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TORRANCE CITY COUNCIL – JUNE 16, 2020

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At 11:56 p.m., the City Council adjourned to June 23, 2020, at 5:30 p.m. for closed session, with the regular meeting commencing at 7:00 p.m. via teleconference or other electronic means.

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

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Torrance City Council convened in a regular meeting on Tuesday, June 16, 2020 at 5:30 p.m. via teleconference.

ROLL CALL

Present: Councilmembers Ashcraft, Chen, Goodrich, Griffiths, Kalani, Mattucci, and Mayor Furey

Absent: None.

Present: City Manager Jackson, Assistant City Manager Chaparyan, City Attorney Sullivan, City Clerk Poirier and other staff representatives

Agenda Item 14 was considered out of order at this time.

14. CLOSED SESSION

The City Council immediately recessed to closed session to confer with the City Manager and the City Attorney on agenda matters listed under 14A) Conference With Labor Negotiator, 14B) Conference With Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation, 14C) Threat to Public Services of Facilities, and 14D) Real Property – Conference With Real Property Negotiator pursuant to California Government Code §54957.6, Government Code § 54956.9(d)(4), Government Code §54957, and Government Code §54956.8.

The City Council reconvened in public session at 7:00 p.m. No formal action was taken on any item considered in closed session.

2. FLAG SALUTE/ INVOCATION

The flag salute was led by Councilmember Goodrich.

The non-sectarian invocation was given by Councilmember Griffiths.

3. REPORT OF CITY CLERK ON POSTING OF THE AGENDA/ MOTION TO WAIVE FURTHER READING

City Clerk Poirier reported that the agenda was posted on the Public Notice Board at 3031 Torrance Boulevard and on the City's website on Thursday, June 11, 2020.

MOTION: Councilmember Chen moved that after the City Clerk has read aloud the number and title of any resolution or ordinance on the meeting agenda, the further reading thereof shall be waived, reserving and guaranteeing to each Councilmember the right to demand the reading of any such resolution or ordinance in regular order. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Griffiths and passed by 7-0 vote.

4. WITHDRAWN, DEFERRED OR SUPPLEMENTAL ITEMS

Item 8C was deferred. Supplemental material available for items 6A, 9A, 9E, 9G, and Oral Communications.

5. COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mayor Furey asked to adjourn the Council meeting in memory of Joel Omatsu, a maintenance worker in the Public Works Treescape Division, who passed away on May 17, 2020.

Chief Eve Berg provided an update regarding the investigation into the three incidents of hate speech in Torrance, stating the person responsible has been identified, the victims have been contacted, and the information has been submitted to the Prosecutor's office for consideration for filing.

Councilmember Goodrich reminded the public that the 2020 Census is still accepting submissions online, by mail, and by phone. To submit online visit 2020census.gov and announced this month is Camping Month and encouraged the public to experience nature at a campground or backyard and spend quality time with family.

Councilmember Griffiths, newly elected Secretary of the Los Angeles County West Vector Board of Trustees, shared a special virtual meeting was held on June 11 to discuss: district and status update; response to Coronavirus; West Nile virus update; updates on public education field operation and vector ecology programs. He reported in California there have been no human cases of West Nile virus so far this year. He shared LA West Vector is the only district in LA county that has been continually treating mosquitos during the lockdown.

Councilmember Griffiths announced Sunday June 28 at 6:00 p.m. Torrance Theatre Company will be presenting a virtual play called Shooting Star. Viewing information is available at torrancetheatrecompany.com.

6. COMMUNITY MATTERS

6A. APPOINT MEMBER TO FILL PLANNING COMMISSION VACANCY AND CONSIDER REAPPOINTMENT

Recommendation of the City Clerk that City Council review applications and appoint a member to fill the Planning Commission vacancy from a list of qualified applicants and consider reappointment of current commissioner.

