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Direct questions or concerns to the Commission Liaison at (310) 618-5930 or individual department head prior to submission to the Commission. Parties will be notified if the complaint will be included on a subsequent agenda.

**TORRANCE ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY AND ENERGY CONSERVATION
REVISED COMMISSION AGENDA
AUGUST 5, 2021
ADJOURNED MEETING
7:00 P.M. IN WEST ANNEX COMMISSION MEETING ROOM CITY HALL
3031 TORRANCE BOULEVARD
TORRANCE, CA 90503**

**ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY AND ENERGY CONSERVATION COMMISSION MAY
TAKE ACTION ON ANY ITEM LISTED ON THE AGENDA**

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

2. FLAG SALUTE:

3. REPORT OF STAFF ON THE POSTING OF THE AGENDA

The agenda was posted on the Public Notice Board at 3031 Torrance Bl. and on the City's Website on Thursday, July 29, 2021

4. ANNOUNCEMENT OF WITHDRAWN, DEFERRED, AND/OR SUPPLEMENTAL ITEMS

5. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS (Limited to a 30 minute period)

*This portion of the meeting is reserved for comment on items not on the agenda. Under the Ralph M. Brown Act, City Council cannot act on items raised during public comment, but may respond briefly to statements made or questions posed; request clarification; or refer the item to staff. **Speakers under Orals are limited to either Oral Communications #1 or Oral Communication #2 and no longer than 3 minutes per speaker.** Speakers please turn off or leave your cellular phone when you come to the podium to speak. If presenting handout material to Council, please provide 10 copies to the City Clerk before speaking.*

6. CONSENT CALENDAR

Matters listed under the Consent Calendar are considered routine and will be enacted by one motion and one vote. There will be no separate discussion of these items. If discussion is desired, that item will be removed by a Commissioner from the Consent Calendar and considered separately.

6A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: JUNE 3, 2021

7. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

7A. PRESENTATION:

TORRANCE SMOKE-FREE MULTI UNIT HOUSING CAMPAIGN

8. PUBLIC HEARINGS – NONE SCHEDULED

9. COMMISSION ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

10. ADJOURNMENT

10A. Adjournment of Torrance Environmental Quality and Energy Conservation Commission Meeting, tentatively, to Thursday, September 2, 2021, at 7:00 p.m.

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF
THE ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY AND
ENERGY CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Torrance Environmental Quality and Energy Conservation Commission convened in a regular session at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, June 3, 2021 via teleconference or other electronic means.

ROLL CALL:

Present: Commissioners Deemer, DeWitt, Endo-Roberts, Martin, Montgomery, Stecker, and Chairperson Wright.

Absent: None.

Also Present: Deputy Community Development Director Cessna and Environmental Quality Officer Colclasure.

2. SALUTE TO THE FLAG

Commissioner Deemer led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. REPORT OF STAFF ON THE POSTING OF THE AGENDA

Deputy Community Development Director Cessna reported the agenda for this meeting was posted on the Public Notice Board and the City's Website on May 27, 2021.

4. ANNOUNCEMENT OF WITHDRAWN, DEFERRED, AND/OR SUPPLEMENTAL ITEMS – None.

5. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS – None.

6. CONSENT CALENDAR

6A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: MAY 6, 2021

MOTION: Commissioner Martin moved to approve the Commission meeting minutes of May 6, 2021 as presented. Commissioner Stecker seconded the motion; a roll call vote reflected unanimous approval.

7. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

7A. ENVIRONMENTAL RECOGNITION PROGRAM - CONSIDER IMPLEMENTATION OF A PROGRAM TO RECOGNIZE GREEN OR ENVIRONMENTAL INITIATIVES IN THE COMMUNITY ON A MORE REGULAR BASIS

Recommendation of the Community Development Director to implement Green Pride Awards (GPAs) to recognize residents, businesses, schools, and other organizations for their commitment to excellence in outstanding environmental achievements.

With the aid of photographs, Environmental Quality Officer Colclasure presented examples of the proposed categories for the new environmental recognition program:

1. Green Isn't Greener – residential landscape improvements with water wise, drought tolerant plants;
2. Sustainability – commercial and residential property improvements;
3. Residential Compliance – residential property that was in violation of property maintenance issues and has substantially improved;
4. Commercial Landscape Improvement/Property Beautification; and
5. Environmental Hero – youth and adults not affiliated with a business who have gone above and beyond to improve the environmental quality of life in Torrance.

