

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

**TORRANCE PROFESSIONAL PARK AND RECREATION
EMPLOYEES ORGANIZATION
(TPPREO)**

2023 – 2024

**A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING SETTING FORTH
THE HOURS, WAGES AND WORKING CONDITIONS FOR
EMPLOYEES REPRESENTED BY THE TORRANCE
PROFESSIONAL PARK AND RECREATION EMPLOYEES
ORGANIZATION (TPPREO)**

An Agreement of the undersigned representatives of the Torrance Professional Park and Recreation Employees Organization (TPPREO) and the representatives of the City of Torrance (City) that:

The attached Resolution is recommended to the City Council for adoption in its entirety. It covers wages, hours, and working conditions for the period of January 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024, and was reached through agreement of the undersigned parties.

Signed this 11th day of April, 2023

Management

TPPREO

/s/John LaRock

/s/Jesus Castro

/s/Jamie Le

/s/Allison Saufua

RESOLUTION NO. 2023-30

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, SETTING FORTH HOURS, WAGES AND WORKING CONDITIONS FOR EMPLOYEES REPRESENTED BY THE TORRANCE PROFESSIONAL PARK AND RECREATION EMPLOYEES ORGANIZATION (TPPREO), AND REPEALING RESOLUTION NO. 2018-79.

The City Council of the City of Torrance does hereby resolve as follows:

SECTION I

That Resolution No. 2018-79 is hereby repealed in its entirety.

SECTION II

The following Agreement between representatives of Management and the representatives of the Torrance Professional Park and Recreation Employees Organization (TPPREO) is hereby approved in its entirety to read as follows:

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ARTICLE 1 – INTRODUCTION

SECTION 1.1 PREAMBLE

The following is the agreement regarding wages, hours, and working conditions between the representatives of Management and the Torrance Professional Park and Recreation Employees Organization. Each section of this Agreement shall be considered in its entirety and subsections shall be considered only in the context of sections as a whole.

SECTION 1.2 MANAGEMENT RIGHTS

The City shall have the exclusive right to determine the mission of each of its departments, commissions, boards, and agencies, set levels of service to be performed, direct its employees, exercise control and discretion over its organization and operations, and determine the methods, means, and personnel by which the City's operations are to be conducted, and the levels of service met, and carry out its mission in emergencies, provided, however, that the exercise of these rights does not preclude employees and their representatives from consulting or raising grievances about the practical consequences that decisions on these matters may have on wages, hours, and other terms and conditions of employment.

ARTICLE 2 - COMPENSATION PROVISIONS

SECTION 2.1 PAY RANGES AND CLASS TITLES

A) The hourly pay ranges are hereby assigned to the classifications of the following classified service represented by TPPREO:

HOURLY BASE PAY RANGE

Effective January 5, 2020

Pay Ranges	Basis	Step 1	Step 2	Step 3	Step 4	Step 5	Step 6	Step 7
Recreation Supervisor	Hourly	\$27.09	\$28.48	\$29.89	\$31.39	\$32.18	\$32.99	33.79
Recreation Supervisor, Sr	Hourly	\$34.89	\$36.64	\$38.43	\$40.39	\$41.37	\$42.45	43.44

Effective April 9, 2023

Pay Ranges	Basis	Step 1	Step 2	Step 3	Step 4	Step 5	Step 6
Recreation Supervisor	Hourly	\$29.30	\$30.76	\$32.30	\$33.91	\$35.61	\$37.39
Recreation Supervisor, Sr	Hourly	\$37.74	\$39.63	\$41.61	\$43.69	\$45.88	\$48.17

Effective April 9, 2023 all staff who are currently on step 7 will be placed on the new grid one step below their current placement as of April 8, 2023.

SECTION 2.2 BASE PAY RANGE

A) Starting Pay Rates

Original appointment shall normally be made at the first step. Upon recommendation of the Department Head, and approval by the City Manager, initial compensation may be at a higher step in the range for the class based on the outstanding and unusual character of the employee's experience and ability over and above the qualification requirement specified for the class, or is required by a temporary shortage of applicants for the class involved. Further, those in the involved class who are receiving less than the new initial compensation rate shall have their rates of pay adjusted to such rate.

