

December 3, 1996

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

**OPENING CEREMONIES**

The Torrance City Council convened in a regular meeting on Tuesday, December 3, 1996, at 5:36 P.M. to conduct a Workshop Session in the Council Chambers of Torrance City Hall.

**ROLL CALL**

Present: Council members Cribbs, Lee, Messerlian,  
Nakano, O'Donnell and Mayor Hardison.  
Absent: Council member Walker.  
Also Present: City Manager Jackson, City Attorney Fellows,  
City Clerk Herbers and Staff representatives.

At this time, Santa Claus entered the City Council meeting and wished everyone a merry Christmas and a happy New Year; and advised that Santa will be visiting all the neighborhoods in the community.

On behalf of the City Council, Mayor Hardison expressed appreciation of Santa's visit at this busy time of the year; and expressed gratitude and appreciation of the Torrance Police Officer's Association for its sponsorship of the Santa Float.

Salvation Army Captain Tollerud advised that the Salvation Army will be assisting over 600 families within the community during the holiday season with traditional Christmas dinners and toys for the children. Captain Tollerud thanked the City and its employees for its canned food donations and thanked the Finance Department as it prepares to solicit toy donations for needy children within the community and the Harbor Gateway area. Captain Tollerud noted appreciation of the community spirit – pointing out that over 3,000 toys have been raised at the Angel Tree, which is located at the Del Amo Fashion Center; and thanked the Boy Scouts for helping to raise over 10,000 canned goods for the holiday season. Captain Tollerud announced that the employees of the Marriott Hotel and the Honda Corporation will treat over 850 needy individuals to an elegant dinner at the Marriott Hotel on December 26, 1996.

Mr. Paul Myers, Executive Vice President of the Torrance Memorial Medical Center Health Care Foundation, encouraged everyone to attend the Festival of the Trees event, which is sponsored by the Las Amigas Guild of Torrance Memorial Medical Center; and thanked the Parks and Recreation and the Building and Planning Departments for its assistance with this event. Mr. Myers addressed the events which will take place at the Festival, which is scheduled for Thursday through Friday, December 5 through 8 at Wilson Park; and on behalf of the staff at Torrance Memorial Medical Center and its volunteers, Mr. Myers wished everyone a merry Christmas and happy New Year.

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Mr. John Zeigler, Torrance City employee, encouraged those to donate unwrapped toys for this year's Toys for Tots drive, which is being held at seven locations within the community; and wished everyone a happy holiday season. Per Mayor Hardison's inquiry, Mr. Zeigler stated that over 15,000 toys had been donated in this community to the Toys for Tots drive.

Mayor Hardison thanked this evening's speakers for their attendance and efforts in helping to kick off this year's holiday season in Torrance.

## **I. INTRODUCTION**

Mayor Hardison called upon Finance Director Tsao to begin this evening's Workshop presentation.

## **PART I**

### **STATUS REPORT: FISCAL YEAR 1995-1998 ACTION PLAN**

#### **I. THREE-YEAR FUNDING REVIEW**

Finance Director Tsao provided input concerning the 1995-1997 Action Plan, which allocates over \$35 million for various public works projects (streets, sewers, storm drains and water projects); and highlighted the funding of the three-year plan, which includes \$24.6 million for non-enterprise funding (gas tax funds, bond funds, infrastructure fund, and project de-certification).

#### **II. ENGINEERING PROJECTS**

Highlighting the basic classifications which had been determined for various Capital Improvement Program (CIP) projects, Engineering Director Burt provided a status report concerning the various CIP projects – explaining that following the completion of the first year of the program, approximately 10 percent of the projects have been completed, 49 percent of the projects are on schedule, 23 percent of the projects are late (six months or more off the originally proposed schedule), and that 18 percent of the projects have been deferred (mostly sewer projects). With the aid of slides, Engineering Director Burt addressed each of the completed CIP projects; noted various projects in progress and anticipated completion dates; and briefly commented on supplemental projects, upcoming projects and future overview projects.

#### **III. STREET PROJECTS**

Street Services Director Garcia supplied a brief status report with regard to the Department's CIP projects – stating that all of the proposed first-year projects have been completed and that the proposed second-year projects are 50-percent completed.

#### **IV. PLANNING PROJECTS**

Transportation Planner Buchman supplied a status report with respect to each of the Planning Department's completed CIP projects, projects in progress, supplemental projects and upcoming projects – noting that outside funding was received for the implementation of the Del Amo Business District Landscape project and the Improved Pedestrian Access at Transit Center project.

Principal Planner Bihn briefly addressed the possible funding potential to carry out various projects listed in the Department's Future Overview report (of record).

#### **V. QUESTIONS AND DISCUSSION**

Various City Council inquiries concerning the 1995-1998 Action Plan reports were fielded by cognizant Staff members.

Councilman Nakano pointed out that as a result of the passage of Proposition 218, an individual who is not a United States citizen but owns property in the United States will be able to vote on certain issues; and that conversely, a United States citizen who is a veteran and does not own property will not be able to vote on certain issues. Mayor Hardison concurred with Councilman Nakano's concerns.

City Manager Jackson explained that the implementation of all the CIP projects is coordinated so as not to cause major traffic congestion on the City's main thoroughfares.

Councilman Messerlian noted the necessity that the Council do what it can to keep the residents informed of what is happening within the City and informed of the progress and improvements which are being generated within the City.

Mayor Hardison concurred with Councilman Messerlian's comments; and expressed her pleasure with the ongoing progress and results of the aggressive Action Plan which had been adopted by the City Council -- highlighting the Council's commitment to the community. Mayor Hardison requested, and received, information from Staff regarding possible future plans to beautify and improve the median strips within the City.

Councilman Lee proudly pointed out that with the City Council's assistance in reallocating priorities within the City, implementation of the three-year Action Plan -- \$35 million funding (\$25 million in non-enterprise funds) -- has been accomplished without raising taxes or fees within the community.

Councilwoman O'Donnell commended Staff and all individuals for their hard work with the CIP projects; and noted the necessity of improving and updating the City's infrastructure.

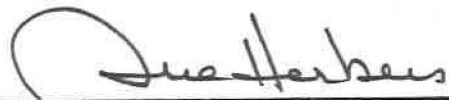
#### **VI. SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATION**

City Manager Jackson mentioned that Staff will continue to provide Council with presentations concerning specific Capital Improvements Program projects.

#### **VII. SHORT RECESS -- CONTINUATION OF REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING**

The Workshop was formally adjourned at 6:53 P.M.

  
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Mayor of the City of Torrance

  
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Clerk of the City of Torrance