

I N D E X

Torrance City Council - September 20, 1988

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SUBJECT:

PAGE:

23. EXECUTIVE SESSION:

23a. Executive Session Matters

13, 20-21

ADJOURNMENT:

Adjournment was at 10:30 p.m.

#

Peggy Laverty
Minute Secretary

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MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING
OF THE TORRANCE CITY COUNCIL

OPENING CEREMONIES:

1. CALL TO ORDER:

The Torrance City Council convened in a regular meeting on Tuesday, September 20, 1988, at 5:37 p.m., in the Council Chambers at Torrance City Hall.

2. ROLL CALL:

Present: Councilmembers Applegate, Hardison, Mock, Nakano, Walker, Wirth and Mayor Geissert.

Absent: None.

Also present: City Manager Jackson, City Attorney Remelmeyer, Deputy City Clerk Hong, and Staff representatives.

* * *

It was with sadness that Mayor Geissert announced the passing of Ms. Annie McDonald, a City employee from 1954 to 1964, and Acting City Treasurer during the last two years of her employment with the City. The Mayor directed that this meeting be adjourned in memory of Ms. McDonald.

* * *

3. FLAG SALUTE/INVOCATION:

Dr. John Schmitt, Principal of South High School, led in the salute to the flag.

The invocation for the meeting was provided by Reverend John G. Sanders, Pacific View Baptist Church.

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4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES/MOTION RE FURTHER READING:

MOTION: Councilman Applegate moved to approve the minutes of the City Council meeting of August 23, 1988, as recorded. His motion was seconded by Councilman Mock, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

MOTION: Councilman Applegate moved that after the City Clerk has assigned a number and read title to any resolution or ordinance on the agenda for this meeting, the further reading thereof be waived, reserving and guaranteeing to each Councilmember the right to demand the reading of any such resolution or ordinance in regular order. His motion was seconded by Councilwoman Hardison, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

5. MOTION RE POSTING OF AGENDA:

MOTION: Councilman Applegate moved to accept and file the report of the City Clerk on the posting of the agenda for this meeting. This motion, seconded by Councilman Mock, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

6. WITHDRAWN OR DEFERRED ITEMS:

Item 10e. ORDINANCE RE DRIVEWAY ACCESS -- Request of staff to postpone this item for one week. Councilwoman Hardison requested at least a two-week delay [see Page 6, for action].

7. COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEETINGS:

Transportation Committee

September 27, 1988 - 5:00 p.m.

Subject: Telephone Information Line
Transit for Senior Citizens

October 11, 1988 - 5:00 p.m.

Subject: Department of Transportation Reorganization.

Citizen Development and Enrichment Committee

[Joint meeting with members of Board of Education]

September 28, 1988 - 4:30 p.m.

Subject: Joint Child Care,
Graffiti Removal, etc.

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8. COMMUNITY MATTERS:

8a. RESOLUTION HONORING SOUTH HIGH SCHOOL:

RESOLUTION NO. 88-218

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE
CITY OF TORRANCE HONORING SOUTH HIGH
SCHOOL OF THE TORRANCE UNIFIED SCHOOL
DISTRICT FOR ITS SELECTION AS A CALIFORNIA
DISTINGUISHED SCHOOL

MOTION: Councilman Nakano moved to adopt Resolution No. 88-218. His motion, seconded by Councilwoman Hardison, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Dr. John Schmitt, Principal of South High School, accompanied by representatives from the school, accepted this recognition with sincere appreciation.

8b. TWENTY-FIVE YEAR SERVICE AWARD - DONALD HOLMES:

Mayor Geissert presented a watch to Revenue Inspector Donald Holmes in recognition of his twenty-five years of service to the City of Torrance.

8c. PRESENTATION BY ROSE FLOAT ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT:

President of the Torrance Rose Float Association, Ms. Betty Holland, presented mementos to the Mayor and members of the Council, in honor of the 100th anniversary of the Pasadena Tournament of Roses parade.