SECTION 2.3 SALARY ADVANCEMENTS

A) Step Advancement Within Base Pay Range

Base pay step advancement within a range shall be on the first day of the first pay period following the anniversary of each year of service to the maximum step of the base pay range subject to the employee having received at least a satisfactory rating at the most recent performance evaluation. Upon recommendation of the Department Head and approval of the City Manager, such step advancement may be accelerated where outstanding performance may justify. (Advancements to the next step following such accelerated advancement shall normally be after one [1] year, in the case of base steps, and two [2] years, for extended steps.)

In the absence of a timely performance evaluation, the employee shall be deemed, for the purpose of this Section, to have a satisfactory performance for the immediate prior period.

Performance evaluations shall be given every twelve (12) months of employee service. A failure to provide a performance evaluation within 30 days of the normal date shall be defined as standard for the purpose of this Section.

B) Regular Pay

Regular pay shall be that compensation which is used for calculating PERS contributions and for PERS retirement earnings.

SECTION 2.4 RATE OF PAY ON PROMOTION

Whenever an employee covered by this Agreement is promoted, the employee shall receive the rate of compensation of the first step of the salary range for the new position or the lowest step in the range that provides an increase of five percent (5%) within the specified base pay range for the class.

SECTION 2.5 METHODS OF COMPENSATION

Compensation shall be paid on a per-hour basis.

Payments due shall be paid on a biweekly basis unless otherwise specified in this Agreement. By mutual consent of the parties, more frequent payment and other modifications can be made.

Base pay shall be the regular rate of pay for a particular classification without consideration of any premiums, longevity or extraordinary compensation.

SECTION 2.6 CONTINUITY OF SERVICE

Service requirements for advancement within the pay range, longevity pay, merit steps, holidays and vacation shall be based on continuous and total service as a regular employee.

- A) Leaves of absence without pay of less than ten (10) working days, and leaves with pay, shall not interrupt continuous service nor be deducted from total service.
- B) Leaves of absence without pay in excess of ten (10) working days, except for extended military leave, shall be deducted in computing total service but shall not serve to interrupt continuous service.
- C) All unauthorized absences shall be grounds for disciplinary action except where it can be shown that the employee could not respond due to a bona fide emergency (the employee shall still be docked for any time not worked). Any unauthorized leave in excess of three working days in any calendar month shall be deducted from total service and may at the discretion of the City Manager interrupt continuity of service.

SECTION 2.7 SUPERVISORY PAY POLICY

A supervisor shall receive no less than 5% over the base pay of any employee supervised.

ARTICLE 3 - SPECIAL COMPENSATION

SECTION 3.1 MOVE-UP ASSIGNMENT

- A) The objective of this Section is to provide an equitable manner of paying employees for work done and responsibilities assumed when an employee is moved-up to a higher classification during a temporary absence of another employee.
- B) Assignment
 - 1) When an employee is temporarily absent from his/her job, another permanent, non-probationary employee may be assigned by the Department Head or his/her designee to do the work of the absent employee.
 - 2) The assigned employee need not possess the minimum qualifications for the position of the absent employee unless the move-up position requires a special license or certificate to perform the work.
 - 3) An employee with a performance improvement plan and/or a below standard evaluation for the review period applicable to the employee will not be considered (except where the performance evaluation is being formally appealed). For the purposes of this section, the employee's performance shall be considered standard if they have not received an evaluation for more than a year.

- 4) The Department Head or his/her designee may permit the position to remain temporarily vacant, if in the opinion of the Department Head or his/her designee, the public health, welfare and safety are not jeopardized.
- 5) The employee may not decline move-up if there are no other employees certified as capable of performing work determined by the Department Head or his/her designee as vital to the Department.
- 6) The employee may decline the assignment only subject to Section 3.3(E)(1) Priorities 1 and 2 (below).

