

July 10, 2001

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING
OF THE TORRANCE CITY COUNCIL**

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Torrance City Council convened in a regular meeting at 5:30 p.m. on Tuesday, July 10, 2001, in Council Chambers.

ROLL CALL

Present: Councilmembers Cribbs, Messerlian, Nowatka, Scotto, Walker,* Witkowsky and Mayor Hardison.

Absent: None.

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

*Councilmember Walker arrived at 6:10 p.m.

16. EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Council immediately recessed to closed session to confer with the City Manager and the City Attorney on the agenda matters listed under 16.a) Conference with Labor Negotiator; 16.b) Public Employee Performance Evaluation – City Attorney and City Manager; and 16.c) Real Property – Conference with Real Property Negotiator pursuant to California Government Code Section 54957.6, 54957 and 54956.8.

No formal action was taken on any matter considered in closed session.

The Council reconvened at 7:34 p.m.

2. FLAG SALUTE/INVOCATION

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Boy Scout Troop #310, Bruce Maass, Scoutmaster.

The invocation was given by City Clerk Herbers.

3. AFFIDAVIT OF POSTING/WAIVE FURTHER READING

MOTION: Councilmember Cribbs moved to accept and file the report of the City Clerk on the posting of the agenda for this meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Nowatka and hearing no objection Mayor Hardison so ordered.

MOTION: Councilmember Cribbs 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 Nowatka and hearing no objection, Mayor Hardison so ordered.

4. WITHDRAWN OR DEFERRED ITEMS

None.

5. COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Councilmember Cribbs announced a meeting of the Armed Forces Day Committee on Thursday, July 19, 2001 at 11:30 a.m., at the Torrance Police Department to debrief on the 2001 Armed Forces Day event.

Police Chief Herren announced the National Night Out Event on Tuesday, August 7, 2001 from 5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. in the East parking lot at City Hall, 3031 Torrance Boulevard, with Police and Fire Department apparatus on display and a barbecue.

Mayor Hardison asked that the meeting be adjourned in the memory of Donald R. Yancey, a retired City employee.

City Clerk Herbers announced that applications would be accepted through July 18 at 5:30 p.m. for appointment to vacancies on the Cable Television Advisory Board, the Disaster Council, the Community Services Commission and the Commission on Aging. Applications will be presented to the City Council for appointment at the July 24 City Council meeting.

City Clerk Herbers invited the public to the City Clerk's office to view the works of Torrance Artists Guild member Ira Yawnik. The exhibit consists of photographs mounted on canvas with subjects ranging from people to flower and fauna.

7. CONSENT CALENDAR

Councilmember Nowatka asked that item 7h be pulled from the consent calendar for separate consideration.

7a. MINUTES OF JUNE 5, AND 12, 2001

7b. TORRANCE ARTISTS GUILD DONATION

Recommendation

Recommendation of the Parks and Recreation Director that City Council accept a \$1,000 donation by the Torrance Artists Guild to be used for Joslyn Gallery renovation.

7c. PURCHASE ORDER RE SYS TECHNOLOGIES, INC. OF CYPRESS, CA

Recommendation

Recommendation of the Information Technology Director that City Council authorize a purchase order be issued for an anticipated amount not-to-exceed \$424,535 for the purchase of new and replacement personal computers through June 30, 2002, to SYS Technologies, Inc. of Cypress, California. There will be 296 total replacement PCs ordered including 60 for WiN and 25 for Library and City Hall.

7d. AGREEMENT RE HARBOR ONE-STOP CAREER CENTER

Recommendation

Recommendation of the Human Resources Director that City Council authorize the continuation of Harbor One-Stop Career Center services pending the execution of the 2001-2002 Workforce Investment Act (WIA) agreement in the amount of \$1,650,000 with the City of Los Angeles.

7e. CONTRACT RE A.P. CONSTRUCTION OF TORRANCE, CA

Recommendation

Recommendation of the General Services Director that City Council:

- 1) Approve a contract to A.P. Construction of Torrance, CA for the Housing Division renovation for \$28,370; and
- 2) Authorize a 10% project management fee of \$2,837. (B2001-14)

7f. PURCHASE ORDER RE ECONOLITE CONTROL PRODUCTS OF ANAHEIM, CA

Recommendation

Recommendation of the Street Services Director that City Council authorize a purchase order to be issued to Econolite Control Products of Anaheim, California, in the anticipated amount of \$89,000, for the sole source purchase of traffic control equipment and signal hardware on an "as needed basis."