Considered out of order --

21. ADDENDUM MATTERS:

21a. PROCLAMATION Proclaiming September 25, 1988 as "United Cerebral Palsy Day."

SO PROCLAIMED by Mayor Geissert, and accepted with appreciation by representatives of "World to World South Bay".

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21b. PROCLAMATION Proclaiming October 1 through 31, 1988 as
"PTA Enrollment Month."

SO PROCLAIMED by Mayor Geissert. This proclamation
was received by Ms. Dawn Robinson, from the Torrance Council
PTA's.

The Council now returned to --

8d. WAIVING OF FEES FOR ANNUAL CHURCH FIESTAS:

RECOMMENDATION:

The City Manager recommends that your Honorable Body
waive the carnival license fees for the annual Fiestas
of the Nativity Catholic Church and also for the Saint
Catherine Laboure Church contingent upon each church's
payment of the safety inspection fee.

MOTION: Councilman Nakano moved to concur with the
above stated recommendation of the City Manager. His motion was
seconded by Councilwoman Hardison, and roll call vote proved
unanimously favorable.

10. TRANSPORTATION/PUBLIC WORKS MATTERS:

10a. FY 1988-89 UMTA SECTION 9 GRANT APPLICATION:

RESOLUTION NO. 88-238

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE
CITY OF TORRANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY
MANAGER TO FILE AN APPLICATION WITH
THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION, UNITED
STATES OF AMERICA, FOR A FY 1988-89
FORMULA ASSISTANCE GRANT UNDER SECTION 9
OF THE URBAN MASS TRANSPORTATION ACT OF
1964, AS AMENDED.

MOTION: Councilman Nakano moved to adopt Resolution
No. 88-238. His motion, seconded by Councilwoman Hardison,
carried unanimously by roll call vote.

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10b. SENATE BILL 821 FUNDING FOR FY 1988-89:

RESOLUTION NO. 88-239

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE DIRECTOR OF TRANSPORTATION TO APPLY FOR FY 1988-89 BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN FUNDS AS AUTHORIZED UNDER SB 821 AND APPROVING THE ADOPTION OF A CITY HALL AND BUS STOP RAMPING PROJECT WITHIN THE CITY LIMITS

MOTION: Councilman Nakano moved to adopt Resolution No. 88-239. His motion, seconded by Councilwoman Hardison, was unanimously approved by roll call vote.

10c. UNDERGROUND CONDUIT SYSTEM - T-HANGAR KEY CARD GATE:

RECOMMENDATION:

The Department of Transportation and the Airport Commission recommend that City Council approve the appropriation of \$15,000.00 from the Airport Fund for the installation of underground electrical conduit and wiring for the key card gate at the T-Hangar area.

MOTION: Councilman Nakano moved to concur with the above stated recommendation, including appropriation. His motion was seconded by Councilman Walker, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

10d. UNDERGROUND STREET LIGHTING - WEST SIDE OF CRENSHAW BOULEVARD BETWEEN SKYPARK AND AIRPORT DRIVES:

Mayor Geissert called attention to supplementary material of record on this agenda item which includes a revised resolution.

RESOLUTION NO. 88-240

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AUTHORIZING THE APPROPRIATION OF \$82,771 FROM THE AIRPORT FUND, FOR THE INSTALLATION OF STREET LIGHTS ALONG CRENSHAW BOULEVARD AND AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF A CONTRACT WITH THE SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA EDISON COMPANY FOR THE WORK

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MOTION: Councilman Nakano moved to adopt Resolution No. 88-240 as amended, including the appropriation as specified. His motion, seconded by Councilwoman Hardison, carried by unanimous roll call vote.

MOTION: Councilman Wirth moved that the Council authorize execution of the contract with Southern California Edison in the amount of \$82,771, for the upgrading of said street lights. This motion was seconded by Councilwoman Hardison, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

10e. DRIVEWAY ACCESS TO LOCAL STREETS IN STUDY AREA:

The recommendation that this agenda item be returned NO SOONER THAN two weeks was noted [see Page 2].