City Clerk Poirier reviewed the staff recommendation, stating Public Order 2020-4 suspended all public and closed hearings due to the pandemic and commission meetings were cancelled. On June 2, 2020 Council amended Public Order 2020-4 with Public Order 2020-10, reinstating public and closed hearings and allowing Planning Commission to resume meetings, which will be held via teleconference or other electronic means. City Clerk Poirier reviewed the application process and requirements for the applicants.

Qualified applicants were introduced and briefly addressed the Council via telephone. The following applicants spoke: Jonathan Kaji, Mario Obejas, Elizabeth Pino, Ron Riggs, Robert Rudolph, Hana Sasaki, Earl Ung, and Tony Yeh.

Mayor Furey invited nominations from the Council.

Mayor Furey nominated Robert Rudolph; Councilmember Goodrich nominated Elizabeth Pino; Councilmember Griffiths nominated Mario Obejas; Councilmember Chen nominated Jonathan Kaji; Councilmember Mattucci nominated Ron Riggs; Councilmember Kalani nominated Hana Sasaki.

A vote was taken; Councilmember Ashcraft voted for Mario Obejas and Elizabeth Pino; Councilmember Chen voted for Jonathan Kaji and Ron Riggs; Councilmember Goodrich voted for Robert Rudolph and Elizabeth Pino; Councilmember Griffiths voted for Mario Obejas and Robert Rudolph; Councilmember Kalani voted for Jonathan Kaji and Ron Riggs; Councilmember Mattucci voted for Jonathan Kaji and Ron Riggs; Mayor Furey voted for Elizabeth Pino and Robert Rudolph.

Due to a four-way tie, a second vote was taken; Councilmember Chen voted for Jonathan Kaji and Ron Riggs; Councilmember Goodrich voted for Robert Rudolph and Elizabeth Pino; Councilmember Griffiths voted for Robert Rudolph and Elizabeth Pino; Councilmember Kalani voted for Jonathan Kaji and Ron Riggs; Councilmember Mattucci voted for Jonathan Kaji and Ron Riggs; Mayor Furey voted for Elizabeth Pino and Robert Rudolph; Councilmember Ashcraft voted for Elizabeth Pino and Robert Rudolph.

City Clerk Poirier announced the two appointees to be Robert Rudolph and Elizabeth Pino with the terms beginning July 1.

Agenda Items 9H and 9I were considered out of order at this time.

9H. SELECT AND APPOINT CHAIRS AND MEMBERS TO CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEES

Recommendation of the City Manager that City Council select chairs and committee members to Standing Committees in accordance with Council Rules of Order and that the Mayor appoints:

- 1) Special Standing Committees Chairs and Members; and
- 2) City Council Liaisons; and
- 3) Ad Hoc Committees.

Standing Committees – The following appointments were made by the City Council based on seniority:

Standing Committee	Chair	Members (2)
Citizen Development and Enrichment	Mike Griffiths	Sharon Kalani Aurelio Mattucci
Community Planning and Design	Heidi Ann Ashcraft	Mike Griffiths Tim Goodrich
Employee Relations and Public Safety	Sharon Kalani	Heidi Ann Ashcraft George Chen
Finance and Governmental Operations	Tim Goodrich	Mike Griffiths George Chen
Strategic Plan	George Chen	Aurelio Mattucci Sharon Kalani
Transportation	Aurelio Mattucci	Tim Goodrich Heidi Ann Ashcraft

Mayor Furey made the following appointments:

Standing Committee	Chair	Members
Armed Forces Day	Heidi Ann Ashcraft	George Chen Sharon Kalani
Federal Legislative Advocacy	Mayor Patrick Furey	Mike Griffiths Heidi Ann Ashcraft George Chen (Alt)
State Legislative Advocacy	Mayor Patrick Furey	Tim Goodrich George Chen Mike Griffiths(Alt)

City Council Liaisons

Mayor Furey made the following appointment:

Organization	Liaison	Alternate
Sister City Association	Mike Griffiths	Aurelio Mattucci

9I. APPOINT MEMBERS TO OUTSIDE REGIONAL BOARDS AND AGENCIES

Recommendation of the Mayor that City Council:

- 1) Concur with the appointments to the National League of Cities; the League of CA Cities; the Sanitation Districts of LA County, the Southern California Association of Governments; West Vector Control District of LA County; and
- 2) Direct City Clerk to update and post Form 806 on the City's website.