C) Duration of Assignment

Any employee moved-up pursuant to this Section shall remain in the higher class until the incumbent returns to duty, subject to the following conditions:

- 1) Each assignment shall not exceed 90 days.
- 2) If the work is not performed in a satisfactory manner, the Department Head or his/her designee may remove the employee who has moved-up and replace them with another move-up assignment or leave the position unfilled.

D) No Probationary Period Credit

Time served by an employee to a higher class under the provisions of the Section shall not be credited toward that employee's probationary period in the higher class.

E) Priority for Move-Up Assignments

- 1) Priority for move-up assignments shall be determined in the following manner:

Priority 1: If a current non-expired Civil Service list exists, priority will be given to those employees in the same Division regularly employed in a lower classification who are on the list. Offers will be made in the order the employees are ranked on the list.

Priority 2: If no current, non-expired Civil Service list exists, or the move-up cannot be filled using Priority 1, priority will be given to those full-time employees regularly employed in the same Division in the next lower classification on a seniority basis.

Priority 3: In emergency situations, and when no volunteers are found using Priorities 1 and 2, move-up assignments may be mandatory through an inverse seniority assignment, or can be made through the next lower classification at the sole discretion of the Department Head or his/her designee.

- 2) Employees will indicate their preference in participating in the move-up by notifying their Department Head or designee on a "Move-Up Interest Form" provided by the Department.

F) Absence of a Moved-Up Employee

If a moved-up employee is absent, the next employee on the rotational roster may be moved-up in their absence, subject to all provisions of this section.

G) Move-Up Pay for Vacant Positions

1) An employee moved-up pursuant to this Section shall be paid for all days worked in the higher class at a salary rate of the lower step of the class or the lower step for such assigned position which will give the employee five percent (5%) or more than the current base salary of that employee, whichever is the higher within the base pay range for the class.

2) For the purposes of this Section, one-half (1/2) shift shall constitute a day.

SECTION 3.2 NIGHT SHIFT PREMIUM

All full-time employees covered by this agreement who are assigned to night shifts shall be paid at five percent (5%) above their average base hourly salary. A night shift shall be defined as a shift in which one-half or more of the shift is scheduled to work after 4:00 p.m. or before 8:00 a.m. Such premium shall not be paid on top of overtime pay.

ARTICLE 4 – BENEFITS

SECTION 4.1 HOLIDAYS

A) For the purpose of this agreement, the following days shall be considered holidays with pay: New Year's Day, Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, Lincoln's Birthday, Washington's Birthday, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Veteran's Day, Thanksgiving, Friday after Thanksgiving, Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, and New Year's Eve.

B) When a holiday falls on a weekday (from Monday to Friday), the City will close in observance of the holiday.

When a calendar holiday, Christmas Eve, or New Year's Eve, falls on a Saturday, the day immediately preceding such a holiday will be observed as the holiday. When a calendar holiday, Christmas Eve, or New Year's Eve, falls on a Sunday, the day immediately following such holiday will be observed as a holiday. For purposes of this Section, Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve are not calendar holidays.

C) A holiday shall be a regular work shift construed as (Monday- Thursday) nine (9) hour day = 9 hour holiday and (Friday) eight (8) hour day = 8 hour holiday.

D) Scheduled Work:

1) An employee scheduled to work on both the observed and calendar holidays shall be compensated at the regular hourly rate on the observed holiday, in addition to the regular holiday pay. The employee shall be compensated at the rate of time and one-half on the calendar holiday, without holiday pay.

- 2) An employee scheduled to work on the observed holiday but not the calendar holiday shall be compensated at the rate of time and one-half on the observed holiday in addition to the regular holiday pay. The employee shall not be paid on the calendar holiday.
- 3) An employee scheduled to work on a calendar holiday but not on the observed holiday shall be compensated at the rate of time and one-half on the calendar holiday, without holiday pay. The employee shall be paid the regular holiday pay on the observed holiday.
- 4) The employee may receive compensatory time subject to the Department Head approval.

