissions is available at <http://www.torranceca.gov/8752.htm>.

Councilmember Numark announced that the City Council Strategic Plan Committee meeting has been rescheduled and will be held on Tuesday, October 15, at 4:00 p.m. in the Council Chamber.

Mayor Scotto asked that the meeting be adjourned in memory of former City Councilmember and Commissioner Harvey Horwich, who passed away on October 2 at the age of 84.

6. COMMUNITY MATTERS

6A. PRESENTATION ON YELLOW ARROW TRAFFIC SIGNALS

Transportation Engineering Manager Semaan gave a brief PowerPoint presentation on protected/permissive left turn with flashing yellow arrow traffic signals, which will be installed at selected intersections to improve traffic flow. He noted that the presentation was part of community outreach efforts to educate the public about this type of signal and additional information is available at www.torranceca.gov/yellowlight.

Mayor Scotto recommended that the protected/permissive left-turn signal be considered for southbound Anza at Sepulveda Boulevard.

Lloyd Brown, Torrance, suggested that 182nd Street at Hawthorne Boulevard would also benefit from this type of signal.

7. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS #1

7A. Brian Demueles, Torrance, requested that the City improve the right-of-way that runs from 224th to 229th Street along Madrona Avenue with permanent landscaping and sidewalk.

7B. Leilani Kimmel-Dagostino, Torrance, announced that Sam's Club is offering a free membership to military personnel and their dependents, with additional information available at www.military.com.

7C. Suzan Hubert and Bobbie Snyder, Friends of Madrona Marsh, announced that the annual Moonlight Magic fundraiser will be held on Saturday, October 19, 2013 at 5:00 p.m. in the Ken Miller Recreation Center and Torino Plaza.

7D. Mary Hoffman, Torrance Education Foundation, announced that a fundraiser will be held at the Rock and Brews restaurant on Wednesday, October 9, from 5:00 – 7:00 p.m. She also announced that the 5th annual Skechers Pier-to-Pier Friendship Walk will be held on Sunday, October 27, beginning at the Manhattan Beach Pier at 9:00 a.m. and people can sign up to benefit Torrance schools at www.TorranceEducationFoundation.org.

7E. Carol Gilles, Torrance Rose Float Association, reported that a rendering of the 2014 Torrance Rose Float has been posted on their website www.TorranceRoseFloat.com and people can sign-up to help decorate at the TRFA meeting on October 17 at 7:00 p.m.

7F. June Lee, Torrance, urged people to donate used goods to Goodwill and the Salvation Army, which offer programs and services that benefit Torrance residents, rather than placing them in donation collection bins operated by for-profit companies.

7G. Annabel St. John, Torrance, expressed concerns about view-blocking trees in the Hillside area and urged the Council to consider adopting a view preservation ordinance.

7H. Joseph DeRoss, Torrance, echoed concerns about view-blocking trees.

8. CONSENT CALENDAR

8A. AUGUST 2013 MONTHLY INVESTMENT REPORT

Recommendation

Recommendation of the City Treasurer that City Council accept and file the monthly investment report for August 2013.

8B. RELEASE OF SUBDIVISION BOND FOR TRACT MAP NO. 69601

Recommendation

Recommendation of the Community Development Director that City Council approve the release of a subdivision bond for Tract Map No. 69601, which was subdivided by Al-Chase Properties, LLC, and located at 24255 Hawthorne Boulevard.

8C. WATER COMMISSION 2012-2013 ANNUAL REPORT

Recommendation

Recommendation of the Water Commission and the Public Works Director that City Council accept and file the Water Commission 2012-2013 Annual Report.

**8D. CONTRACT AMENDMENT RE TRANSIT TRAINING ROOM EXPANSION/
OFFICE RENOVATION**

Recommendation

Recommendation of the General Services Director and Transit Director that City Council approve a contract amendment with Withee Malcolm Architects of Torrance (C2012-194) for \$12,200 for a new not to exceed contract amount of \$70,500 and extend the term to December 31, 2014 for architectural and engineering design services for the Transit Training Room Expansion and Office Renovation (FEAP #716).