Mayor Furey reviewed his appointments as follows:

Regional Board/Agency	Voting Delegate	Alternate
League of California Cities – LA County	Tim Goodrich	Aurelio Mattucci
National League of Cities	Mayor Patrick Furey	Mayor Pro Tem
Southern California Association of Governments	Mayor Patrick Furey	Mike Griffiths
South Bay Cities Council of Governments	George Chen	Mayor Patrick Furey
Sanitation Districts of LA County	Mayor Patrick Furey	Heidi Ann Ashcraft
West Vector Control District of LA County	Mike Griffiths	None

MOTION: Councilmember Chen moved to concur with the recommendations of the Mayor. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Goodrich and passed by 7-0 vote.

8. CONSENT CALENDAR

8A. APPROVE CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

Recommendation of the City Clerk that City Council approve the City Council minutes of April 21, 2020 and May 5, 2020.

8B. APPROVE FIFTH AMENDMENT TO CONCESSION AGREEMENT

Considered separately, see below.

8C. APPROVE AMENDMENTS TO CONSULTING SERVICES AGREEMENTS TO PROVIDE MEDICAL SERVICES

Recommendation of the City Manager that City Council:

- 1) Approve a third amendment to the consulting services agreement with Concentra Health Services, Inc. of Torrance, CA (C2017-053) for an amount not-to-exceed \$62,725, for a new not-to-exceed four-year total of \$243,400, and extend the term one additional year to June 30, 2021; and
- 2) Approve a first amendment to the consulting services agreement with Providence Medical Institute of Torrance, CA (C2017-054) to extend the term one additional year to June 30, 2021.

Item 8C was deferred.

Consent Calendar Item 8B was considered separately at this time.

8B. APPROVE FIFTH AMENDMENT TO CONCESSION AGREEMENT

Recommendation of the Community Services Director that City Council:

- 1) Adopt a Categorical Exemption under California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guideline Section 15301 (existing facilities); and
- 2) Approve a fifth amendment to the concession agreement with South Bay Tennis Center of Torrance, CA (C2008-243) for the lease and full operation of the Las Canchas Tennis Facility, 25924 Rolling Hills Road, and extend the term of the agreement for two years through December 31, 2021.

Councilmember Griffiths commented the lease expired six months ago and he expressed hopes for the City to better keep track of important leases so they are renewed promptly.

MOTION: Councilmember Griffiths moved to approve Consent Calendar Items 8A and 8B. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Chen and passed by 7-0 vote for Item 8B and 6-0 for Item 8A, with Councilmember Ashcraft abstaining.

9. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

9A. ADOPT PROPOSED REVISIONS TO FISCAL YEAR 2020-21 OPERATING BUDGET AND ADOPT RESOLUTIONS APPROVING ANNUAL APPROPRIATIONS

Recommendation of the City Manager and Finance Director that City Council:

- 1) Adopt the proposed revisions to fiscal year 2020-21 of the previously adopted 2019-21 two-year Operating Budget; and
- 2) Adopt Resolutions approving the annual appropriations for fiscal year 2020-21 of the two-year 2019-21 Operating Budget and the 2nd year (fiscal year 2020-21) of the five year 2019-2024 Capital Budget Plan.

City Manager Jackson provided a brief overview of the item, noting the change in projected revenue due to the virus and the revisions presented to Council to re-balance the 2020-2021 operating budget. Proposed revisions include a phased approach, budget mitigations, pension obligation bonds, franchise fees, recreation fees, and department reductions. He shared the temporary deferment of formal action on submission from Fire and Police. The City will continue to freeze vacancies but will not eliminate crossing guards, animal control, in-car or body worn cameras, coyote management, TOCA, the Armed Forces Day Parade or the Rose Float. He stated staff will return to Council with additional updates.

