



# City of TORRANCE California

Good afternoon everyone! On behalf of the City of Torrance and the Torrance City Council, thank you for joining me today. In the interest of time I'm going to acknowledge everyone as a whole, for your dedication in the successes of Torrance. Thank you very much for helping to make Torrance such a great place to call home.

And, I also want to thank everyone who supported my reelection in June. Your confidence in me is deeply appreciated.

Of course, there is one person, I must specially acknowledge. And, that is my wife Terry. Thank you for 41 years of marriage and allowing me to serve as the mayor of our great city. You are the best FLOT ever.

One update from last year. If you will recall, just before I delivered my address last year, I was advised that my daughter in law Kate had gone into labor. I'm excited to report that Declan Patrick Furey did join us later that day. And, just a few days ago we celebrated both of our birthdays - he number one - me, we won't get into that. But suffice it to say, he's already talking and walking and I am still talking and walking.

Now! On to the state of our city.

## **Importance of City Design**

So here I am. Honored to be back for my second term as your Mayor and reflecting on another busy year in Torrance. Each year when I sit down to brainstorm about this speech I realize how much I continue to learn about our great City. How did we get here? Why do we operate the way we do? Who are the constituents working behind the scenes? How do we make ideas of our residents, business partners, staff, the greater community come to fruition? Well, it's not easy, I can tell you that! But the process is all part of our design.

## **Why Design Matters**

But why does that matter? Jason Schupbach, the Director of Design Programs for the National Endowment for the Arts and a partner with the Mayor's institute for City Design said, "Design is a problem-solving tool that transforms an idea into reality. Good designers take their creative genius, apply it to the most difficult problems in our lives and come up with



Patrick J. Furey was first elected to the Torrance City Council on June 3, 2008. He garnered the mayoral seat in 2014 and was re-elected in 2018. As Mayor, he serves as Chair of the State Legislative Advocacy Committee and Federal Legislative Advocacy Committee. In addition, he serves as a voting delegate to the Sanitation District of Los Angeles County, the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG), and serves as the Chair of the Los Angeles County City Selection Committee. He also is the voting delegate for the National League of Cities.

Mayor Furey graduated with honors from the UCLA Attorney Assistant Training Program and worked as a legal assistant for a number of years prior to attending law school. He holds a juris doctor degree from the University of West Los Angeles and is a member of the California State Bar Association. Prior to being seated as the mayor, he retired from the County of Los Angeles as a Principal Deputy County Counsel assigned to the Children's Services Division.

Mayor Furey is married to wife Terry. They have two children and eight grandchildren.

solutions that are sensitive to people's needs, efficient, and ultimately cost-effective." I like to think of our City staff, business partners, residents as our designers. Their collaborative effort is what continues to shape our City. Torrance operates the way it does by design.

The great founder of our City, Jared Sidney Torrance, saw the need for a mixed industrial-residential community and the overall plan was innovative for its time. It divided the original town into three districts: the business district at the city's core, which we now know as Old Torrance, the industrial district to the north and east of the city core, and the residential district to the west. It was created to remain balanced, a motto that still rings true today.

It is because of our unique original design that we now, in the present day, continue to operate on a balanced budget. We are also projected to remain balanced for the next five years with revenue growth between 2.6% and 3.4%. Also, at 3.4%, our unemployment rate is lower than the county, state, and national rates.

Like I mentioned earlier, there is a lot of information I've gathered about the City over the years. As a resident I was not aware of just how complex local government is, when I became a commissioner I was able to familiarize myself and better understand that a City operates much like a large business, as a councilmember I had the responsibility of representing our greater community, bringing forth the concerns of our residents, business partners, community members. I was enlightened about the process our City staff earnestly follows, the steps they take to ensure concerns are addressed, and having to at times step back from my own personal views to maintain the integrity of our City's design. And now, as Mayor I have a very up close and personal relationship with the City's processes and our designers.

### **Who are the Designers?**

So who fulfills this process? Who are our designers? We are very lucky to have a City Manager that has been with us for more than 40 years... LeRoy Jackson. A true historian, he has not only seen the development of recent years but he's helped shape it. Our Department Directors are truly experts in their field and they keep us abreast of industry trends. Their staff maintain records and distribute requests to appropriate parties and I have to say, working closely with our City staff I am reminded of how conscientious and capable these team members are in continuously looking for ways to improve all our city has to offer.