7g. AGREEMENT RE LEDGENT, INC.

Recommendation

Recommendation of the Workforce Investment Network (WiN) Board and the Human Resources Director that City Council execute an agreement for employment and training services through September 30, 2002 with Ledgent, Inc. for a total not to exceed \$300,000.

7h. NATURE CENTER MANAGER FUNDING

Recommendation

Recommendation of the Human Resources Director and the Parks and Recreation Director that City Council:

- 1) Approve the revised job description for Nature Center Manager;
- 2) Maintain funding of the Nature Center Manager through Proposition A Funds;
- 3) Approve the reallocation of the City Naturalist position to the Senior Groundskeeper classification; and
- 4) Reallocate the fund balance for necessary maintenance supplies.

7i. DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION BEVERAGE CONTAINER GRANT PROGRAM

Recommendation

Recommendation of the Street Services Director that City Council approve the appropriation of \$42,398 received from the Department of Conservation Beverage Container Grant Program for the purpose of implementing beverage container recycling programs.

7j. SALE OF SURPLUS/OBSOLETE VEHICLES

Recommendation

Recommendation of the Acting General Services Director that City Council authorize the sale of three (3) surplus/obsolete vehicles to Torrance Unified School District and thirteen (13) to Nationwide Auction Company for public sale in conjunction with Consignor Asset Management Intranet (CAMI).

7k. CONTRACT RE QUALITY PAPER FIBERS, INC. (B2001-11)

Recommendation

Recommendation of the Street Services Director that City Council award the contract for recycling services for the City of Torrance, including the processing, marketing and reporting of recycling materials, to Quality Paper Fibers, Inc. (B2001-11)

7l. APPROPRIATION OF GAS TAX FUNDS

Recommendation

Recommendation of the Engineering Director that City Council appropriate \$28,400 in Gas Tax funds previously allocated to the Prairie Avenue Improvement (I-4) to Torrance Boulevard Realignment (T-27) to meet the City's funding obligation for railroad crossing upgrades or abandonment.

City Clerk Herbers pointed out that there was a correction to the minutes of the June 12, 2001 meeting to clarify that Juan Aguirre was a retired City employee in Resolution 2001-65.

MOTION: Councilmember Walker moved for the approval of Consent Calendar items 7a through 7g and 7i through 7l as written, but abstained from approving the

minutes of June 12, 2001 as he was absent from that meeting. Councilmember Witkowsky seconded the motion and a roll call vote reflected unanimous approval.

Item 7h was considered out of order at this time.

Councilmember Nowatka requested that the title of the Nature Center position reflect the intent of the Council to not lose the naturalist concept and re-title it Nature Center Manager/Naturalist to incorporate the duties.

Shirley Turner, 23216 Juniper Avenue, thanked Councilmember Nowatka for bringing the matter to the attention of the Council and also thanked the ExxonMobil Green Team for their work along Sepulveda Boulevard. She suggested additions and changes to the recommendation noting the knowledge of botany, biology and ecology should be emphasized in the job description. She asserted that the senior groundskeeper should not have to be responsible for mowing and added that the naturalist language should be maintained to sustain the preserve as envisioned.

Mayor Hardison clarified that Shirley Turner was speaking as an individual rather than on behalf of the Board for the Friends of the Madrona Marsh.

Councilmember Witkowsky indicated that she felt comfortable with the original wording of the description and title for the position because the qualifications demanded that the candidate be a naturalist.

Jack Knapp, Torrance, felt the job description was well done, but expressed concern with the ability of the person hired to identify all of the organisms that exist naturally in the Marsh and ensure their survival. He noted that a naturalist is a person who can instruct hands-on and added that the building was conceived as a site where follow-up instruction would teach conservation based on what had been learned hands-on.

David Renfrew, Dublin Avenue, Gardena, reported that he has been a science teacher in the South Bay for 13 years and he currently volunteers at the Marsh. He stated that the naturalist position and manager position were two different jobs and expressed concern that responsibilities of the job were too great and the naturalist functions would be lost.

Newton Young, 22637 Hickory Avenue, expressed concern that the staff proposal failed to meet the needs of the Marsh and the Nature Center and he expressed hope that the Council would retain the naturalist position. He commented that the pay level for the proposed position would be insufficient to attract a well-qualified manager or naturalist and felt that could have a negative impact on the level of professional expertise.