With the aid of slides, Finance Director Eric Tsao shared the projected shortfall into the next fiscal year and the first phase of mitigations: pension obligation bonds, franchise fees, waste hauler fees, recreation fees, and department reductions. He provided an overview of the phases and their timelines, the follow-up items requested by Council, and items recommended by the City Manager that will return for approval and first quarter review.

Councilmember Ashcraft requested a consensus to send the airport landing fees discussion to the Airport Commission.

In response to a question from Councilmember Chen, City Manager Jackson shared recommendations have been made regarding the library.

Councilmember Griffiths stated burying the IT functions under another department is a step backwards and reiterated his thoughts that IT should be a lead department, sharing his opposition to CIT going under Finance, as CIT does more than support financial applications. His preference would be to keep CIT a standalone department, with his second choice to keep the division whole under General Services, with CIT's basic infrastructure treated as a commodity that serves all departments.

Councilmember Chen concurred with Councilmember Griffiths' preference to keep IT a standalone department, with special regard for proactive cyber security mitigation as it is a critical area for risk. He elaborated that expertise is needed to get ahead of reverse phishing and prevent future cyber-attacks. He asked staff to look into moving IT under General Services short-term.

Mayor Furey echoed the sentiments of Councilmember Griffiths and Councilmember Chen that information technology is an emerging city function, with a hand in every department and safety and security is of paramount importance.

City Manager Jackson explained this suggestion can be worked on and brought back at a later date. Staff will look into how to adjust the offset of savings shown by reorganization and whether a freestanding IT department can remain, and whether some aspects will be moved to General Services, or whether to return with a recommendation that IT go under General Services or under Finance. Having received input, he explained the City is in the early stages of its reorganization study and will have to return to Council to consider options and alternatives.

Councilmember Ashcraft agreed that CIT should go under General Services, but asked if there would be a cost increase for doing so.

City Manager Jackson replied the suggested savings would remain the same as the overall department head position is being modified, with the development of a division head.

Members of the public spoke.

City Manager Jackson confirmed for Councilmember Ashcraft that non-resident recreation fees will come back to Council as part of the first quarter budget review.

Responding to questions from Councilmember Kalani, City Manager Jackson elaborated addressing public safety reductions at the first quarter will allow Fire and Police to go through full review and evaluation how best to reduce and modify their departments. Changes made at the first quarter would extend through the next three-quarters of the year.

MOTION: Councilmember Griffiths moved to concur with staff recommendation of the City Manager along with the other recommendations that were discussed. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Ashcraft and passed by 7-0 vote.

MOTION: Councilmember Griffiths moved to Resolution No. 2020-50. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Ashcraft and passed by 7-0 vote.

MOTION: Councilmember Griffiths moved to Resolution No. 2020-51. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Ashcraft and passed by 7-0 vote.

9B. DISCUSS AND DETERMINE CITY COUNCIL DARK NIGHTS

Recommendation of the City Manager that City Council declare the following Tuesdays as City Council Dark Nights from July 1 through December 31, 2020: August 4, September 8, September 29, November 3, November 24, and December 29.

Management Aide Connor Shortland reviewed the staff recommendation.

Councilmember Goodrich recommended including December 22 as an additional dark night due to the slow time near the holidays.

Councilmember Griffiths noted November 17 is the day before the National League of Cities Conference in Tampa. With most of Council in attendance, he suggested bringing that date back for consideration in the future if the event is held.

A member of the public spoke.

MOTION: Councilmember Chen moved to concur with the staff recommendation with the addition of December 22 and to come back for a determination on November 17. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Griffiths and passed by 7-0 vote.

9C. RESOLUTION RE LOCAL EARLY ACTION PLANNING GRANT PROGRAM

Recommendation of the Community Development Director that City Council adopt a Resolution to apply for the California Local Early Action Planning (LEAP) Grant Program to update planning documents and processes that streamline housing approvals and accelerate housing production.

Planning Manager Gregg Lodan reviewed the staff recommendation and stated the funding would be utilized for the upcoming General Plan Housing Element update.