Our Business Partners, who in their own design, provide jobs, services, and products to our community and on an international level...our loyal partners who also support our programs and promote growth and innovation.

And of course our residents, residents must be involved in our process. Our Elected Officials, City Commissions, Organizations, Non Profits, individuals, that's why we are here! To provide them with the highest standard of resources and programs in the community they choose to live in, now and in the future. It's their thoughts that are important to us as they directly affect the lifestyle they are accustomed to in our unique and vibrant city.

### **The Future**

We don't always know what the future holds for us but status quo is just not an option. By design we do our best to plan appropriate ways to address the economy, infrastructure, connectivity, the safety of our community, and modernization with all of the new and exciting advances in technology.



## **Promoting Growth and Modernization**

Our City staff works diligently to drive economic growth. And this past year has been no different. We are working on bringing many new and exciting businesses to our City which I believe will not only benefit our residents and business partners but also drive visitors to our community.

Our diversity makes Torrance a great place to share and learn about other cultures. And there's not a better way than over a delicious meal, if you ask me! Restaurants, shops, and eateries continue to identify Torrance as the place to be, which is fulfilling all of our inner foodie dreams.

Mo Mo Paradise is a brand that focuses on traditional Japanese "hot pot" with a modern twist. They offer a variety of quality international selections that you can cook right at your table. With restaurants spanning more than 20 cities in Asia, you can now pay them a visit on Western Avenue.

Two popular shops are making their way to Torrance, and some might say they are a "hole in one." Established in 2012, Sidecar is the brainchild of a creative team brought together by a shared vision of creating a beautiful, new type of gathering place for their beloved community... A twist on the traditional donut, they infuse an exciting, soulful energy into the art of doughnut making, and stand by their commitment to serve the 'World's Freshest Doughnut.' But if you're craving the traditional donut, Torrance will soon be serving that up too! Known for its giant rooftop donut, the World Famous Randy's Donuts is consistently named one of the top donut shops in the country for more than 60 years. It's expected to open next year on the Boulevard and Lomita. And what goes great with donuts? You guessed it, coffee!

7 Leaves Café, is headed to our Planning Commission with aspirations of opening a new shop in North Torrance. Serving up coffee, tea, and as they say goodness, they boast themselves as the Asian Starbucks. And since we're welcoming the Asian Starbucks, what about the "McDonald's of the Philippines?" Jollibee is the largest fast food chain in the Philippines, operating a nationwide network of more than 750 stores. A dominant market leader in the Philippines, Jollibee will be making its way to The Boulevard and Del Amo.

I do believe our diversity plays an important role in attracting new restaurants and eateries to our community. According to Torrance Unified School District we have more than 85 languages spoken in our City. The interest to add to the culture of our City is there.

In fact, our Office of Economic Development has been speaking with a new eatery that is very interested in planting roots in Torrance. They would bring craft food and drinks unique to our city, all while respecting the same sustainability goals we strive for. Also interested in growing their business with us, a company that provides a creative environment of office and co-working space to entrepreneurs, startups, freelancers, and innovative companies is currently researching locations in Torrance. But really... with our weather and proximity to the heart of both Orange and Los Angeles Counties, who wouldn't want to be a part of Torrance?

## **New Businesses**

Our Office of Economic Development continues to build new relationships with potential business partners and nurture existing ones. Through their hard work, we recently welcomed new businesses including Phyn, an innovative company bringing water solutions to the market; Stellar Agency, a digital design



agency focused on delivering world-class interactive experiences and products; and Chado Tea Room and Monarch Ballroom who have brought a great deal of energy to downtown, joining the likes of the Depot, Red Car Brewery, Torrance Bakery, Madres, Local Kitchen and The Torrance Theater Company. A lot of the success in Old Torrance is due to the efforts of the Downtown Business Association. Folks getting together to get things done!

With the help of our Community Development Department, under the direction of Jeff Gibson, our dynamic duo Fran Fulton and Domenica Megerdichian, also continue to help our existing partners including businesses such as Smog City Brewing, Gyu Kaku Japanese BBQ, Hollywood Riviera Studios, Axiom Medical, Physical Optics Corp, and Phenomenex find locations to expand their businesses in Torrance.

### **Returning to Torrance**

In the past we have seen some companies move on, but we are always happy to welcome them back. As you saw in our video, MotoArt Studios, a Torrance business that sands, polishes, paints and redesigns retired airplane parts made its return to the City. Weckerle Cosmetics, a worldwide successful and expanding key player in the color cosmetic industry who plays a role in both cosmetics and machinery, also made its return. Established in 1979, Weckerle Sales Corporation was founded in Torrance but made a move to expand in 2010 and now they are back, steps away from City Hall. And all I can say is Welcome Home!