Deputy Community Development Director Cessna requested input and discussion regarding implementation of the updated program.

A general discussion centered on the proposed categories and Commissioners offered their suggestions for criteria and additions.

Deputy Community Development Director Cessna stated she would bring the item back at the next Commission meeting with amendments based on suggestions offered this evening, information from programs in other cities, and alignment of categories with the Climate Action Plan and Stewardship of the Environment.

8. **PUBLIC HEARINGS** – None scheduled.

9. **COMMISSION ORAL COMMUNICATIONS**

Members of the Commission spoke.

It was decided that the Commission would go dark the month of July 2021.

10. **ADJOURNMENT**

MOTION: At 8:34 p.m. Commissioner Stecker moved to adjourn tonight's meeting to August 5, 2021. Commissioner Endo-Roberts seconded the motion; a roll call vote reflected unanimous approval.

###

City of Torrance

Smoke-Free Multi-Unit
Housing (MUH) Campaign

Torrance Environmental
Commission

Robert F. Kennedy Institute
of Community & Family
Medicine

August 5, 2021



Robert F. Kennedy Institute of Community and Family Medicine (RFKI)

Founded in 1992 to “improve the health and well-being of children and their families in the Los Angeles South Bay communities”

RFKI provides high quality, bilingual, bi-cultural **public health information, education and preventive social services**

Underserved residents of the Harbor South Bay communities

Partnered with the **Los Angeles County Department of Public Health** to launch a **Smoke-Free Multi-Unit Housing Campaign** in the City of Torrance

Torrance at a Glance

Total Population
146,686

Number of adults who
smoke cigarettes
19,069

Lung Cancer Deaths
(Per 100,000 pop.)
27.4

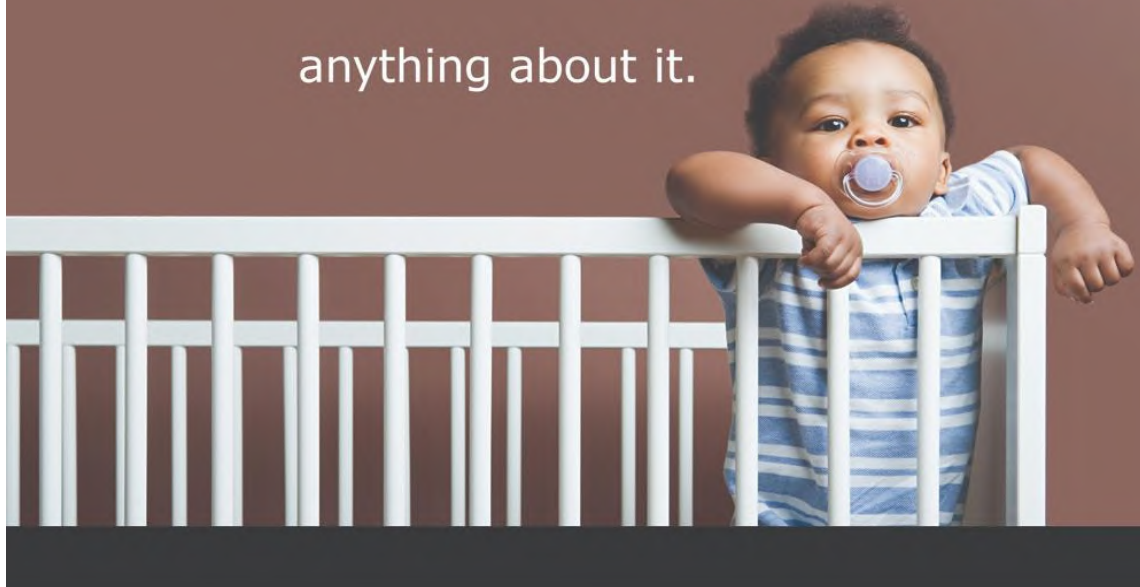
Cardiovascular Deaths
(Per 100,000 pop.)
184.8

Number of children
under 17 with asthma
8,801

Health Effects in Children

Millions
are exposed

to secondhand smoke
and some can't do
anything about it.