MOTION: Councilmember Chen moved to concur with staff recommendation and adopt Resolution No. 2020-52. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Goodrich and passed by 7-0 vote.

City Council recessed at 9:07 p.m. and reconvened at 9:18 p.m.

9D. ORDINANCE RE OVERSIZED VEHICLES AND TRAILERS PARKING IN CITY-OWNED PUBLIC PARKING LOTS AND RESOLUTION RE BAIL SCHEDULE FOR MISDEMEANORS, INFRACTIONS, AND PARKING PENALTIES

Recommendation of the Community Services Director and Community Development Director that City Council:

- 1) Adopt an Ordinance prohibiting the parking of oversized vehicles and trailers in park parking lots, Airport, City-owned public parking lots, and the Civic Center; and
- 2) Adopt a Resolution repealing Resolution No. 2019-94 and adopt a restated recommended Torrance Municipal Code Bail Schedule for Misdemeanors and Infractions; and
- 3) Adopt a Resolution repealing Resolution No. 2016-33 and adopt a restated recommended Torrance Municipal Code Bail Schedule for Parking Penalties Assessed for Parking Violations within the City of Torrance; and
- 4) Approve an Ordinance Summary for Publication.

Community Services Director John Jones reviewed the staff recommendation.

Councilmember Mattucci requested clarification regarding the business license fee portion of the bail schedule.

City Attorney Sullivan explained the court uses the bail schedule so if a person receives a citation for operating without a business license, the court will require proof that the person has gotten a business license in order to take care of the citation.

In response to a follow-up question from Councilmember Mattucci, City Attorney Sullivan confirmed this is the first ordinance for oversized vehicle and trailer parking on City property. He elaborated on the parking enforcement currently in place.

Councilmember Ashcraft requested clarification about where the definition of an oversized vehicle could be found and City Attorney Sullivan stated it could be found in a different code section.

Responding to a question from Councilmember Griffiths regarding oversized vehicle parking in large private lots, City Attorney Sullivan explained private property owners can post their own signage, but the City cannot regulate a privately owned lot. He explained the City can only get involved with regards to sewage if it reaches the gutter or storm drain. He specified the mall adopted certain sections of the vehicle code to allow speed limit enforcement on their streets, but reiterated private parking lots are regulated by the land owners through towing and signage use.

Councilmember Griffiths asked about the definition of a City-owned parking lot, using Lowe's as an example since it is on City-owned land and he inquired about the Meadow Park parking lot next to the airport as it wasn't listed in the staff report.

Community Services Director Jones stated the areas at the end of the airport that are City-owned properties would qualify as prohibiting oversized vehicle parking.

Councilmember Griffiths asked about the large shopping centers around the airport like Torrance Towne Center and Rolling Hills Plaza, and how this ordinance will affect those parking lots since they're on City-owned land.

City Attorney Sullivan stated these properties have been ground leased to private parties so they have control over the property and the parking lots wouldn't be considered City-owned in the sense that the parking lots are controlled by a private entity

Community Development Director Danny Santana confirmed for Councilmember Griffiths the Meadow Park parking lot included in this ordinance and is outlined in red in the staff report, which was inadvertently printed in black and white.

Mayor Furey stated the City waived the parking lots over to lease holders and they have control over whether to have signage to prohibit oversized vehicle parking.

Councilmember Griffiths requested the addition of a bail amount line item for violations for no parking for street sweeping instead of the current catchall of \$43 within 21 days and \$78 in excess of 21 days for violations that do not have a specific bail schedule. He proposed a provision specifically at the fee of \$25 within 21 days and \$60 in excess of 21 days to de-incentivize the enforcement of ticketing for street sweeping violations as he would like to see enforcement efforts for more damaging types of parking offenses. He stated there can be increased enforcement for problem areas or streets where cars do not move for street sweeping.

Responding to a question from Councilmember Goodrich, City Attorney Sullivan approximated that discussions regarding street sweeping began around 2012.