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

10. PLANNING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

10A. INSTALLATION OF PUBLIC ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGING STATIONS

Recommendation

Recommendation of the Community Development Director that City Council concur with the installation of public electric vehicle charging stations at various locations throughout the city and direct staff to prepare a Request for Proposal (RFP) for a qualified vendor to install, operate, and maintain the charging stations.

With the aid of slides, Sr. Planning Associate Santana reviewed the proposal to install public electric charging stations at various locations in Torrance to address the increasing demand for electric vehicle infrastructure. He noted that Phase I would involve the installation of 10 charging stations in the Civic Center (4), Wilson Park (2), Columbia Park (2) and Downtown Torrance (2). He reported that staff will be updating the Torrance Municipal Code to encourage and facilitate the installation of charging stations on private property.

Responding to questions from the Council, Sr. Planning Associate Santana provided information about the cost of the charging stations, noting that staff is estimating that each station will cost between \$4,000 and \$8,000. He reported that fast charging stations are considerably more expensive at approximately \$35,000 each not including the necessary infrastructure.

Councilmember Brewer voiced support for the proposal, but recommended that time restrictions be placed on the parking spaces to prevent them from being monopolized and to keep people from parking in them overnight.

Councilmember Numark noted that Manhattan Beach has public charging stations and does not charge for their use.

Sr. Planning Associate Santana advised that staff was recommending that a fee be collected to prevent people from parking in a space all day because this has been a problem at existing charging stations at City Hall which are free.

Councilmember Numark suggested that this could be addressed by placing time restrictions on the parking spaces.

Sr. Planning Association Santana noted the difficulty of enforcing parking restrictions and the increased demand on Parking Enforcement staff.

Councilmember Numark recommended that this proposal be reviewed by the Environmental Quality and Energy Conservation Commission due to the comprehensive nature of this issue.

Councilmember Furey questioned whether an inventory has been done of existing electric vehicles in Torrance.

Sr. Planning Associate Santana reported that an exact count of existing electric vehicles in Torrance was not available, however electric vehicles/plug-in hybrids currently account for approximately 2% of new vehicle sales in California.

Councilmember Furey asked about federal and/or state grants for charging stations.

Sr. Planning Associate Santana advised that grants are available through the California Air Resources Board (CARB) and the Air Quality Management District (AQMD) and staff intends to file a grant proposal with AQMD due on October 15, which will provide matching funds to cover 50% of the cost of the procurement, installation and maintenance of these charging stations.

Councilmember Sutherland related his belief that people using the charging stations should pay a fee, noting that people with gas-powered vehicles must pay for their gas.

Councilmember Weideman expressed support for the proposal, but recommended that details such as time restrictions and fees be vetted through the commission process.

Councilmember Numark recommended that the City also apply for grant funding from the AQMD for Phase II, which would add 4 charging stations at McMaster Park (2) and Walteria Park (2).

Mayor Scotto suggested the possibility that the charging stations could generate revenue for the City at some point in the future.

Community Development Director Gibson clarified that the RFP calls for the vendor to install, manage and maintain the charging stations at no cost to the City, with the cost of operating them to be offset by the fees charged.

Councilmember Furey, echoed by Councilmember Sutherland, expressed support for beginning the RFP process as staff has proposed.

Mayor Scotto invited public comment.

Lloyd Brown, Torrance, voiced objections to operating the charging stations free of charge, relating his belief that Torrance residents should not have to subsidize electric vehicle owners, who already receive tax credits and other benefits for purchasing these vehicles.

John Dowsing, Palos Verdes Estates, owner of an electric vehicle, encouraged the City to collect a fee for the use of charging stations, noting that this is easily accomplished using a credit card-like device issued by the station's operator. He stated that EV owners expect to pay to charge their vehicles and the cost for electricity is a fraction of the cost of gasoline.

In response to Mayor Scotto's inquiry, Mr. Dalsing reported that people pay only for the electricity used and the station shuts off once the charge is complete.

Mayor Scotto suggested that time limits might have to be considered since a vehicle can remain parked in a space after the charge is complete without incurring any fees.

Scott Gobble, Torrance, expressed support for installing as many charging stations in Torrance as possible to help reduce "range-anxiety" for electric vehicle owners.