Councilman Applegate SO MOVED. His motion was seconded by Councilman Walker, and it was so ordered without objection.

14. PERSONNEL MATTERS:

14a. LIFE INSURANCE:

RESOLUTION NO. 88-241

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE SETTING FORTH CERTAIN CHANGES REGARDING HOURS, WAGES, AND WORKING CONDITIONS FOR EMPLOYEES REPRESENTED BY MANAGEMENT RESOLUTION NO. 88-170

MOTION: Councilman Nakano moved to adopt Resolution No. 88-241. His motion, seconded by Councilwoman Hardison, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

RESOLUTION NO. 88-242

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE SETTING FORTH CERTAIN CHANGES REGARDING HOURS, WAGES, AND WORKING CONDITIONS FOR EMPLOYEES REPRESENTED BY ELECTED OFFICIALS RESOLUTION NO. 88-171

MOTION; Councilman Nakano moved to adopt Resolution No. 88-242. This motion, seconded by Councilman Mock, was unanimously approved by roll call vote.

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RESOLUTION NO. 88-243

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE SETTING FORTH CERTAIN CHANGES REGARDING HOURS, WAGES, AND WORKING CONDITIONS FOR EMPLOYEES REPRESENTED BY CITY ATTORNEY RESOLUTION NO. 88-229

MOTION: Councilman Nakano moved to adopt Resolution No. 88-243. This motion, seconded by Councilman Mock, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

14b. REVISED CLASS SPECIFICATION AND SALARY RANGE MODIFICATION FOR RECORDS MANAGEMENT COORDINATOR:

RESOLUTION NO. 88-244

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE SETTING FORTH CERTAIN CHANGES REGARDING WAGES, HOURS, AND WORKING CONDITIONS FOR EMPLOYEES REPRESENTED BY THE TORRANCE PROFESSIONAL AND SUPERVISORY ASSOCIATION AMENDING RESOLUTION NO. 88-194

MOTION: Councilman Nakano moved to adopt Resolution No. 88-244. His motion was seconded by Councilman Mock, and roll call vote proved unanimously favorable.

14c. CONTRACT RENEWAL - OFFICE OF SAMOAN AFFAIRS [JTPA]:

RESOLUTION NO. 88-245

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR AND THE CITY CLERK TO EXECUTE AND ATTEST THIS CERTAIN CONTRACT RENEWAL BETWEEN THE CITY OF TORRANCE AND THE OFFICE OF SAMOAN AFFAIRS

MOTION: Councilman Nakano moved to adopt Resolution No. 88-245. This motion, seconded by Councilwoman Hardison, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

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15. HEARINGS:

15a. PCR 88-3: RAYMOND CHIANG:

Mayor Geissert announced that this was the time and place for City Council consideration of an adjacent property owner's appeal of a Planning Commission approval of a Planning Commission Review to allow the construction of a 9,604 square-foot commercial building in the C-2 zone located on the southwest corner of Pacific Coast Highway and Ocean Avenue at 3902 Pacific Coast Highway. PCR 88-3: RAYMOND CHIANG.

Proof of publication was provided by the Deputy City Clerk and it was filed without objection.

Following the staff presentation by Principal Planner Gibson, during which it was noted that the Planning Commission and the Planning Department recommend denial of the appeal and approval of the project, Mayor Geissert invited the proponent or his representative to address the Council.

Mr. George Handy, 198 Brandywyne Terrace, Costa Mesa, described the project as moderate in scale and one which is compatible with surrounding properties. In response to an inquiry by Councilwoman Hardison, Mr. Handy indicated that they had considered NOT allowing a 7-Eleven type operation to lease space because of incompatibility with the site [problems with deliveries, etc.]

Mayor Geissert indicated her concern with any sale of packaged liquor at this site because of the close proximity to residential uses and a park.