Councilmember Goodrich stated his opposition to any changes to street sweeping, acknowledging the length of time the topic has been discussed.

Councilmember Mattucci agreed with Councilmember Griffiths, sharing his belief the fines for street sweeping are excessive and should be revised to \$25.

Members of the public spoke.

MOTION: Councilmember Griffiths moved to concur with staff recommendation on items 1-4 as well as the inclusion of a bail item for no parking for street sweeping. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Mattucci and failed 5-2, with Councilmember Griffiths and Councilmember Mattucci voting yes.

MOTION: Councilmember Goodrich moved to accept the recommendation of the Community Development Director and the Community Services Director, adopt Ordinance No. 3871 and Resolution Nos. 2020-53 and 2020-54, and approve the ordinance summary for publication. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Kalani and passed by 7-0 vote.

9E. OUTDOOR DINING PILOT PROGRAM FOR DOWNTOWN TORRANCE

Recommendation of the Community Development Director that City Council:

- 1) Adopt a Categorical Exemption under California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guideline Section 15304 (minor alterations to land); and
- 2) Authorize an Outdoor Dining Pilot Program for an amount not-to-exceed \$20,000 to assess the viability of the program to assist businesses in the Downtown area.

Planning Manager Gregg Lodan reviewed the staff recommendation and provided an overview of the parking lot event permits to allow for outdoor dining and the options for business that do not have parking lots to create al fresco dining space either on the sidewalk or a closed street. With the aid of slides, he outlined the proposed pedestrian zone that will extend along Sartori Avenue from Post to Marcelina and along El Prado from the plaza area to the alley west of Sartori. He elaborated on the placement of concrete barriers and movable barriers and the proposed flow of traffic. The proposed pilot program would run from July to September on the weekends.

Councilmember Mattucci asked if the Downtown Revitalization consultant was involved in this project.

Planning Manager Lodan replied the pilot program was shared with the consultant, but they aren't directly involved.

Councilmember Mattucci stated pedestrian areas only work when there is available parking close by and removing this many parking spaces in an area that doesn't have much parking to begin with might create a problem for nearby residential neighborhoods. He would like to explore keeping the professional consultant involved for a long-term plan and stated his preference for dining in parking spaces rather than the street to not affect traffic flow.

Councilmember Ashcraft voiced her support for the program and asked if permits are required for outdoor heaters.

Community Development Director Santana responded that incidentals such as heating, lighting, and communal speakers have been discussed and will be determined if the City will provide these as a whole or look to confined areas for individual restaurant operations. Staff can assess based on July's weather what needs evolve for the months of August and September.

In response to a question from Councilmember Kalani regarding a directory of businesses, Planning Manager Lodan stated there is an existing downtown directory and staff is looking into additional marketing for all businesses in the pedestrian zone.

Councilmember Goodrich thanked staff for this idea looks forward to more out-of-the-box thinking to make Old Torrance more attractive.

Councilmember Griffiths stated the Downtown Business Association has developed a map for the downtown businesses that are handed out at various events and asked for heavy involvement from the Downtown Business Association. He expressed his concern that there are more non-restaurant businesses in the pedestrian zone than restaurants and noted the significant loss of parking. He asked if alcohol would be served in the outdoor area.

Planning Manager Lodan stated the Alcoholic Beverage Control has relaxed their service requirements for restaurants and are allowing outdoor service on patios. Community Development would incorporate conditions that individual restaurants would be required to comply with any ABC requirements.

Responding to a question from Councilmember Griffiths about emergency vehicles and the proposed barriers, Community Development Director Santana explained staff is looking into identifying a formal seating plan and layout of tables and events that will be run by public safety to ensure emergency vehicles can properly circulate the area.

Councilmember Griffiths voice his support for the program.

Councilmember Chen noted the project appeared to favor restaurants, touching on the involvement of Economic Development. He inquired if the City will expand its services to other strip malls with restaurants outside the downtown area in the future based on the outcome of this pilot program.