A brief discussion ensued, and it was the consensus of the Council to direct staff to apply for grant funding from the AQMD for 14 charging stations and to refer the matter to the Environmental Quality and Energy Conservation Commission for discussion of the exact number and location of charging stations, time restrictions, and fees prior to the issuance of the RFP.

MOTION: Councilmember Numark moved to direct staff to apply for grant funding from the AQMD and to refer the matter to the Environmental Quality and Energy Conservation Commission for review prior to the issuance of the Request for Proposal. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Weideman and passed by unanimous vote.

12. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

12A. APPLICATION FOR PROPOSITION 84 URBAN GREENING PROJECT GRANT FOR ENTRADERO BASIN LANDSCAPE PROJECT

Recommendation

Recommendation of the Public Works Director that City Council adopt a Resolution authorizing the Public Works Director to sign and file a grant application to the Strategic Growth Council, Urban Greening Project Grant Program. The authorizing resolution allows the City to request \$500,000 for landscaping the Entradero Basin in accordance with plans approved for the Stormwater Basin Enhancement Project, CIP No. I-102.

Public Works Director Beste reported that the \$500,000 Urban Greening Project grant will allow the landscape plan at Entradero Park to be fully implemented.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 2013-71

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE APPROVING AN APPLICATION FOR GRANT FUNDS FOR THE URBAN GREENING GRANT PROGRAM UNDER THE SAFE DRINKING WATER, WATER QUALITY AND SUPPLY, FLOOD CONTROL, RIVER AND COASTAL PROTECTION BOND ACT OF 2006 (PROPOSITION 84)

MOTION: Councilmember Furey moved to approve Resolution No. 2013-71. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Weideman and passed by unanimous vote.

16. SECOND READING ORDINANCES

16A. SECOND AND FINAL READING OF ORDINANCE NO. 3766

URGENCY ORDINANCE NO. 3766

AN INTERIM ZONING ORDINANCE ADOPTED AS AN URGENCY MEASURE ESTABLISHING A TEMPORARY MORATORIUM ON UNATTENDED DONATION COLLECTION BINS

MOTION: Councilmember Furey moved to adopt Urgency Ordinance No. 3766. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Numark and passed by unanimous vote.

17. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS #2

17A. Councilmember Brewer offered a reminder that the last performances of Torrance Theatre Company's production of *The Long Weekend* will be on Friday, October 11, and Saturday, October 12, at 8:00 p.m.

17B. Councilmember Brewer, with the concurrence of Council, requested that staff bring forward an item declaring the month of November as Torrance Education Foundation Membership Month.

17C. Councilmember Furey noted that there is a critical shortage of foster homes in Torrance and throughout Los Angeles County and encouraged residents to attend an informational meeting on becoming a foster parent on Wednesday, October 16, from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. in the Toyota Automotive Museum, 19600 Van Ness, with additional information available by calling 888.811.1121. He reported that over 20 Torrance residents are currently going through the process to become foster care providers as a result of outreach efforts.

17D. Councilmember Sutherland, with the concurrence of Council, requested that staff bring forward an item to waive upcoming rent increases for the use of City facilities by Torrance-based nonprofit organizations.

17E. Councilmember Weideman noted that he served on the Planning Commission with Harvey Horwich for seven years and he was a friend and a mentor.

17F. Mayor Scotto, with the concurrence of Council, requested that staff bring forward an item to subsidize rental fees for the use of the Katy Geissert Civic Center Library meeting room by the American Cancer Society Relay for Life on October 22, 2013 from 5:00 – 9:00 p.m.

17G. City Manager Jackson discussed Harvey Horwich's long history of community involvement as a former City councilmember and commissioner and related his belief that he was a true statesman. He offered condolences to the family on behalf of City staff.

18. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Considered earlier in the meeting, see page 1.

19. ADJOURNMENT

At 9:17 p.m., the meeting was adjourned to Tuesday, October 15, 2013 at 5:30 p.m. for an executive session, with the regular meeting commencing at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chamber.

***Adjourned in Memory of
Harvey Horwich***

Attest:

/s/ Frank Scotto
Mayor of the City of Torrance

/s/ Sue Herbers
Sue Herbers, CMC
City Clerk of the City of Torrance

Approved on November 19, 2013