SECTION 4.2 VACATION

A) Employees covered by this agreement shall earn vacation as follows:

- 1) The rate of 8.67 hours per month of service by each regular employee.
- 2) Commencing with the 3rd year of service at the rate of 10 hours per month of service by each employee.
- 3) Commencing with the 5th year of service at the rate of 12.67 hours per month of service by each employee.
- 4) Commencing with the 10th year of service and until the completion of twenty years of service, at the rate of 16.02 hours per month of service by each employee.
- 5) Commencing with the 21st year of service at the rate of 17.34 hours per month of service by each employee.
- 7) Commencing with the 25th year of service at the rate of 18.00 hours per month of service by each employee.

B) Eligibility

Only probationary or permanent employees who regularly work 40 hours per week shall earn vacation and annual leave. Vacation shall be earned only while an employee is receiving compensation from or through the City and it shall be prorated on an hourly-earned basis.

C) The time of taking vacation or annual leave shall be determined by the Department Head, subject to review by the City Manager. An employee may take vacation or annual leave only in increments of four (4) hours or more.

D) Borrowing

An employee may borrow up to 40 hours of unearned vacation subject to the approval of his/her Department Head.

E) Effect of Holidays

When an authorized holiday occurs during a vacation period or annual leave, such days shall not be deducted from earned vacation or annual leave.

F) Effect of Separation

Any borrowed vacation or annual leave owed by a terminating employee shall be deducted from the employee's final pay, while any vacation owed to a terminating employee shall be added to the employee's final pay in cash, 457 and/or RHSP.

G) An employee, subject to Department Head approval, who has earned in excess of 160 hours of vacation leave, may receive pay from this excess to a maximum of 80 hours per fiscal year; provided, however that an employee must take at least 80 hours of vacation leave during that fiscal year (28 days prior notice must be given for such a request).

H) Maximum Accrual: An employee may accrue up to 500 hours.

I) All paid time off for vacation, annual, administrative leave is allocated on an hour-by-hour basis. Therefore, if an employee is off on a nine (9) hour day, the employee will be charged nine (9) hours. If an employee is off on an eight (8) hour day, the employee will be charged eight (8) hours.

SECTION 4.3 SICK LEAVE/PERSONAL LEAVE

A) Sick Leave

An employee may use sick leave to care for themselves or family members in accordance with the California Family Rights Act. Such time shall be deducted from the existing sick leave of the employee.

B) Accrual rate

Permanent and probationary employees shall be granted sick leave in the following manner:

1) Six (6) hours for each month of service (prorated on an hourly-worked basis using the formula of number of hours worked per month divided by 173.3) to a maximum of 500 hours of accrued sick leave.

C) Cash or Deferred Compensation Options

1) The employee may select, in December or June of each year, to convert any sick leave granted but unused over 300 hours into cash or deferred income at the rate of one (1) hour pay for each hour of unused sick leave. Such payments shall be made before June 15 or December 5.

2) Any hours of sick leave which would have been granted over 600 hours accrued sick leave shall be converted into cash payable in June or December of each year on the basis of one (1) hour pay for each hour of unused sick leave. An employee who wishes to defer this amount must submit a written request to the Finance Department no later than June 1 or December 1.

D) Sick Leave Standard

Use of sick leave shall not necessarily in and of itself constitute misuse. Sick leave use which exceeds the Section/Division/Department standard and indicates the sick leave use is not related to a substantiated injury or illness and/or has a predictable pattern will initiate a review of sick leave usage and may lead to disciplinary action.

E) Notification of Sickness

- 1) To receive compensation while absent on sick leave, employees shall notify the Section/Division/Department in the manner provided in Departmental Rules and Regulations stating the nature or reason for the absence.
- 2) After more than two (2) consecutive working days, employees may be required to furnish reasonable evidence including but not limited to a written statement from an attending physician, to substantiate a request for the use of personal or family sick leave.
- 3) An employee who has been counseled (documented in writing) about sick leave usage within the preceding 12 months may be advised, as part of said counseling, that he/she will be required to furnish reasonable evidence, including a written statement from a medical professional, to substantiate any request for sick leave of one (1) or more days.