Mayor Hardison clarified that the naturalist position was not a Civil Service position.

Venora Lee, President, Friends of the Madrona Marsh, spoke for the Board in support of the recommendation noting that they felt the job specifications would cover what they needed and there was enough discretion in the qualifications that would allow the Manager to make determinations necessary for the restoration.

Councilmember Nowatka indicated that he did not take issue with the job duties or qualifications, but wanted to ensure that functions would not be lost and he felt the addition of the word naturalist would emphasize that.

MOTION: Councilmember Nowatka moved to concur with the staff recommendation as amended adding naturalist to the title to read Nature Center Manager/Naturalist. Mayor Hardison seconded the motion.

SUBSTITUTE MOTION: Councilmember Walker moved to concur with the recommendation as written. Councilmember Witkowsky seconded the motion and discussion continued.

In response to an inquiry from Councilmember Cribbs, Human Resources Director Winer indicated that changes within the item would not be necessary if the title was changed. Councilmember Cribbs affirmed that she would support the main motion as long as the manager and naturalist were not mutually exclusive but a combination of qualities going into one job.

In response to an inquiry from Councilmember Scotto, Parks and Recreation Director Barnett explained that the proposed language ensured that funding eligibility would be kept intact.

Councilmembers Walker and Witkowsky withdrew the substitute motion

A roll call vote on the main motion reflected unanimous approval.

9. PLANNING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

9a. RESOLUTION NO. 2001-79 RE PROGRAM SUPPLEMENT AGREEMENT NO. 003-M1 TO AGENCY-STATE AGREEMENT NO. 07-5249

Recommendation of the Engineering Director that City Council:

- 1) Adopt a Resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute and the City Clerk to attest to Program Supplement Agreement No. 003-M1 to Agency-State Agreement No. 07-5249 for the Federal funding of the 190th Street Rehabilitation project from Prairie Avenue to Van Ness Avenue (Project T-31); and
- 2) Appropriate \$1,712,742 from Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act (ISTEA) and Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (TEA-21) funds specifically authorized by Caltrans for use on this project and appropriate \$219,250 from developer funds specifically deposited for use on this project.

Engineering Director Burt noted that they had to do a program supplement for the City in order to receive Federal funds.

RESOLUTION NO. 2001-79

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE TO EXECUTE PROGRAM SUPPLEMENT NO. 003-

M1 TO ADMINISTER AGENCY-STATE AGREEMENT NO. 07-5249 BETWEEN THE CITY OF TORRANCE AND THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA FOR THE 190TH STREET REHABILITATION PROJECT FROM PRAIRIE AVENUE TO VAN NESS AVENUE, PROJECT NO. STPL-5249-(004)

MOTION: Councilmember Messerlian moved to adopt Resolution No. 2001-79. Councilmember Scotto seconded the motion and a roll call vote reflected unanimous approval.

MOTION: Councilmember Messerlian moved to appropriate the funds. Councilmember Cribbs seconded the motion and a roll call vote reflected unanimous approval.

10. PUBLIC SAFETY

10a. AGREEMENT RE GERBER AMBULANCE SERVICE, TORRANCE, CA

Recommendation of the Fire Chief and the Chief of Police that City Council award an agreement to provide ambulance services for the Torrance Fire and Police Departments on an “as needed basis” to Gerber Ambulance Service, Torrance, CA. This will be a three-year agreement with an option for the City to extend the agreement for one three-year term. (B2001-21)

Mayor Hardison indicated that there was supplemental material available at the back of Council Chambers.

Fire Chief Bongard provided a brief history of the item noting that the current ambulance service agreement would expire on July 12, 2001 and would continue day to day if another agreement was not put in place at that time. Four responses were received from the 12 RFPs sent out and the City’s evaluation team reviewed the proposals and conducted site visits, with Gerber Ambulance chosen as the successful proposer.

Fire Chief Bongard reported that Americare Ambulance Service had expressed concerns regarding inconsistencies with the grading of proposals and he responded to each concern individually noting that Americare had received the maximum amount of points regarding average age of ambulances based on information provided indicating that they had 22 ambulances with 5 more arriving in the next 90 days. He added that there were certain resources required for mass casualty that some companies were able to provide in-house, and other companies, like Gerber, had to rely on outside resources. Americare indicated that they had mutual agreements with outside companies to provide the service, but did not provide the contracts or show proof of availability so they did not receive full points for that category.