### **Sares Regis- Toyota Building**

I know we can all feel the absence of Toyota as they make their final exit.

Their signage has come down, parking lots have emptied, but it was not long after, that the buzz started about who purchased the property. In October, Irvine based developer Sares Regis Group, acquired the site. They are the company behind the redevelopment of former home to Boeing and Douglas Aircraft in Long Beach. SRG has already reached out to our community and have supported many of our local organizations including the YMCA, Torrance Education Foundation, Torrance Historical Society, and Torrance Cultural Arts Foundation. Peter Rooney, President of Commercial Development Division at SRG is known for saying that the property, that they're calling the Torrance Commerce Center, "Is on the 50 yard line of the South Bay." Their plan is to attract companies with a manufacturing and high tech focus who are looking for potential headquarters. SRG has an interest in creating jobs for the region and we are happy to welcome them to Torrance.

With the departure of one motor car company, Torrance welcomed a new company to fill the void. Evelozcity, an electric car business has been working toward making its vision a reality in our community since 2017. Since planting roots in Torrance, Evelozcity has expanded its workforce significantly. With more than 200 employees with the intention to hire many more as they move toward their vision of producing carbon- neutral electric vehicles for daily use.

Eric Mika, Government/Business Affairs & Business Development for Evelozcity couldn't be with us today but sent us a recent update about Evelozcity's ambitious path to move to production of their Electric Cars in 2021. He thanked the City for the tremendous help and guidance in growing their 90,000 sq. ft. facility. Eric praised our city staff by saying he could not be more delighted with the relationship all of their various departments have with the City of Torrance. Eric said, "From



the beginning Torrance was collaborative, encouraging and provided the assurances for Evelozcity to build its global headquarters here and the City continues to be..." In particular, he wanted to acknowledge James Noh and Danny Santana who have been outstanding in working with their facilities development.

Tritium, a leader in e-mobility, recently celebrated their 1 year anniversary in Torrance and they are already looking to expand. With aspirations of bringing a new product to the EV Market. Tritium was awarded \$400,000 in federal funding to further develop its "extreme fast-charging" technology.

Our car dealerships also continue to thrive. With several of our dealerships completing store front makeovers, our Torrance Auto Dealer Association, or TADA, released their first TV commercial fully equipped with a catchy jingle. As we see the alternative fuel and automotive industry grow in our community our breweries also continue to flourish. With 8 production breweries and 3 gastro-pubs with on-site production. Torrance is home to 11 breweries. 3 of the breweries. Strand, Monkish, and Smog City, have also expanded their production space nearly doubling in size.

A different kind of brewery, Health-Ade Kombucha started in 2012 by selling in Farmers Markets. Now Health-Ade with more than 220 employees is available in 15,000 stores including Target, Walmart, and Ralphs nationwide. AND they are brewing 120,000 bottles DAILY out of their Torrance Brewery, which resides on Crenshaw near Torrance Crossroads. With each bottle, Health-Ades handcrafted kombucha carries the message to trust your gut and to be the champion of the happiest, healthiest you! It also states it was produced in Torrance. By the way, we LOVE when you include the city in your product labels! Thank you Health-Ade!

Also representing Torrance in the region, the Del Amo Fashion Center continues to add to their retailers and open doors to new restaurants and entertainment like EMC Seafood and Dave and Busters. Burlington, who initially relocated to the Torrance Promenade decided to also keep the Del Amo Fashion Center location open when they saw great success in the new location. Just across from the mall, Muller Co. continues construction of the soon to be reinvigorated Torrance landmark. Re-branded as the Del Amo Crossing, the 12 story business tower, 5 story medical center and mixed use retail space will also have a 2-story, 24 Hour Fitness Super Sport Club.

Everyone here believes that Torrance is really a great place to be for a business. Prologis, the world's leader in logistic real estate must also share our opinion. They recently purchased 30 acres to add to their Torrance collection.

### **Maintaining Infrastructure**

Roadway improvements continue throughout the City. In fact, just in the last year we have resurfaced more than 20 miles of streets in the City. During my term as Mayor, 28% of the City's street pavement has seen improvement. This aggressive pavement program will continue into next year with even more work being done. Just a few weeks ago contractors removed and replaced original sidewalk on Arlington that was nearly 100 years old. Fortunately, they were able to salvage a portion with the contractor's identification stamps and delivered it to the Torrance Historical Society for a future display.

