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TORRANCE CITY COUNCIL - MAY 21, 1996

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**MINUTES OF AN ADJOURNED REGULAR
MEETING OF THE TORRANCE CITY COUNCIL**

OPENING CEREMONIES

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Torrance City Council convened in an adjourned regular meeting on Tuesday, May 21, 1996, at 7:20 P.M., in the Council Chambers of Torrance City Hall.

ROLL CALL

Present: Council members Cribbs, Lee
Messerlian, Nakano, O'Donnell,
and Mayor Hardison.
Absent: Councilman Walker.
Also present: City Manager Jackson,
Assistant City Attorney Quale,
Deputy City Clerk Robinson and
staff representatives.

2. FLAG SALUTE/INVOCATION

The Flag salute was led by Beach Cities Cadet Squadron Number 107.

Reverend Nancy Johnson, Cathedral of Life Church, led the invocation for the meeting.

3. MOTION RE POSTING OF AGENDA/FURTHER READING

MOTION: Councilman Lee moved to accept and file the report of the City Clerk on the posting of the agenda for this meeting. This motion was seconded by Councilwoman Cribbs and it was so ordered by Mayor Hardison [absent Councilman Walker.]

MOTION: Councilman Lee moved that after the City Clerk has read number and title to any resolution or ordinance on the agenda for this meeting, the further reading thereof be waived, reserving and guaranteeing to each

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Council member the right to demand the reading of any such resolution or ordinance in regular order. This motion was seconded by Councilwoman Cribbs and it was so ordered by Mayor Hardison [absent Councilman Walker.]

4. WITHDRAWN OR DEFERRED ITEMS

None.

5. COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Finance and Governmental Operations Committee
Cultural Arts Center Business Plan
Met this date.

Finance and Governmental Operations Committee
Visitors Bureau
May 30 - 4:00 P.M.
3rd Floor Assembly Room

6. COMMUNITY MATTERS

6a. PROCLAMATION proclaiming the weekend of May 24-27, 1996, as "Memorial Day Weekend" in the City of Torrance.

So proclaimed by Mayor Hardison and accepted with appreciation by Henry Buie, Dominic DiDado and Larry Fritzen - Members of Veteran's of Foreign Wars Post 1145, Torrance.

6b. PROCLAMATION proclaiming the week of May 19-25, 1996, as "National Public Works Week" in the City of Torrance.

So proclaimed by Mayor Hardison and accepted with appreciation by representatives of the Engineering, Street, Water and Park Services Departments.

6c. RECOGNITION OF ACADEMIC DECATHLON PARTICIPANTS

Mayor Hardison, on behalf of her City Council colleagues, recognized students and coaches from North, South, Torrance and West High Schools, honoring each with certificates of appreciation, for their participation in the 1996 Academic Decathlon.

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Councilman Nakano presented the Mayor with an award he had accepted on behalf of the City, presented by the South Coast Air Quality Management District to the City for its "Most Innovative Transportation Projects."

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7. CONSENT CALENDAR

7a. CONTRACT FOR MULTIMEDIA KIOSK SYSTEM

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended by the Carson/Lomita/Torrance Private Industry Council and the Personnel Manager that the City Council approve the execution of the agreement with TouchMedia Networks, Inc., to provide multimedia kiosk systems for an amount not to exceed \$175,000.

7b. EXTENSION OF SAFETY PERS FUNDING CONTRACTS

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended by the Finance Director and the City Manager that the City Council adopt the resolution [of record] to extend the Safety PERS funding contracts to the year 2011.

The Deputy City Clerk read number and title to ...

RESOLUTION NO. 96-40

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE REQUESTING THE CALIFORNIA PUBLIC EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM TO EXTEND THE FUNDING PERIOD FOR CURRENT SERVICE ACTUARIAL LIABILITIES FOR THE CITY OF TORRANCE POLICE AND FIRE

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7c. **RELEASE OF SUBDIVISION BONDS FOR TRACT 51883 [JCC HOMES]**

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended by the Engineering Director that the City Council approve the Release of Subdivision Bonds for Tract 51883, located at 1425 Engracia Avenue [JCC Homes.]