With regard to Americare’s concerns about facilities within the City, Fire Chief Bongard clarified that AMR has 1, Gerber has 2 with plans for an additional one and because Americare does not currently have facilities in the City they did not get full points. He noted that the City had conducted site inspections for facilities out of the City and there were questions on the site visit to Americare as to whether they had the full depth of resources.

In response to an inquiry from Mayor Hardison, Fire Chief Bongard indicated that each of the three companies contributed to the Torrance community by means of service or monetary contribution and expended a substantial amount of money in their business relationships in the City of Torrance, however, Gerber Ambulance Service being a wholly Torrance business, spent the greatest number of dollars in Torrance and had the largest number of employees living in the City.

Fire Chief Bongard noted that Americare had offered a discounted price which would save the residents \$100,000 by providing transport for those people without insurance at a discounted rate of \$205, but Torrance set the rate going into the RFP based on County allowable rates as the City did not want to have competing bids. He added that Americare had the least number of years in service of the 4 companies considered and was below the average in terms of relationship to management of the company.

In response to an inquiry from Mayor Hardison, Fire Chief Bongard noted that one of the conditions of the contract indicated that either party may terminate the contract with 15 days notice.

Councilmember Witkowsky suggested re-thinking weighting the criteria in the future noting that newer companies will never be able to compete with the one that has been in the business the longest after hearing Fire Chief Bongard explain that questions regarding years in service illustrated the stability of the organization, each of the companies under consideration did business in the City of Torrance and had contracts with local hospitals.

In response to concerns raised by Councilmember Scotto, City Attorney Fellows stated that the out clause was separate from performance, but the City would be able to terminate the contract though, practically, it would be difficult to accomplish that within 15 days.

Councilmember Scotto asserted that some of the questions were too subjective and weighted toward the contract holder and he felt it would be fairer to judge on performance.

Fire Chief Bongard clarified that questions were formulated based on the last contract and Mayor Hardison acknowledged that a local presence was necessary but felt anyone coming from outside the City was at a disadvantage as they would not be participating in the Chamber of Commerce.

Councilmember Cribbs pointed out that all the bidders did business in the Community but should still make contributions and noted that there was nothing preventing them from joining the Chamber of Commerce and becoming a part of the community.

Councilmember Walker observed that there was never a perfect questionnaire and he did not see a reason to question the staff recommendation to maintain the same operator.

Christopher Garrison, Special Operations Director for AMR, asserted that a good relationship between the Fire Department and the ambulance company was crucial and reported that they had been given two weeks notice to prepare the proposal which was not enough time to put together MOUs. He noted that AMR had 16 ambulances in possession with the ability to buy 10 brand new ones to keep response times under 8 minutes. He also commented that the proposal itself was 6 years old and they found it difficult to present the actual story and indicated that AMR was without a contract and could provide a better level of service to the City of Torrance.

Scott Smith, Americare, pointed out that page 3 of the report indicated that Americare exceeded the staff expectations in response time and Americare also added a self-imposed penalty as well as offering more new ambulances than were asked for. He cited a 1994 article in the *Daily Breeze* which reported Americare's community involvement and noted that there were quite a few people in the City of Torrance who did not have insurance who would benefit from Americare's proposed program.

Mr. Smith indicated that Americare would provide significant savings and noted that the maximum rates were only locked in for the first year and then Gerber is allowed to charge LA County rates minus \$17. He noted that from July 2000 to January 2001 the LA County base rate went up 10% and had risen 5% before that.

Mr. Smith reported that though two providers considered in the 1994 RFP process scored higher, Gerber was chosen as they had offered a discount and he asserted that they were in a position to do something decent for the citizens of Torrance

Gabriel Granados, Americare, estimated the savings to the City of Torrance to be between \$130,000 - \$140,000 annually if Americare were to be chosen.

Fire Chief Bongard noted that the rates within the contract were the basic life support rates minus \$17 for the first year. He reported that the County rates were in effect from January 1, 2001 – to January 1, 2003, and Mr. Smith disagreed, asserting that there had been another increase effective July 1, 2001.

Mayor Hardison received clarification that the rates would remain the same until year three when there would be a new county allowable rate minus \$17 and though there are two County rates, the ambulance company is not allowed to charge the higher rate for Advanced Life Support.

In response to an inquiry from Councilmember Scotto, Fire Chief Bongard explained that page 32 of the item described how rates were modified from the County.

Councilmember Scotto suggested inserting language to keep the rate the same rather than relying on the County.