Health Effects in Pets

- ▶ **Pets exposed to secondhand smoke are at higher risk for cancer and other illnesses**
- ▶ **Can develop skin allergies and asthma**
- ▶ **Pets that ingest cigarettes can suffer from stomach and nerve problems**



SHS Drifts in MUH



Secondhand Smoke in MUH

- ▶ A recent public intercept survey found:
 - ▶ **43%** of Torrance residents living in multi-unit housing surveyed in 2020 reported having secondhand smoke drift into their home in the last year
 - ▶ Of these, **38%** of Torrance respondents or someone they live with have a medical condition that worsens due to exposure to SHS smoke
 - ▶ If given the option, **90%** of Torrance residents would choose to live in a completely non-smoking building, based on a 2020 Public Opinion Survey

2015 Los Angeles County Health Survey; Office of Health Assessment and Epidemiology, Los Angeles County Department of Public Health.

Los Angeles County, Tobacco Control and Prevention, POS Report, 2019.

Impact on Vulnerable Populations

Families, Children, & Adults 65+

- ▶ Over two-thirds (**68.6%**) of all Torrance households are families, and about a third (**33.1%**) live with children under the age of 18
- ▶ 9.1% of households living alone who is 65 or older
- ▶ Per U.S. Census, **44.1%** of all Torrance residents are also renters – many of whom are directly at risk of being affected by secondhand or thirdhand smoke

Impact on Vulnerable Populations

Uninsured People & Persons with Disabilities

- ▶ 4.9% of Torrance residents under age 65 have a disability
- ▶ Secondhand smoke can exacerbate existing medical conditions/disabilities
- ▶ 5.5% of all Torrance residents lack health insurance
- ▶ For those without health insurance, the medical consequences of secondhand or thirdhand smoke are even more serious

Smoke-Free Multi-Unit Housing

The U.S. Surgeon General has concluded:

- ▶ Separating smokers from nonsmokers, opening windows, or using air filters does not prevent people from breathing SHS

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. [The Health Consequences of Smoking—50 Years of Progress: A Report of the Surgeon General](#). Atlanta: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion, Office on Smoking and Health, 2014 [accessed 2017 Feb 21].

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. [A Report of the Surgeon General: How Tobacco Smoke Causes Disease: What It Means to You](#). Atlanta: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion, Office on Smoking and Health, 2010 [accessed 2017 Feb 21].



Smoke-Free Multi-Unit Housing

17 cities in LA County have passed local laws that limit or prohibit smoking in and around multi-family housing:

1. Baldwin Park
2. Bell Gardens
3. Beverly Hills
4. Burbank
5. Calabasas
6. Carson
7. Compton
8. Culver City
9. El Monte
10. Glendale
11. Huntington Park
12. Manhattan Beach
13. Pasadena
14. Santa Monica
15. South Pasadena
16. Temple City
17. West Hollywood

What is a Smoke-Free Multi-Unit Housing Policy?

A law that limits or prohibits smoking in and around multi-family housing, including the establishment of non-smoking units and non-smoking common areas



What is a Smoke-Free Multi-Unit Housing (MUH) Policy?

A comprehensive MUH policy:

- ▶ Prohibits smoking in 100% of individual units, including balconies and patios
- ▶ Prohibits smoking in indoor common areas and outdoor areas (e.g., hallways, laundry rooms, pool areas, patios, play areas, etc.)
- ▶ Smoking includes tobacco, cannabis, and electronic smoking devices (ESD's)

Benefits of Smoke-Free Multi-Unit Housing Policies

- ▶ Protects nonsmokers from exposure to secondhand smoke
- ▶ Reduces risk for heart disease and lung cancer among nonsmokers
- ▶ Lowers smoking rates among youth and young adults
 - ▶ Lowers visibility of role models who smoke
 - ▶ Fewer opportunities to smoke alone or with others
 - ▶ Diminished social acceptability and social advantage for smoking
- ▶ Minimizes fire risk
- ▶ Provides economic benefits to landlords
- ▶ Improves overall quality of life

Smoke-Free Multi-Unit Housing Policies

Manhattan Beach

- ▶ In May 2017, the City of Manhattan Beach partnered with the Beach Cities Health District to enact a smoke-free multi-unit housing policy
- ▶ All multi-unit housing with **3 or more units** in Manhattan Beach is **smoke-free**, and **non-smoking signage is posted** to notify tenants that the properties are non-smoking
- ▶ The law prohibits smoking both **indoors and outdoors of multi-unit properties**, excluding hotels
- ▶ The law **includes e-cigarettes** and does not allow for any designated smoking areas

Contact Us

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