### **Improving Connectivity**

Connectivity is important to every city, and we are no different. The highly anticipated Torrance Park and Ride Regional Terminal, slated to open next year, continues construction. We work with the region to improve mobility in the South Bay area by introducing reliable and high-frequency transit service



options.

In fact, there was a meeting this morning to discuss a light rail that will link up the South Bay to the existing Green Line, LAX, and the new NFL stadium in Inglewood. I want to thank former Councilman Kurt Weideman for attending that meeting today to advocate for our recommendations. And I also want to thank Governor Jerry Brown and Assembly Member Al Muratsuchi for finding the \$231 million to accelerate the rail service to Torrance.

Our hope of bringing an urban retrofit of the historic red car to the City is still on our radar. The proposed urban circulator trolley is designed to enhance better connectivity and public transportation including access to Downtown Torrance, the beach, and our business district.

### **Fiber- Regional Approach**

The City continues the conversations about moving closer to the Smart City Concept. We continue to explore cutting edge tools and are also taking a regional approach to provide the infrastructure for a future fiber optical network. This could improve the speed, security, availability of our internet connectivity. It could really enhance the way our businesses operate.

### **EV Friendly City**

As we mentioned with Tritium and Evelozity, Torrance continues to be an Electric Vehicle Friendly City, we continue our goal of the “One Mile, One Charger Project” to facilitate the expansion of EV infrastructure throughout the City so that an EV driver is never more than one mile from a charging station within the City of Torrance. We’ve embraced this new technology that goes hand in hand with our long standing partnership with American Honda Motor Co. and through its Research and Development have been able to participate in their Living Labs. They’ve really been working hard to bring a better, smarter, greener tomorrow for everyone. As part of City Council and now Mayor, I’ve been able to build relationships with the Honda Team.... Including Mr. Morikawa. Our Distinguished Citizen of the Year, Stephan Morikawa has remained an advocate in our community since he joined Honda in 1978. As Vice President of the Executive Office Administration and Corporate Affairs Division he has supported our schools, programs, and events. But as just “Steve” you really can see the sincerity and the genuine desire he has to cultivate the arts, healthcare, education and so much more not just in Torrance but the region. It really is a pleasure to work alongside you, Steve. Congratulations!

### **Torrance Refinery**

Across the world, public safety is the most important task facing city governments... In Torrance the safety of our community remains a priority. Since the change in ownership of the Torrance Refinery, PBF has remained active and communicative with the City in efforts to ensure the refinery is operating safely. The South Coast Air Quality Management District has conducted a number of meetings including one last week to discuss the safety of modified hydrofluoric acid. During that meeting the board directed agency staff to develop a regulation to better mitigate the risk of the use of MHF by May 2019. The AQMD reportedly included a provision for a phase out of MHF unless the refineries and manufacturers of MHF can provide more technical information on the chemical and show that it can reduce the risk to the public. We will continue to monitor this process as it unfolds.

### **Fire Department**

Working closely with the refinery, Torrance Fire continues to provide safety for



our community. Last month, the Fire Department once again received the highest available rating of Class 1 from the Insurance Services Office. Making it the 23rd consecutive year they have received this merit of excellence!

In addition to being a Class 1, the Torrance Fire Department, under the leadership of Chief Martin Serna, is currently a “candidate agency” actively pursuing accreditation with the Commission on Fire Accreditation International. This process ensures the fire department is being community-focused, data-driven, strategic-minded, well organized, properly equipped and staffed, and focused on outcomes. Once accredited, the TFD will be recognized as one of the most progressive fire and EMS agencies in the nation.

The Torrance Fire Department “Grow Your Own” is an exciting new program that is designed to take young individuals interested in becoming firefighters and provide them a hands-on opportunity to grow and learn about a career in the Fire Service. We have seen great interest in the Fire Explorer, Auxiliary Firefighter, and Fire Cadet Programs. Currently, all levels of the “Grow Your Own” Program are fully functional and filled to capacity.

Last October, the Office of Emergency Services was transferred from the Police Department to the Fire Department. Since its new reorg the team has collaborated with Intellisense Systems Inc., a local Torrance business, to evaluate its flash flood detection system and advanced weather sensor products. The flash flood detection system is part of a nationwide, multi-state, test and evaluation project sponsored by the Department of Homeland Security.