Audience input was then invited by the Mayor.

Mr. Matthew Eldotti, 24035 Ocean Avenue, #19, voiced opposition to the subject proposal citing as concerns: existing traffic and parking problems and the proposed driveway on Ocean Avenue. This speaker specifically opposed the location of a convenience store and the sale of packaged liquor from this site, and suggested that the property be developed as "green area."

*

Ms. Lucy Ritorto, 3920 Pacific Coast Highway [correspondence of record], noted concerns regarding the driveway location on Pacific Coast Highway; relocation of the existing RTD bus stop; loss of existing palm trees; and safety for residents to the rear of this development. Ms. Ritorto was firmly

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opposed to installation of a traffic signal at Ocean and Pacific Coast Highway [not proposed at this time] and she requested that hours of operation for tenants of this development be limited.

Mayor Geissert requested that certain of Ms. Ritorto's concerns be addressed at this time. Regarding the driveway location, Principal Planner Gibson indicated staff's opinion that the design is such as to allow for safe ingress and egress.

As to a signal at Ocean and Pacific Coast Highway, Mayor Geissert explained that such action is not part of this recommendation. Traffic Manager Vance noted his opinion that CalTrans will not do anything about a signal at that intersection unless the City requests that one be installed.

Addressing the loss of palm trees, Principal Planner Gibson noted that it is proposed that two palm trees be removed from the public right-of-way on Pacific Coast Highway, and these trees will be replaced in the parkway per City specifications.

*

Mrs. Woof, 4094 Newton, recommended that a development oriented toward children be considered such as a walk-in theater, etc. Prohibition of U-Turns at this location was also urged.

*

Opposition to sale of liquor and unrestricted hours of operation were opposed by Mrs. Warren, 24035 Ocean Avenue. The proposed driveway off of Ocean Avenue was also of concern to this speaker.

*

Ms. Janet McAuley, 24035 Ocean Avenue [appellant in this case], submitted a diagram locating existing uses in the subject area. This speaker also submitted a copy of a petition containing some 106 signatures indicating strong opposition to a signal at the intersection of Ocean and Pacific Coast Highway.

Ms. McAuley reiterated her previously expressed interests and concerns regarding development of this site, particularly in the area of traffic circulation; congestion; vehicular access off Ocean; noise and loitering associated with a mini market or sale of liquor.

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The proposed driveway on Ocean Avenue and liquor sales at the subject location were of concern to Ms. Judy Pianko, 24035 Ocean Avenue.

*

Mr. Mark Richter, 1436 Santa Cruz Street, San Pedro, [operator of a shop at 3968 Pacific Coast Highway], requested that he be notified regarding any pending relocation of the RTD bus stop. The Mayor directed that Transportation staff so note this request. Traffic Manager Vance explained that RTD can basically place a bus stop wherever needed in order to support their operations, and offered his personal opinion that if this bus stop is relocated because of the driveway design, it will likely be moved easterly.

*

Mr. William Rice, 24035 Ocean Avenue, [a ground floor apartment], expressed concerns that any activity at the rear of this proposed mini mall will impact him, thus his opposition to the project.

*

Mr. Alex Patterson, engineer for the subject project, 17315 Ash Street, Fountain Valley, advised that he has checked with CalTrans and was informed that they favor leaving the entrance to this project on Ocean, rather than having two points of access on Pacific Coast Highway.

*

Counsel for the applicant, Mr. John Williams, 5775 Los Angeles Avenue, Simi Valley, pointed out the improved utilization of this site represented by the proposed project. In response to questions by Mayor Geissert, Mr. Williams concurred with a condition of approval limiting hours of operation and prohibiting the sale of packaged liquor.

Discussion turned to driveway access, and Councilman Nakano expressed concerns that this could in some way result in CalTrans requiring a signal at Ocean and Pacific Coast Highway. Transportation Manager Vance responded that this would occur "in theory only." Per his conversations with CalTrans, Mr. Vance advised that they will not press for any kind of traffic signal at that location unless the City comes forward and requests same.