7d. **P.O. FOR NEW AND REPLACEMENT PERSONAL COMPUTERS**

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended by the General Services Director and the Information Systems Director that the City Council authorize a purchase order for an anticipated amount not to exceed \$50,000, plus a 10% contingency, for a total of \$55,000 for the purchase of new and replacement personal computers over a period of two months to Genesys ATE, Inc. of Sunnyvale, CA.

7e. **AMENDMENT TO JTPA EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING AGREEMENT**

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended by the Personnel Manager that the City Council approve the execution of the amendments to the JTPA agreement with the City of Los Angeles. This amendment includes a revision to the line item budget and adds a subsection allowing advance funding.

7f. **JTPA EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING AGREEMENTS**

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended by the Private Industry Council and the Personnel Manager that the City Council authorize the execution of agreements for Summer Youth Employment and Training Program services with Los Angeles Unified School District for \$205,330 and Southern California Regional Occupational Center for \$136,886.

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7g. **SUMMER YOUTH EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING PROGRAM [SYETP]
BUDGET**

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended by the Private Industry Council and the Personnel Manager that the City Council approve the 1996 SYETP operating budget and appropriate \$513,524 to the Personnel Department/Employment and Training Division budget for FY 1996-97. Of that amount, \$331,732 will be appropriated to the 1996 Summer Youth Program (IIB) and \$181,792 will be appropriated to the 1996-97 Year-Round Youth Program (IIC).

7h. **FUNDING FOR CLAIM JUMPER DISPUTE**

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended by the City Attorney that the City Council approve the expenditure of \$5,901 for the final payment on the City of Lomita case (Claim Jumper dispute) and increase the amount in the purchase order by \$5,368. The increase will be added to the \$533 remaining in the purchase order to make the final payment on the Rutan and Tucker contract.

7i. **ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE LAWSUIT**

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended by the City Attorney that the City Council approve the expenditure of \$562,000 for the continuing defense of the DOJ case and appropriate \$78,000 from the reserve for litigation.

MOTION: Councilman Nakano moved to concur with Consent Calendar Items 7a through 7i. Councilwoman Cribbs seconded the motion, which carried with unanimous approval following roll call vote [absent Councilman Walker.]

10. POLICE/FIRE MATTERS

10a. MOBIL OIL EARLY WARNING TASK FORCE REPORT

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended by the Blue Ribbon Mobil Oil Early Warning Task Force that the City Council receive and transmit the report [of record,] with its recommended combination of elements, to the Court Appointed Safety Advisor as official input from the City pursuant to the implementation process for the Mobil Oil Consent Decree.

Clarification was provided by Assistant to the City Manager Sunshine, after which it was moved by Councilman Messerlian to concur with the recommendation of the Blue Ribbon Mobil Oil Early Warning Task Force. Councilwoman Cribbs seconded the motion and it was so ordered without objection [absent Councilman Walker.]

Task Force members were recognized and presented with certificates of appreciation, as follows:

Fred Casstevens, Chairperson
Northwest Torrance Homeowners Association
Teresa Furey
Northwest Torrance Homeowners Association
Jim Cook
Toyota Motor Sales, USA, Inc.
Connie Eredia
Pueblo Homeowners Association
Irene Ordaz
Pueblo Homeowners Association
Marc Younis
Mobil Oil Corporation

Committee members unable to attend tonight's meeting included:

Daniel Angellar, Marriott Courtyard
Dick Ducar, Torrance Unified School District
Mary Grugal, Playhouse School
Darsi Meyer, Mobil Oil
Tamara Smith, Magruder Middle School

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13. **ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS**

13a. **PUBLIC HEARINGS - CITY MANAGER'S PROPOSED BUDGET**

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended by the City Manager that the City Council approve the dates of June 11 and June 25, 1996, to conduct the two public hearings on the proposed 1996-97 City budget.

MOTION: Councilman Lee moved to concur with the recommendation of the City Manager. Councilwoman Cribbs seconded the motion and roll call vote proved unanimously favorable [absent Councilman Walker.]

13b. **AB 2828 (SWEENEY): LOCAL GOVERNMENT FINANCE**

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended by the City Manager that the City Council adopt a position of support for AB 2828 (Sweeney); reduction to the Education Revenue Augmentation Fund (ERAF).