### **Police Department**

This year we welcomed our new Police Chief, Chief Eve Irvine, and according to our most recent statistics, the City of Torrance has experienced a double-digit reduction in crime rates. Coincidence? Maybe, maybe not. But there is a distinct correlation between our crime rates and how we proactively address crime. Our approach begins with a strong partnership with our residents and businesses who immediately report suspicious activity, and is coupled with effective police responses to meet the needs of our community.

The incorporation of technology has also proved to be vital. Automated License Plate Readers and Unmanned Aircraft Systems or drones as you may know them, have served as great resources to help solve crimes and keep our communities safe.

The Torrance Police Department drone program has been in full effect this year. Our team of certified FAA drone pilots can provide immediate aerial support during tactical and police operations, and provide real time situational awareness.

Our Drone Team has played major roles in safely apprehending suspects not only in Torrance, but in our neighboring cities. In addition to locating suspects, our drones have been used to locate missing persons, photograph crime scenes and major traffic collisions, recover evidence, and assist with search and rescue operations at our beach. Without a doubt, the Torrance Police Department Drone Team has proven to be an extremely valuable asset to our entire Department.

After extensive research and evaluation, the Torrance Police Department outfitted all of its uniformed personnel with body-worn cameras. The Department has also incorporated the use of a Mobile Video Audio Recording System – in-car cameras.



So how are we seeing these new technologies go to use?

In the beginning of this year, The Torrance Police Department Economic Crimes Section began investigating a criminal fraud ring responsible for placing a skimmer device on a Torrance Community Credit Union ATM. Thirty-eight victims were affected and more than \$30,000 was fraudulently obtained. Our Detectives took the lead on this case and ultimately identified several international suspects who were involved in the crimes. Detectives utilized ALPRs to help identify the rental vehicle the suspects were driving. Shortly after placing the suspects under surveillance, the team was able to make arrests. Our Detectives concluded their case with a search warrant in Hollywood which led to the recovery of evidence including the face of an ATM machine. The Torrance Police Department partnered with the FBI and liaised with the US Attorney's Office to prosecute the case which received national media attention.

Day in and day out, the Torrance Police Department continues to work with our residents and neighboring agencies to ensure our schools, businesses, and citizens are educated in the latest principles and tactics of safety.

### **Health Care**

I don't have to tell you, we are fortunate enough to have 2 major, award winning hospitals in Torrance and many medical centers like UCLA Medical and Kaiser Permanente, serving our city. The accessibility of comprehensive medical services contributes to our design by allowing our residents to stay close to home for excellent healthcare.

City of Hope National Medical Center has expanded into the South Bay by opening a new cancer center in Torrance in partnership with Providence Little Company of Mary. Having the City of Hope in Torrance means our community can receive individualized treatment catered to their medical needs. It means they are being provided the correct information to actively participate in their healing process. Combined with Providence Little Company of Mary's long-standing reputation for excellence and compassionate care, the partnership also grants its patient's access to the latest City of Hope cancer diagnostics, treatments and clinical trials. I know this will benefit the community for many generations.

Earlier this year, Torrance Memorial and Cedars-Sinai announced their new partnership to strengthen both organizations. Now, Cedar- Sinai specialists work collaboratively with Torrance Memorial physicians to deliver the highest standard of care to the South Bay community, giving patients access to clinical trials, the latest developments in medical research, new treatments and advanced technology.

We are also very lucky to have local community organizations that support advancement and research in medicine. Relay for Life of Torrance celebrated its 16th year last April and their furry counterparts will celebrate their 7th year of Bark for Life next month. CitiCABLE's very own K9 Corner brought in the largest amount of donations at last year's event. Our community really knows how to come together with purpose and reach goals.

### **Senior Population**

We are keenly aware of our growing senior population... Just look at me! People come to Torrance to raise a family and because of our design they also choose to stay into their senior years.

The Wolff Company, a developer of senior living housing is currently in plan check for a 185-unit senior apartment building near the Del Amo Fashion Center, making it one of the largest projects of its kind in the city in years. Our Recreation Division also provides senior programs and other activities including the Herma Tillim and Bartlett Senior Centers, the Ken Miller Rec Center, Walteria Park Senior Citizen Programs, and Focal Point on Aging, in addition to Torrance Transit's Senior Ride Program.