Mayor Furey explained restaurants citywide have been offered similar services to help take care of the application process for curbside dining or parking lot dining. He furthered the program will only take place on the weekend and encouraged staff to look into working with businesses that are closed for the weekend but have parking lots to take advantage of.

Councilmember Griffiths asked how the Redcar parking lot will be blocked to prevent cars from traversing from the alley through the parking lot onto Sartori.

Planning Manager Lodan explained staff is in discussion with the owners of Redcar to determine the best way to control that point of access and there will be bollards in the alley. Responding to a follow-up question, he stated Redcar may be looking at alternate uses for the parking lot and the extent of parking that will occur in that particular lot is still unclear.

Community Development Director Santana elaborated that tonight's presentation to Council is to show the maximum footprint of the event. He noted the second half of the recommendation is to authorize the City Manager to allow staff to adjust the footprint in order to identify parking if additional leases cannot be secured. He stated Redcar's lot may provide quite a bit of supplemental parking in order to help facilitate the event and the northern barrier may need to be pushed in order to accommodate additional parking in the lease negotiations for supplemental parking.

Councilmember Goodrich asked if the program will be considered in the future if the pilot program is unsuccessful due to the extenuating circumstances surrounding the virus.

Community Development Director Santana explained staff intends to have the Downtown Revitalization consultant participate on a number of occasions while the street closure is in place so they can assess what works and what can work better and have those components incorporated into the eventual revitalization plan that will come before Council in the future.

Members of the public spoke.

MOTION: Councilmember Goodrich moved to approve the recommendation of the Community Development Director. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Kalani and passed by 7-0 vote.

9F. CONTRACT AMENDMENT RE GRAFFITI REMOVAL SERVICES AND BUS STOP MAINTENANCE

Recommendation of the General Services Director and Transit Director that City Council:

- 1) Approve third amendment to the contract services agreement with Graffiti Protective Coatings, Inc. of Los Angeles, CA (C2017-120) in the amount of \$283,280, including a one-time \$100,000 discount, for a new not-to-exceed amount of \$1,305,360 to provide graffiti removal services for the City of Torrance and extend the contract term for one (1) additional year to June 30, 2021; and
- 2) Approve third amendment to the contract services agreement with Graffiti Protective Coatings, Inc. of Los Angeles, CA (C2017-121) in the amount of \$94,640, for a new not-to-exceed amount of \$347,013.33, to provide bus stop maintenance for the City of Torrance and extend the contract term for one (1) additional year to June 30, 2021

Senior Business Manager Nina Schroeder reviewed the staff recommendation, noting the vendor is offering a one-time discount due to the financial hardship created by the COVID-19 crisis.

Councilmember Griffiths thanked the vendor for their services and asked if the discount has been taken into budget consideration.

Assistant City Manager Chaparyan responded the one-time credit has already been taken.

Senior Business Manager Schroeder stated the discount is coming from Graffiti Protective Coating's operating budget.

Responding to a follow-up question from Councilmember Griffiths, Senior Business Manager Schroeder clarified the bus stop maintenance services are trash and graffiti removal and the vendor does not engage with the homeless. Any complaints regarding homeless issues would be forwarded to the Police Department.

Transit Director Kim Turner elaborated supervisors or security officers are notified of homeless individuals at a bus stop and staff is generally assisted by law enforcement.

Responding to a question from Councilmember Griffiths regarding replacing deteriorating bus bench decals, Transit Director Turner explained there is a dedicated staff member who handles the repair and replacement of damaged benches.

Councilmember Mattucci asked if seats get power washed and disinfected in addition to wiped down. He noted a lot of bus stops are in dark areas and asked about adding lighting.

Transit Director Turner stated Transit is in the process of undergoing a solar pole project to place lighting throughout the city to take care of dark areas. She shared Graffiti Protective Coatings pressure washes bus stops on a weekly schedule and staff takes care of any intermittent cleaning should the need arise.

Mayor Furey reminded the public that graffiti removal is available through the myTorranceCa app and explained the process for requesting removal.

Members of the public spoke.