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The next audience speaker was Mr. George Acosta, 4138 Newton Street, who indicated his full concurrence with the project. In this speaker's opinion parking problems are caused by residents in the nearby apartment buildings.

*

Ms. Lucy Ritorto, 3920 Pacific Coast Highway, returned to comment on the high speed of traffic on Pacific Coast Highway and also to request that the structures presently on the site be demolished as quickly as possible.

*

At this point [no one else having indicated a desire to speak] Councilman Applegate MOVED to close the hearing. His motion was seconded by Councilman Mock.

Prior to roll call vote on this motion, Mr. John H. Ferraro, 24035 Ocean Avenue, requested, and received, permission to address the Council. Mr. Ferraro submitted a sketch [of record] supporting his vehement opposition to a driveway on Ocean Avenue. This speaker recommended, instead, that there be two driveways on Pacific Coast Highway.

Mr. Ferraro also illustrated traffic problems which relate to the angle of the Pacific Coast Highway/Ocean Avenue intersection. This corner was deemed an "absolute hazard" by this speaker.

Roll call vote on the above motion to close the hearing was unanimously favorable.

Councilwoman Hardison inquired regarding a possible security problem at the rear of the property. The Council's option of restricting access [which can pose problems for Police and Fire personnel] was reviewed by Principal Planner Gibson, who pointed out that a condition of approval for the project requires that all areas be lighted with appropriate shielding toward the residential uses.

Discussion once more turned to the driveways and Traffic Manager Vance clarified staff's position in upholding one driveway on Ocean and one on Pacific Coast Highway as providing a better circulation pattern for the entire area. During his dis-

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sertation, Mr. Vance offered his opinion, based on conversations with CalTrans representatives, that CalTrans would not approve two driveways for this development on Pacific Coast Highway.

MOTION: Councilman Applegate moved to concur with the Planning Department and Planning Commission for denial of the appeal and approval of the project on PCR 88-3, RAYMOND CHIANG, adding the following conditions:

Condition #18 which would prohibit the sale of alcoholic beverages on the premises.

Condition #19 which would restrict hours of operation from 6:00 a.m. to 12:00 midnight.

The motion was seconded by Councilman Wirth.

Councilman Applegate commented on the security aspect at the rear of the property, noting that he has a problem with gating that area or in some manner restricting access, in that the area would then likely become a dumping ground. In his opinion, the openness and ease of access will allow an overall safer and cleaner condition than otherwise.

Councilman Walker noted his opinion that the driveway on Ocean is essential and is far safer than two access points on Pacific Coast Highway.

Mayor Geissert suggested that a condition be imposed requiring demolition of the existing buildings on this site within a certain time period.

In order to allow the proponent's representative to address this issue, the HEARING WAS REOPENED upon a motion by Councilman Applegate; seconded by Councilwoman Hardison, and carried by unanimous roll call vote.

The applicant's attorney, Mr. John Williams returned to the podium and, after discussing the matter with the Council and with his client, indicated that demolition can take place within 30 days from this date.

The hearing was once again closed upon a motion by Councilman Applegate; seconded by Councilman Walker, and carried unanimously by roll call vote.

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Councilman Applegate then MODIFIED HIS ABOVE MOTION to add a condition to state that the existing structures on the property shall be demolished within 30 days from this date. This modification was accepted by Councilman Wirth, as seconder of the motion.

Councilwoman Hardison stated that she would have great concern if a signal were proposed for this intersection.

Mayor Geissert noted her support of access from Ocean as being reasonable for development of the site. The fact that this proposal is for an extremely low intensity use was favored by the Mayor as opposed to maximum development to the rear property line which would eliminate the deep landscaped buffer provided.

Roll call vote on the motion AS AMENDED was unanimously favorable.