F) Return From Sick Leave

Upon return from sick leave, an employee may be required by the Department Head to report for examination by the City medical examiner to determine fitness for duty.

G) Overtime Rate After Sick Leave

- 1) In the event an employee is absent on sick leave during part of a week and subsequently is required to work his/her regular day off, he/she shall be compensated in the same manner as for overtime. He may, however, be required to substantiate an illness by a written statement absence from an attending licensed physician or a personal affidavit.
- 2) Said provisions shall not apply where an employee is called-out for emergency work after hours and the overtime rate shall apply regardless of sick leave taken during the week.
- 3) For purposes of call-out, employees who are absent on sick leave will be placed in the position of least seniority on the day they are absent and will remain in that seniority ranking until they return to regular duty.

H) Depleted Sick Leave

Employees who have insufficient sick leave accrued to cover their absence are required to submit a request for a leave of absence without pay at the earliest possible time, that is, at the beginning of the leave or immediately upon return to work. Failure to submit the request for leave will constitute unauthorized absence.

I) Conversion of Sick Leave Insurance

- 1) At the time of retirement or separation, the provision in section 4.10C (RHSP) shall apply as well as the below,, except for disciplinary reasons involving public funds. After the appropriate years of service an employee covered by this agreement shall have his/her remaining accumulated sick leave converted by the City into cash or deferred income on the following basis:
 - a) After one (1) year of service, each hour of accumulated sick leave shall equal (one-fourth) $\frac{1}{4}$ hour pay;
 - b) After seven (7) years of service, each hour of accumulated sick leave shall equal one-half ($\frac{1}{2}$) hour pay.
 - c) At retirement, each hour of accumulated sick leave shall equal one (1) hour for each hour accumulated.
- 2) Accumulated sick leave shall be converted into paid-up life insurance on the basis that each hour of accumulated sick leave shall equal one (1) hour for each hour accumulated upon the death of an employee covered by this agreement regardless of years of service, to be paid to the employee's beneficiary.
- 3) The annuity and the provisions of the annuity shall be specified by the employee organization, subject to consultation with Management.

J) Personal Leave

Two (2) full work shifts of vacation leave per calendar year may be requested of the supervisor to be used for personal leave for which no verification is required. This amount is deducted from vacation leave and may not be carried over from year to year. The time shall be taken in no less than four hour increments. This leave, while paid for out of vacation leave, is actually paid personal leave and is not part of vacation leave usage in and of itself. Personal leave may be denied for employees with a "Below Standard" or "Unsatisfactory" performance evaluation within the preceding 12 months.

- K) All paid time off for sick leave is allocated on an hour-by-hour basis. Therefore, if the employee is off sick on a nine (9) hour day, the employee will be charged nine (9) hours. If the employee is off sick on an eight (8) hour day, the employee will be charged eight (8) hours.

SECTION 4.4 INDUSTRIAL INJURY LEAVE

- A) For injuries sustained prior to August 3, 1997, the following applies:

In the event an employee sustains an injury or illness arising out of and occurring in the course of his/her employment with the City, the employee shall be entitled to industrial injury leave as follows:

- 1) Up to three (3) months during the first three (3) years of employment.
- 2) Up to six (6) months during the fourth (4th) year of employment.

- 3) Up to twelve (12) months after four (4) years of employment for industrial injury.
- 4) Such leave shall be at ninety percent (90%) of regular salary rate. Said leave shall terminate upon return to regular work or when the injury is deemed permanent or stationary, or at the expiration of the maximum time period listed in this Section.