MOTION: Councilmember Griffiths moved to concur with the staff recommendation. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Mattucci and passed by 7-0 vote.

9G. COVID-19 RECOVERY UPDATE AND OPTIONS FOR RESPONDING TO ORDERS FROM LOS ANGELES COUNTY AND THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Recommendation of the City Manager that City Council:

- 1) Receive COVID-19 recovery update; and
- 2) Discuss and consider taking whatever action deemed appropriate for responding to Orders from the County of Los Angeles and the State of California regarding COVID-19.

City Manager Jackson provided an update on the COVID-19 recovery efforts. In the past week, the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health modified the Safer At Home Order effective Friday, June 12 to allow for the reopening of additional sectors and help move LA County into Phase III of the Resilience Roadmap. The modified health order allowed the following sectors to reopen with required protocols: gyms and fitness facilities; pro league arenas without live audiences; museums, galleries, zoos, and aquariums; campgrounds, RV parks, and outdoor recreation; music, film, and TV production; hotels for leisure travel. Additional reopenings expected on June 19 include nail stations, tattoo shops, and massage parlors. Community Development has utilized the parking lot event permit to leverage an existing review process to facilitate restaurants and breweries to expand into their private parking areas to add additional seating, with the fee paid for by the Economic Development Office.

Councilmember Griffiths inquired about allowing low-contact youth sports practices to reconvene with supervision.

Community Services Director Jones explained his office is in constant connection with LA County Parks and Recreation Department, who are involved with the LA County Health Department to define guidelines and directives for the near future. The challenge for youth sports falls under the focus area of mass gatherings and shared equipment. He clarified the County needs clearance from the State and confirmed LA County is more restrictive than other counties.

Members of the public spoke.

At the request of a caller, Community Services Director Jones explained staff has been working on a plan to reopen the Plunge on a limited basis with a focus on lap swimming by appointment.

Responding to a question from Councilmember Griffiths regarding traffic signals and red light frequency for reduced traffic, Public Works Director Craig Bilezerian explained his department has been monitoring traffic and has activated the pedestrian phase for every signal phase at 10 intersections. He shared he will confirm with Caltrans what signals along Hawthorne and Pacific Coast Highway were self-actuated and what their plans are.

MOTION: Councilmember Griffiths moved to accept and file. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Chen and passed by 7-0 vote.

9H. SELECT AND APPOINT CHAIRS AND MEMBERS TO CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEES

Considered out of order, see pages 3-4.

9I. APPOINT MEMBERS TO OUTSIDE REGIONAL BOARDS AND AGENCIES

Considered out of order, see page 4.

- 10. **HEARINGS** – None Scheduled
- 11. **AGENCY AGENDAS** – None scheduled
- 12. **SECOND READING ORDINANCES** – None scheduled

13. **ORAL COMMUNICATIONS**

Members of the public spoke.

Councilmember Griffiths, Councilmember Kalani, Councilmember Mattucci, Councilmember Ashcraft, Councilmember Chen, and Mayor Furey spoke.

City Manager Jackson spoke.

14. **CLOSED SESSION**

Considered out of order, see page 1.

15. **ADJOURNMENT**

At 11:56 p.m., the City Council adjourned to June 23, 2020, at 5:30 p.m. for closed session, with the regular meeting commencing at 7:00 p.m. In compliance with Governor Newsom’s Executive Order N-29-20, which suspended portions of the Brown Act, members of the Torrance City Council and staff will participate in this meeting via teleconference and other electronic means in our continuing effort to practice social distancing to reduce the spread of COVID-19. Members of the public are encouraged to watch the meeting via CitiCABLE Channel 3 (Spectrum) and Channel 31 (Frontier), Over-the-air on 25.2, streaming on TorranceCA.Gov, Facebook @ City of Torrance CA Government, and YouTube Channel TorranceCitiCABLE.

MOTION: Councilmember Goodrich moved to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Chen and passed by 7-0 vote.

Attest:



Rebecca Poirier
City Clerk of the City of Torrance

Mayor of the City of Torrance



Approved on July 7, 2020