Staff material was summarized by Assistant to the City Manager Sunshine.

MOTION: Councilman Messerlian moved to concur with the recommendation of the City Manager. Councilman Lee seconded the motion and roll call vote proved unanimously favorable [absent Councilman Walker.]

13c. **DISTRIBUTION OF AB 702 FUNDS TO RETIREES**

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended by the City Manager that the City Council consider one of four options presented in order to distribute \$500,000 of AB 702 reserve to retirees of the City of Torrance.

This item was briefed by Assistant to the City Manager Keane, who presented Options 1 through 4 [of record] in dispersing \$500,000 of AB 702 reserve to retirees of the City. Additional clarification and expansion was provided by the City Manager.

Following lengthy consideration of the different options, Councilwoman Cribbs, echoed by Councilman Lee, expressed a preference for Option 4, modified by specifying retirees "from the City of Torrance." [See final action.]

Councilwoman O'Donnell indicated a preference for providing the surviving spouse 100% of the money intended for the employee [Option 4, modified]; see action below.

MOTION: Councilwoman Cribbs moved to adopt Option 4, modified as follows:

Option 4

Provide an equal allotment to all retirees *from the City of Torrance* * on the PERS list who retired 1986 or before and a one-half allotment to eligible spouses and dependents.

Councilman Lee seconded the motion. [This motion ultimately carried; see roll call below.]

SUBSTITUTE MOTION: Councilwoman O'Donnell moved to adopt Option 4, modifying it to give the surviving spouse 100% of the amount of money originally intended for the employee who retired from the City of Torrance. *This motion died for lack of a second.*

Roll call was now taken on the main motion and proved unanimously favorable [absent Councilman Walker.]

Staff agreed to return the resolution, appropriately modified, for Council adoption.

13d. **UPDATE ON PARKING RESTRICTIONS IN THE TORRANCE GARDENS VICINITY**

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended by the Planning Director and the City Manager that the City Council review the update, evaluation and possible options regarding the residential parking permit program in the Torrance Gardens area. The Planning Director and the City Manager further recommend that the City Council extend the existing temporary program with termination in 90 days, assuming that the number of

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citations issued and the number of complaints received regarding parking problems continue to decline over that period of time.

Staff presentation was provided by Transportation Planner Buchman who utilized overheads to illustrate the implementation and effects of the temporary parking restrictions implemented by the City Council in the Torrance Gardens area.

Ms. Buchman and Police Capt. Herren alternately responded to Council questions concerning the number of citations issued since implementation of the restrictions; method of parking enforcement in the area, including hours and related costs; recipients of citations; and criteria associated with imposing permanent parking restrictions.

Council members indicated early general agreement toward extending the existing program, perhaps by 6-9 months, with Council review to take place at that time. Members were also generally against imposing a parking fee on the residents. Interest was expressed in obtaining a more detailed breakdown of citations issued, including the final outcome of each.

Mayor Hardison requested that staff continue to study situations where industrial abuts residential to establish criteria for consideration in future planning cases.

Members of the audience were invited to address the Council and approached the Body as follows:

**Jack Perry, 815 Cerise Avenue
C. Dunkelberger, 804 Cerise Avenue
Melville Hardy, 820 Maple Avenue
Janet Bratlien, 1116 Eriel Avenue
Joel Komjathy, 808 Fonthill Avenue
Dennis Furman, 1020 Kornblum Avenue
Kathy Kelley, 1121 Felbar Avenue
Howard Hurley, 804 Patronella Avenue
David Nelson, 820 Cerise Avenue
Alfonso S. Del Castillo, 805 Cerise Avenue
Irene Hardy, 820 Maple Avenue
Erin Maersky, 1122 Kornblum Avenue**

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Residents in general praised the results of the temporary parking restrictions and favored continuing them, perhaps on a permanent basis [most were opposed to termination of the program at the end of the review period, as recommended.]

Other comments/concerns included complaints of big-rig trucks in the area; ongoing parking problems with area businesses; questions/concerns about the method of parking enforcement; need for special consideration for residents of Maple Avenue impacted by courthouse parking; limiting restrictions to only those areas where problems exist; and the creation of problems which previously did not exist in areas impacted by the restrictions.