B) For injuries sustained on or after August 3, 1997, the following applies:

In the event an employee sustains an injury or illness arising out of and occurring in the course of his/her employment with the City, the employee shall be entitled to industrial injury leave as follows:

- 1) Up to three (3) months during the first three (3) years of employment.
- 2) Up to six (6) months during the fourth (4th) year of employment.
- 3) Up to eight (8) months after four (4) years of employment for industrial injury.
- 4) Such leave shall be at eighty five percent (85%) of regular salary rate. Said leave shall terminate upon return to regular work or when the injury is deemed permanent or stationary, or at the expiration of the maximum time period listed in this Section.

C) Employees who are on industrial injury leave with pay as a result of an industrial injury shall continue to accrue seniority, and shall receive holidays, accrue vacation, and accrue sick leave benefits the same as if they had been present for duty.

D) An employee on industrial injury leave shall be under the direction of the City subject to medical advice and shall be available at all times unless he/she receives specific permission from the City.

E) An employee on industrial injury leave shall inform the City of any current outside employment and/or any such outside employment during the four (4) years immediately prior to such injury. An employee on industrial injury leave shall not enter into any employment or physical activity, as determined by an appropriate physician, which might exacerbate his/her injury or illness.

F) Management and the employee organization jointly indicate their concern for the proper use of industrial injury leave. Management has the responsibility to seek lateral transfer of an injured employee where appropriate and to process involuntary disability retirement where necessary.

- 1) The Department Head shall notify TPPREO within seventy-two (72) hours of any industrial injury which causes the death or hospitalization of any member of the bargaining unit.
- 2) Management has the responsibility to seek lateral transfer of an injured employee where appropriate and to process involuntary disability retirement where necessary.

SECTION 4.5 LEAVES OF ABSENCE

A) Leave Without Pay

- 1) A leave of absence without pay not to exceed five (5) working days may be granted to any employee by the Department Head.
- 2) A leave of absence without pay for more than five (5) working days may be granted to any employee by the City Manager.
- 3) Notwithstanding any other provision of this contract, no leave or combination of leaves as provided in this section shall be granted for more than a total of eight (8) months during a 12-month period. The 12-month period for calculating leave entitlement will be a "rolling period" measured backward from the date leave is taken and continues with each additional leave day taken.
- 4) An employee must have completed six (6) months of permanent employment with the City before being eligible for consideration of a medical leave of absence of more than 30 days.
- 5) A leave of absence without pay may be granted to any employee by the City for the purpose of accepting a temporary appointment to State, County, Federal or local agency.

B) Request for Leave of Absence

A request for leave shall be forwarded to the appropriate authority in advance of the beginning date of leave, upon forms supplied by the City.

C) Refusal of Leave of Absence

The Department Head or the City Manager shall refuse a leave of absence request if such a leave is contrary to the good of the City. A leave of absence for medical reasons where justified by medical evidence shall not be unreasonably denied except where there is no probability of return to work by the employee or where the employee has exhausted the maximum leave of absence. Where the leave is refused, the employee must return to work subject to Subsection D) or be terminated. The burden of medical evidence shall be upon the employee.

D) Holding A Position Open

Upon the expiration of a leave of absence, duly granted in accordance with the provisions of this Section, an employee shall be returned to the same position or class of position as he occupied when the leave of absence was granted.

E) Medical Examination at Termination of Leave

Upon the expiration of any leave of absence, the City Manager may determine, by evidence of medical examination or other reasonable evidence, if the employee is mentally and physically able to perform the duties of the position from which the leave was granted. If the City Manager has determined that the employee is unable to return to work, he/she will not be returned to work but shall have the right to submit the matter through the grievance procedure.

F) Military Leave of Absence

A leave of absence for military employment shall be granted to any employee as required by the laws of the United States or the State of California. An employee covered by this Agreement who leaves or has left City service to enter the active service of the Armed Forces of the United States, and who subsequently is reinstated to a position previously held by him/her, shall be entitled upon completion of the following conditions to receive the rate of compensation at the step, including longevity, to which he/she would have been entitled had his/her service with the City not been interrupted by such Federal Service.