* * *

At 7:32 p.m., Mayor Geissert called a brief recess, followed immediately by an executive session as noted below.

23a. EXECUTIVE SESSION MATTERS:

Mayor Geissert read the following statement into the record.

The City Council will confer with the City Attorney regarding litigation entitled Margaret Rexroad v. City of Torrance, Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. SWC 83577. Authority for holding an executive session for this purpose is contained in Government Code Section 54956.9 (a).

The Council returned from executive session at 8:06 p.m., and their regular agenda order was resumed as follows.

* * *

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15b. CUP 87-48: E. E. LOHN:

Mayor Geissert announced that this was the time and place for a continued public hearing of the applicant's appeal of a Planning Commission denial of a Conditional Use Permit to allow an existing 18,000 square foot building to be converted from an industrial use to a medical office use in the M-2 zone on the northeast corner of Lomita Boulevard and Telo Avenue at 3011 Lomita Boulevard. CUP 87-48: E. E. LOHN.

Proof of publication was provided by the Deputy City Clerk and it was filed without objection.

A brief history of this agenda item was provided by Principal Planner Gibson, who noted that the Planning Department recommends approval of the appeal and approval of the project as conditioned; the Planning Commission denied the request.

The proponent, Mr. E. E. Lohn, 3011 Lomita Boulevard, referenced the Lomita Boulevard Corridor Land Use Study which was prepared per City Council direction. Mr. Lohn offered his opinion that this study is unreasonable in scope and does not represent a foundation upon which a prudent decision should be based.

Maintaining that questions posed by Councilmembers at the April hearing on this matter were not appropriately addressed in the study, Mr. Lohn advised that he did a survey regarding the need for additional medical office space in the area, the results of which indicate to him the desirability of a small medical facility such as he is proposing. Approval was requested.

There being no one else in the audience who wished to speak, Councilman Applegate moved to close the hearing. His motion was seconded by Councilman Mock, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

Council discussion ensued.

Principal Planner Gibson provided staff input and analysis regarding Council concerns as to the impact of large vs. small medical buildings; HMD zoning considerations; and community needs [the subject report being a land use and not a marketing study].

Mayor Geissert noted that the message imparted by the Lomita Corridor Study was that conversion of existing manufacturing buildings in manufacturing areas should not be permitted. The Mayor affirmed her previously stated concerns regarding such a trend being created on Lomita Boulevard.

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Councilwoman Hardison asserted her opinion that the larger issue to be considered is one of land use -- if, in fact, a great medical need exists, she would favor at some point in time, increasing the HMD zones; however, she is not in favor of "starting to hop scotch around with conversions." With that comment, the following was offered --

MOTION: Councilwoman Hardison moved to concur with the Planning Commission and to DENY the appeal on CUP 87-48, E. E. LOHN. Her motion was seconded by Councilman Wirth, and carried by way of the following roll call vote:

AYES: Councilmembers Hardison, Nakano, Walker, Wirth and Mayor Geissert.

NOES: Councilmen Applegate and Mock.

It was the request of Councilwoman Hardison that staff pursue the recommendation in the Land Use Study pertaining to an overlay district in the subject area. She also requested that staff return with information on implementing short-term recommendations which were set forth by the Department of Transportation.

* * *

Mayor Geissert referenced Page 17 of the Lomita Corridor Land Use Study wherein there is a suggestion that the 45-acre Union Oil Company parcel at the corner of Lomita and Crenshaw Boulevards be designated a special study zone. The Mayor requested input as to how such action would be accomplished.

15c. VACATION OF EASTERLY PORTION OF BORDER AVENUE NORTH OF CARSON STREET:
Proponent and Beneficiary Gascon-Mar, Ltd.

Mayor Geissert announced that this was the time and place for the hearing on Resolution of Intention No. 88-211 ordering the vacation of Border Avenue north of Carson Street.