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A recess was ordered by the Mayor at 9:30 P.M. Council reconvened at 9:50 P.M.

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Upon reconvening, Councilwoman O'Donnell offered the following motion:

MOTION: Councilwoman O'Donnell moved to continue the existing program for six months, with Council review to take place at that time. Councilman Messerlian seconded the motion. [This motion ultimately carried; see roll call vote below.]

Prior to roll call, Councilman Lee suggested that during the six-month period, consideration be given to excluding certain streets from the restricted area; Councilman Messerlian requested that bi-monthly histories of citations be provided to Council; and Mayor Hardison requested that exact areas of citations be identified and that staff investigate reported problems on Maple Avenue as well as reports of big-rig trucks in the neighborhood. She also requested that the method of parking enforcement be explored with respect to timeliness [staff concurred.]

Further discussion took place as to the type of signs to be used in the restricted area. City Manager Jackson suggested that at the end of the six-month period, the Council may wish to consider criteria for other situations in the community where residential areas are impacted by schools, post offices, businesses, etc. Council concurred.

Roll call was now taken on the above motion and proved unanimously favorable [absent Councilman Walker.]

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Transportation Planner Buchman affirmed that the City continues to maintain contact with Creative Computers, on Maricopa Street.

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At 10:00 P.M., the City Council recessed and reconvened as the Redevelopment Agency of the City of Torrance. The meeting of the Redevelopment Agency was adjourned at 10:02 P.M., and consideration of regular Council business was resumed.

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19. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

19a. Councilwoman Cribbs requested and received clarification from the City Manager regarding petitions received about the signal at Telo Avenue and Lomita Boulevard.

19b. Councilman Lee praised this year's successful Armed Forces Day parade and commended the *Daily Breeze* for its related story.

19c. Councilman Messerlian requested that staff pursue the removal of graffiti in restrooms at De Portola Park.

19d. Councilman Nakano applauded the modified Armed Forces Day parade, commending all staff members associated with its success and noted that a spirit of enthusiasm prevailed throughout the entire weekend.

19e. Councilwoman O'Donnell commended the Parade and all those associated with its success and raised concerns about traffic, lack of signage, parking on narrow streets and RV parking in the Downtown area, in response to calls she has received. Following a brief discussion, Council concurred to direct staff to prepare a related information item.

19f. Transportation Planner Buchman, in response to Councilman Messerlian, provided an update of plans to install a signal at Jefferson Street and Crenshaw Boulevard, noting that a report is forthcoming.

19g. Mayor Hardison praised the Armed Forces Day Parade, joining her colleagues in thanking *Police Captain Herren, Administrative Aide Patti Lanier* and other City staff members for their related efforts.

19h. Police Capt. Herren expressed his appreciation for the many compliments expressed by City Council members regarding the Parade and thanked all City staff members/departments associated with its success.

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19i. Mayor Hardison commented on her recent participation in a fundraiser for pediatric brain tumor research, held on May 19, 1996, sponsored by Honda.

19j. Ms. Shirley Turner, 23216 Juniper Avenue, representing Friends of the Madrona Marsh, discussed issues associated with a grant application which could benefit the Marsh and was advised to contact the Parks and Recreation Director to get the matter placed on the Council agenda.

20. **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

20a. **EXECUTIVE SESSION MATTERS**

Mayor Hardison read the following statement into the record:

The Council will now recess to closed session to confer with legal counsel and/or the City Manager on those agenda matters listed under Item 20.a.1, Conference with Labor Negotiator; 20.a.2, Conference with Legal Counsel - Existing Litigation; and 20.a.3, Conference with Legal Counsel - Pending Litigation.

Redevelopment Agency Executive Session

None.

Further detail is contained on the agenda cover. A closed session on these matters is authorized by California Government Code Sections 54957.6, 54956.9(a) and 54956.9(b)(3)(B).

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At 10:25 P.M., the City Council met in executive session, returning to Chambers at 10:55 P.M. No formal action was taken as a result of this executive session.

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21. **ADJOURNMENT**

At 10:55 P.M., this meeting of the City Council was formally adjourned to May 28, 1996, 5:30 P.M.

Valerie Whippie
Minute Secretary

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Dee Harrison
Mayor of the City of Torrance

Dee Harrison
Clerk of the City of Torrance