- 1) Employee makes a written application to the City within forty (40) calendar days following release from active military employment;
- 2) Employee furnishes the City, for its inspection, a certification of honorable or general discharge with the Armed Forces; and
- 3) Employee establishes to the reasonable satisfaction of the City that the employee is qualified to perform the essential duties of such position.

G) Family Leave

- 1) As required by State and Federal law, the City will provide family leave for eligible employees. To be eligible, an employee:
 - a) Must have been permanently employed by the City for at least 12 months and have worked for at least 1,250 hours during the 12-month period immediately preceding the commencement of the leave.
 - b) Must have been permanently employed by the City on a half-time basis for at least 12 months and have been employed for at least 1,040 hours during the 12-month period immediately preceding the commencement of the leave.
- 2) Family leave is permitted for the following reasons:
 - a) Birth of a child or to care for a newborn of an employee;
 - b) Placement of a child with the employee for adoption or foster care;
 - c) Need to care for a child, parent or spouse who has a serious health condition;
 - d) Leave because of a serious health condition that makes the employee unable to perform the functions of his/her position.

- 3) Employees who meet eligibility under paragraph 1(a) above are entitled to a total of 12 work weeks during any 12-month period. Employees who meet eligibility under 1b above are entitled to a total of six (6) work weeks during any 12-month period. The 12-month period for calculating leave entitlement will be a "rolling period" measured backward for the date leave is taken and continues with each additional leave day taken.
- 4) During a family leave, an employee may concurrently use other accrued paid leaves in connection with the leave.
- 5) The total amount of family leave for which an employee is eligible will be in accordance with the California Family Rights Act
- 6) Rights and obligations which are not specifically set forth in this section are set forth in the City's statement of Family Leave Policy and in the California Fair Employment and Housing Commission and the Department of Labor regulations implementing State and Federal Family Leave Acts.

H) Educational Leave

A leave of absence may be granted by the City Manager for job-related educational programs.

- I) Any employee terminating or retiring at the end of the eight (8)-month medical leave of absence shall be paid an amount equal to four (4) months of City health insurance contribution (including health contribution and City supplemental). Such amount shall not exceed the amount received by the employee immediately prior to separation of employment. The employee may choose to receive the full amount subject to 1099, defer the funds to the City 457 plan within the plan guidelines, or receive a net check with the appropriate federal, state and social security deductions. This provision applies only to employees participating in a City-sponsored health insurance program at the time of termination or retirement.

SECTION 4.6 BEREAVEMENT LEAVE

- A) Each employee covered by this Agreement shall be entitled to up to five (5) work shifts of bereavement leave; three (3) shifts with pay and two (2) shifts without pay per death of eligible family members.
- B) Additional paid bereavement leave of up to two (2) work shifts may be granted by the Department Head upon request.
- C) Such bereavement leave shall apply to a death as defined for family sick leave. In addition, an employee may request a vacation or sick leave day for bereavement leave for a relative not named in the family sick leave listing, subject to verification of the Department Head.
- D) Such request shall not be unreasonably denied and shall not be denied on the basis of a below standard evaluation. If an employee decided to use a sick leave day, this leave shall not be used against the departmental sick leave average.
- E) Such bereavement leave shall not be accruable from year to year nor shall it have any monetary value if unused.

- F) Exceptions to the definition of family will be evaluated on a case by case basis by the Department Head.
- G) Bereavement leave is allocated on an hour-by-hour basis up to 24 hours paid, or an additional 16 hours unpaid. If an employee is off on a 9 hour day, employees will be charged 9 hours. If an employee is off an 8 hour day, the employee will be charged 8 hours.

SECTION 4.7 JURY DUTY

Any employee covered by this agreement who is duly summoned to attend any court, during the time regularly required for his/her office or employment, for the purpose of jury service, shall be entitled, while so engaged and actually serving, to his/her regular compensation, provided that he deposits his/her jury service fees pursuant to the provisions of Administrative Rules.

For employees participating in the 9/80 work schedule, employees who serve on jury duty on their 9/80 day off do not receive any extra pay for the day. They are however entitled to the jury employment fee.