### **Social Services**

By city design, we evaluate all populations in our city. Our fairly new Social Services Commission has remained active in understanding and reducing the homeless population not just in Torrance but in the region. They continue to work with the South Bay Cities Council of Government to research appropriate ways to address this growing population. Our city departments including the Police Department and Library have participated in the Greater Los Angeles Homeless Count, created a resource guide and have stayed abreast of the factors causing homelessness including poverty and mental health challenges. The Social Services Commission will also host their second Veterans Resource Fair and Appreciation Lunch on November 9 at the Toyota Meeting Hall and are currently exploring how to assist and address the special needs community.

After years of planning between the City and the Torrance Historical Society, City Council adopted an ordinance to integrate a formal process to designate historical landmarks and districts. This ordinance will create a seven-member Historic Preservation Commission, a Torrance Register of Historic Resources that lists historic landmarks or districts and allow either the city or homeowners to submit an application for a historic designation.

Speaking of districts, on June 19, the City Council approved an ordinance establishing six voting districts. Despite the fact that this was initiated because of threats of litigation against several California cities, this new voting structure, with a sequence that will begin March 2020, will most definitely affect our City's design... but not our service.

### **Youth & Education**

So how do we prepare our youth to carry on the standard of Torrance's design? Well, because of our past success with the 8th grade Students and Government Day program and high school government classes, we continued our partnership with Torrance Unified School District this year and will soon start our planning for 2019 programs.

In addition, with the help of our residents, Torrance Unified School District has been able to modernize their learning environment. Recent bond measures provided more safety, technology, modernized learning environments that will in return improve academic outcomes. TUSD will continue to provide funding for our current and future students with facilities in which they will have many opportunities.

Recently the District celebrated the opening of the brand new, world-class, Torrance Unified Aquatic Center. A dedicated facility for our four high school aquatics teams to practice and compete.

I thank TUSD for their support and the residents for their votes in passing these bond measures. They will continue to provide our current and future students with facilities in which they will have many opportunities to thrive. And maybe... just maybe we can produce an Olympian... or two... who knows!



The bond measures also helped our young adults seeking higher education at El Camino College. The campus looks better than ever, thanks to the support of the community. The construction continues to help bring renovation and modernization to the College. Last year, I mentioned the South Bay Promise, a program that provides free enrollment fees for first-time, full-time students in the El Camino Community College District, and this year our very own American Honda Motor Co. announced a \$50,000 gift to the program! It really is gestures like this, when our community comes together to support services and programs, that make me proud to be your Mayor.

Another water element coming soon to our community, The Splash Pad at Wilson Park will open next month. Replacing the unused and difficult to clean Wilson Park Pond, this element will give families another option to go to cool off. Also completed at the park this year is the open air amphitheater which has already been used for numerous performances and concerts over the summer.

Our Cultural Arts Center which has also been seeing a lot of activity welcomed the Los Angeles International Ukulele Festival just last weekend and also hosted the South Bay Festival of Arts this past June. Organized by the Torrance Cultural Arts Foundation, in its second year the event raised more than \$72,000 and had an attendance of more than 3,000 guests. The event, which included musicians, artwork, food and drinks, and activities for the whole family was a great way to highlight our City's Arts and Culture. Congratulations to the TOCA Board of Directors and to all of the members of the planning committee.

### **Arts and Culture**

Another element of arts and culture that we've welcomed back to the City, Concours D'Elegance, a world-class show of classic, vintage historical, and special-interest automobiles that has been providing funding for charitable and community purposes for more than 2 decades will return for its second run in the City. Last year, for the first time they paired first-class, concours-level automobiles with vintage aircraft at the historic Zamperini Field and we are happy to continue the tradition this Sunday.

As you can see, Torrance is a City shaped by the community. We shape our cities, and then the City shapes us. I think many would agree when I say it is a privilege to live and work in Torrance. President John Kennedy said during his remarks at Amherst College in 1963, "I look forward to an America which will not be afraid of grace and beauty, which will protect the beauty of our natural environment, which will preserve the great old American houses and squares and parks of our national past and which will build handsome and balanced cities for our future."

I like to think Torrance is a piece of that America to which Kennedy speaks of so fondly... A city balanced in its wealth of industrial, residential, and commercial elements. A city that has been shaped by its leaders and community with intention... with purpose... with plans in mind for the future... and with respect for its original, unique design. It is Torrance. It is OUR Torrance. It's Torrance by Design!