Mr. Granados indicated that Americare would like to participate and was offering tremendous discounts.

In response to an inquiry from Mayor Hardison, Fire Chief Bongard explained that the collection rate within Torrance was approximately 65% - 70% and he indicated that Gerber had forgiven bills in the past when people could not pay them.

Mr. Gerber clarified that they currently had 35% bad debt and noted that the Medicare allowable rate indicated that they had to bill the patient for 20% of the total cost with Medicare paying 80%.

In response to an inquiry from Councilmember Messerlian, Mr. Gerber explained that they had started in Torrance in 1988 and it was their intent to remain local though they need a bigger facility and have a property in negotiations.

MOTION: Councilmember Walker moved to concur with the staff recommendation. Councilmember Cribbs seconded the motion and a roll call vote reflected unanimous approval.

10b. REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL RE VEHICLE TOWING AND STORAGE SERVICES

Recommendation of the Chief of Police that City Council approve a Request for Proposal (hereinafter "RFP") to furnish Vehicle Towing and Storage Services for the City of Torrance Police Department on an "As Needed Basis" and the Contract Services Agreement in order that the "RFP" may be issued by the City. The current contract for Vehicle Towing and Storage Services expires on September 15, 2001.

Captain Emelio Paerels provided a brief history of the item noting that the current vehicle towing and storage agreement would expire on September 15, 2001 and since the terms of the Agreement have provided satisfactory service, no substantive changes to the technical specifications for the RFP are requested. He added that upon receipt of the proposal from the community, the item would come back before the Council.

Captain Paerels reported that staff had reviewed the South Bay Yellow Pages and found 47 listings of companies that could possibly provide the services.

In response to an inquiry from Mayor Hardison, Captain Paerels explained that on page 28 there was a provision for termination without cause upon 30 days written notice and Councilmember Scotto expressed concern with completing the process before the current contract expired.

MOTION: Councilmember Messerlian moved to approve the RFP as proposed. Councilmember Nowatka seconded the motion and a roll call vote reflected unanimous approval.

11. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

11a. CONTINUED STATE OF EMERGENCY FOR CAROLWOOD DRIVE AND SINGINGWOOD DRIVE

Recommendation of the City Manager and City Attorney that City Council continue the state of local emergency proclaimed March 2, 2001 for properties located on Carolwood Drive and Singingwood Drive.

Building and Safety Manager Isomoto reported that the geologists were continuing testing and exploration of the hillside and noted there had been much activity in the past week. He added that the problem with getting equipment into the back yards had been solved and he noted that water had not shown up in any of the tests.

MOTION: Councilmember Walker moved to concur with the staff recommendation. Councilmember Scotto seconded the motion and hearing no opposition, Mayor Hardison so ordered.

11b. ORDINANCE NO. 3501 RE LICENSE REVIEW BOARD

Recommendation of the City Attorney that City Council adopt an Ordinance repealing section 31.7.2 of the Torrance Municipal Code relating to members of the License Review Board and adding a new section 31.7.2 of the Torrance Municipal Code relating to members of the License Review Board.

ORDINANCE NO. 3501

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE REPEALING SECTION 31.7.2 OF THE TORRANCE MUNICIPAL CODE RELATING TO MEMBERS OF THE LICENSE REVIEW BOARD, AND ADDING A NEW SECTION 31.7.2 OF THE TORRANCE MUNICIPAL CODE RELATING TO MEMBERS OF THE LICENSE REVIEW BOARD.

MOTION: Councilmember Messerlian moved to adopt Ordinance No 3501. Councilmember Nowatka seconded the motion and a roll call vote reflected unanimous approval.

11c. CONTRACT RE MADSEN, KNEPPERS & ASSOCIATES, INC.

Recommendation of the City Attorney and City Manager that City Council:

- 1) Approve a contract with Madsen, Kneppers & Associates, Inc.;
- 2) Transfer funds in the amount of \$65,000 from Contract No. 2000-262; and
- 3) Approve an additional appropriation of funds in the amount of \$63,860 for various consultant services to be rendered with respect to the acquisition of real property at 1780-1844 Plaza Del Amo.

Councilmember Scotto excused himself from the dais as his business was within 300 feet of the project area..

Assistant City Manager Giordano reported that approval of the item would provide funding and approval for studies to go forward to do certain due diligence in terms of environmental issues, soil issues and building conditions.