At the request of the Mayor, Deputy City Clerk Hong presented the affidavit of publishing and posting for this item, whereupon Councilman Applegate MOVED that the affidavit of publishing and posting be received and filed. His motion, seconded by Councilwoman Hardison, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

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There being no one who wished to speak on this matter, Councilman Applegate moved to close the hearing. His motion, seconded by Councilman Mock, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

RESOLUTION NO. 88-246

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE
CITY OF TORRANCE ORDERING THE VACATION OF
THE EASTERLY PORTION OF BORDER AVENUE
FROM CARSON STREET TO APPROXIMATELY 1,000
FEET NORTHERLY THEREOF IN THE CITY OF
TORRANCE

MOTION: Councilman Nakano moved to adopt Resolution No. 88-246. This motion was seconded by Councilwoman Hardison.

Prior to roll call vote on the motion, Councilman Applegate expressed concerns for the small businesses in this area should it be proposed to eliminate on-street parking. City Engineer Burtt advised that there is no plan to eliminate parking at this location.

Roll call vote on the above motion was unanimously favorable.

17. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS:

17a. CITY TOWING SERVICES CONTRACT:

RECOMMENDATION:

The Public Safety Committee of the City Council recommends that the Council concur with the following:

- 1) The City of Torrance shall not be split for two towing contracts.
- 2) The towing contract shall be for a duration of three years without an option for extension.
- 3) Towing rates will be adjustable on a yearly review at vendor request. City of Los Angeles towing rates will be used as a reference for fee structure.

A summarization of the full report of the Public Safety Committee [per material of record] was provided by Councilman Mock, Committee Chairman.

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An extensive discussion ensued during which time added input and clarification were provided by Police Captain Dane and by Deputy Chief Popp. It was requested by Councilman Nakano that cities, in addition to Los Angeles, be contacted during consideration of a towing rate adjustment.

The City's current towing vendor, Mr. Robert Van Lingen, 17813 Osage, responded to inquiries posed by the Council regarding tow charges, number of police-initiated requests, etc. Mr. Van Lingen also explained [at Council request] circumstances surrounding his towing service being used exclusively by the Los Angeles County Sheriff Department's Homicide Investigation Team.

Favorable comments were elicited from Police Captain Dane regarding past performance of the Van Lingen Towing Service in the City of Torrance [no complaints received during the past year; no inconsistencies or concerns shown during audit; etc.]

The following motion was ultimately offered.

MOTION: Councilman Walker moved to concur with the recommendation of the Council's Public Safety Committee. His motion was seconded by Councilman Mock.

Prior to roll call vote, Councilman Wirth recounted negative experiences and reports regarding the Van Lingen Towing operation, and expressed his preference that the City's towing vendor be changed.

Mayor Geissert related the various considerations which contribute toward establishment of the City's towing contract, including practical difficulties involved in dividing the City between two vendors; amortization of equipment; etc.

Roll call vote on the above motion to concur with the Committee recommendation was as follows.

AYES: Councilmembers Applegate, Hardison,
Mock, Nakano, Walker and Mayor Geissert.

NOES: Councilman Wirth.

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17b. GRAFFITI REMOVAL PROGRAM:

RECOMMENDATION:

The City Manager recommends that:

- 1) Your Honorable Body approve and authorize a graffiti removal program to eradicate graffiti from public and private property utilizing a private contractor and/or work experience personnel. Funding for the public property portion of the program is to be paid from City Department operating budgets and the private property portion from the balance of capital improvement account #84165; and
- 2) Your Honorable Body adopt the enabling ordinance.

MOTION: Councilman Applegate moved to concur with the above stated recommendation on Agenda Item 17b. His motion was seconded by Councilman Walker. The Mayor then called for a number and title for the following ordinance.

ORDINANCE NO. 3239

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE ADDING SECTION 45.6.29 TO THE TORRANCE MUNICIPAL CODE PROVIDING FOR THE REMOVAL OF GRAFFITI FROM PUBLIC OR PRIVATE PROPERTY.