MOTION: Councilmember Witkowsky moved to concur with the staff recommendation. Councilmember Walker seconded the motion and a roll call vote reflected unanimous approval, absent Councilmember Scotto.

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Councilmember Scotto returned to the dais.

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11d. STATUS REPORT - ENERGY CONSERVATION PLAN

Recommendation of the City Manager that City Council accept and file the status report on the City Manager's energy conservation plan.

Management Associate Wren reported that major work had been accomplished toward conservation, education and alternative energy resources. She stated that brochures had been distributed at all the public counters and she encouraged residents to contact City Hall to receive a copy. She added that the "Share in Your Success" ad campaign had been in Torrance Seasons to celebrate the 20% reduction in energy usage in the City of Torrance.

Management Associate Wren noted that the energy task force was researching alternative energy resources and the Engineering Department was pursuing hydro generation with the Metropolitan Water District which would require use of the Edison distribution system, and she added that Street Services had replaced 150 traffic signals with LEDs and the remaining 300 lights were expected to be installed shortly. Blue bags will be replaced with a more durable cover and the City is receiving a credit from Edison that will balance out the cost of replacing the covers. Retrofits have been completed in the Civic Center Library and City Hall as well as in General Services and a proposal has been put out for an Energy Manager.

Mayor Hardison noted that the State had originally asked them to conserve 7% and recently asked for an additional 15%, but she was not sure how to address that since Torrance has been saving 20%. She indicated that it would be interesting to know whether the State was doing as well as the City facilities were. Mayor Hardison commended those who created the pamphlet noting that it was easy to read and she suggested they be made widely available to citizens, businesses and groups.

In response to an inquiry from Mayor Hardison, Management Associate Wren explained that businesses were being asked to write to the Torrance website, send a fax or call the City Manager's Office with their energy saving success stories and they would be acknowledged for their savings in Torrance Seasons and possibly in the Daily Breeze.

Scott Gobble with Southern California Edison, expressed appreciation to the City of Torrance for their energy conservation efforts and he noted that the Daily Breeze had reported that energy usage was down 12%. He stated that a test covering would be

installed out by the library so everyone can see the alternative and he noted that the blue bags needed to be replaced as they were meant to be temporary.

MOTION: Councilmember Cribbs moved to accept and file the status report on the City Manager's energy conservation plan. Councilmember Nowatka seconded the motion and, hearing no objection, Mayor Hardison so ordered.

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The Torrance Redevelopment Agency met from 9:22 p.m. to 9:23 p.m.

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15. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

15a. City Manager Jackson announced that CitiCable Channel 3 was not broadcasting at the time but that replays would include all portions of the meeting.

City Manager Jackson thanked all departments for their efforts for the 4th of July celebration and noted a higher number of fireworks violations in the City. Fire Chief Bongard reported that Los Angeles County Fire Chiefs planned to form a task force to address the issues and Police Chief Herren agreed that a proactive stance was preferable. It was noted that fireworks were confiscated during that day and evening.

15b. Councilmember Messerlian, noting a recent accident at Hawthorne Boulevard and Newton, asked the City Manager to bring forward a study of the intersection including the nature and frequency of patterns and possible mitigation.

Councilmember Messerlian asked about the availability of the Wilson Park Sports Center for open use and if signage was posted outside the building.

Councilmember Messerlian thanked City Manager Jackson for the attention to the landscaping at Sepulveda & Hawthorne and asked about leakage at the Civic Center library. He also asked about the status of the website revamp and City Manager Jackson explained that the committee was in the process of reviewing it.

15d. Councilmember Nowatka announced that the LAX EIR/EIS comment period ended on July 25 and encouraged anyone wishing to make comments to do so before that time. It was also noted that the City Council would consider the matter on July 17.

15e. Councilmember Scotto suggested staff contact Caltrans regarding a dangerous backup on the Northbound Crenshaw offramp at the 405 freeway.

15f. Councilmember Walker mentioned that he and his wife had enjoyed the 4th of July Celebration at Rocketship Park

16. **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Covered previously in the meeting.

17. **ADJOURNMENT**

At 9:34 p.m., the meeting was adjourned to Tuesday, July 17, 2001 at 5:30 p.m., for an executive session in the Council Chamber, with the regular meeting commencing at 7:00 p.m. in Council Chambers.

*Adjourned in memory of
Donald Robert (Bob) Yancey*

Attest:

Mayor of the City of Torrance

Sue Herbers
City Clerk of the City of Torrance

Approved on August 21, 2001