MOTION: Councilman Nakano moved to approve Ordinance No. 3239 at its first reading. His motion, seconded by Councilwoman Hardison, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

20. CONSENT CALENDAR:

- 20a. COUNCIL AWARD OF CONTRACT For the Purchase of One (1) Budgeted Turf Sweeper with Hydraulic Lift Hopper for the Recreation Department (Park Services Division)
Ref: Bid No. B88-48
Expenditure: \$11,608.54 including tax.

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RECOMMENDATION:

The Purchasing Division recommends that your Honorable Body authorize the purchase of one (1) Budgeted Turf Sweeper, model 48HL for the Recreation Department (Park Services Division) from the low responsible bidder, Pacific Equipment & Irrigation in the amount of \$11,608.50 including sales tax.

MOTION: Councilman Applegate moved to concur with staff recommendation on Agenda Item 20a. His motion, seconded by Councilwoman Hardison, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

* * *

At 9:07 p.m., the City Council recessed and reconvened as the Redevelopment Agency of the City of Torrance. The meeting of the Redevelopment Agency adjourned at 9:08 p.m., and the regular City Council agenda order was resumed.

* * *

21. ADDENDUM MATTERS:

21a. PROCLAMATION Proclaiming September 25, 1988 as "United Cerebral Palsy Day."

See Page 3.

21b. PROCLAMATION Proclaiming October 1 through 31, 1988 as "PTA Enrollment Month."

See Page 4.

22. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS:

22a. Councilman Applegate requested that staff look into a recently-filed application for an alcoholic beverage license by the Exxon Corporation at 22503 Crenshaw Boulevard.

22b. Councilman Applegate addressed his remarks to a recent article in the Los Angeles Times entitled "Torrance Council Politics, Polite -- and Private", and challenged certain statements contained therein.

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The efforts of this City Council to provide representation in a fair and equal manner under all circumstances were alluded to by Mr. Applegate, who concluded his remarks by saying: "The City Councilmembers here in the City of Torrance are accountable and responsible for their actions, and I think it is about time that the press is as well."

22c. Councilwoman Hardison deemed recent information received by Council from the Disaster Council to be interesting and very informative, and she requested that agendas, minutes, etc. of that entity continue to be provided to Councilmembers.

22d. Councilwoman Hardison noted receipt this date of a petition from residents bounded by Plaza Del Amo, Sepulveda and Cabrillo indicating concerns because one of the existing single-family homes has been purchased by a developer. Ms. Hardison requested that staff follow through and respond to these concerns.

22e. Councilman Mock requested a report from the City Attorney's office regarding Article 15 of the City Charter dealing with the 1948 deed to the Airport and the effect on funding matters.

22f. Councilman Nakano voiced his concerns pertaining to ultra light aircraft flights and the City's authority in that regard -- staff will follow through.

22g. Mayor Geissert requested an update on the Gage-Babcock report on safety aspects of the Mobil Oil refinery. Building and Safety Director Grippo indicated that a progress report is scheduled to be provided shortly.

23. EXECUTIVE SESSION:

23a. EXECUTIVE SESSION MATTERS:

One item was considered earlier by the Council in executive session - see Page 13.

At this time Mayor Geissert read the following statement into the record.

The City Council will now recess to closed session to confer with the City Manager and/or the City Attorney

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regarding salaries, salary schedules and compensation for certain unrepresented employees and represented employee groups as well as certain personnel matters. Authority for holding an executive session for this purpose is contained in Government Code Section 54957.6 (a) and 54957.

At 9:22 p.m., the Council recessed to executive session, returning at 11:08 p.m. for formal adjournment to Tuesday, September 27, 1988, 7:00 p.m.

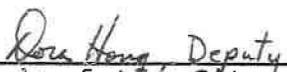
* * *

Adjournment was dedicated to the memory of
Ms. Annie McDonald.

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Mayor of the City of Torrance



Deputy
Clerk of the City of Torrance

Peggy Laverty
Minute Secretary

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