SECTION 4.8 INSURANCE

A) Medical Insurance

- 1) The City shall pay the applicable monthly PERS minimum contribution per employee for active and retired employee health insurance. The PERS minimum contribution can only apply toward the health insurance plans. If the employee does not participate in the insurance plans, the PERS minimum contribution cannot be used for any other purpose.
- 2) Cost of Medical Insurance for Active Employees

In addition to the PERS minimum contribution the City shall provide active employees with an additional contribution, which may be used by the employee to pay for approved health insurance plan premiums, dental or vision insurance ("Cafeteria Contribution"). The aggregate amount of the Cafeteria Contribution and the PERS minimum contribution shall be referred to as the "City Contribution." The Cafeteria Contribution will be calculated by deducting the applicable PERS minimum contribution from the total City Contribution. The city Contribution cannot be taken in cash and will only be made by the City to the extent of the eligible employee's election of insurance pursuant to the limitations in this Section 4.8. Employees may opt out of the City offered benefits. Certain employees who opt out may be eligible for cash in lieu as provided in this Section 4.8(5).

- 3) Contributions

Effective January 1, 2023

The contributions for active employees are set forth below.

For these employees, the City Contribution is \$597.68 for single party coverage, \$1,140.36 for 2-party coverage, and \$1,595.96 for 3-party coverage. The Cafeteria Contribution can be calculated by subtracting the current PERS minimum contribution from the City's Contribution (see below).

	1 Party	2 Party	3 Party
City Cafeteria Contribution	\$597.68 less – the PERS minimum contribution	\$1,140.36 less – the PERS minimum contribution	\$1,595.96 less – the PERS minimum contribution

- 4) The City shall continue such health, dental, and life insurance premiums as provided in this Section 4.8 during an employee's leave of absence in accordance with applicable laws and the City's Flexible Benefits Plan.
- 5) Cash In-Lieu Payments

Full-time employees covered under this Resolution who meet the following requirements will receive a cash-in-lieu payment of \$400 per month for as long as the employee opts-out of medical coverage:

- a. The employee provides proof of minimum essential coverage ("MEC") through another source (other than coverage in the individual market, whether or not obtained through Covered California) for the plan year for which the employee opts-out of City-offered coverage ("alternative required coverage").
- b. The proof of coverage must show that the employee and all individuals in the employee's expected tax family have (or will have) the required MEC for the applicable period by signing and submitting an attestation to the City.
- c. The employee must provide such reasonable evidence and attestation of alternative required coverage every plan year during open enrollment
- d. The City will not provide the cash-in-lieu payment if it knows or has reason to know that the employee or tax family member does not have the alternative required coverage.

B) Long-Term Disability

- 1) Employees shall be covered by the commercial short-term disability (STD) / long-term disability (LTD) program as follows:
 - a) An employee must request a medical leave of absence in connection with a request for such benefits.

- b) After an elimination period, employees will receive $\frac{2}{3}$ base pay for a period of time as determined under the guidelines of the commercial insurance policy.
- c) Eligibility for this commercial plan, and all provisions of the plan, are in accordance with the commercial insurance policy.

C) Premium Continuance

The City shall receive and forward to the health insurance carrier premiums of employees who retire after July 17, 1977 or spouse or dependents in case of death of an employee. Such payments shall be made only if authorized by the insurance plan and can continue only as long as the insured forwards in a timely manner to the City the necessary premium amount. The City shall not in any way be held responsible if the insured fails to forward sufficient funds to pay such premium.

- D) Employees covered under this agreement shall receive a life insurance policy in the amount of no less than \$50,000 effective FY 2005-2007. If the premium for the policy shall increase 20% or more, then the City will reevaluate the coverage which is offered at no cost to the employee.

E) Dental Insurance

All employees covered by this agreement will receive two-party dental insurance. This benefit has no cash value if not used. If employees want to cover additional family members not covered, additional insurance may be purchased.

F) Vision Insurance

All employees covered under this agreement will receive at no cost to the Association one-party vision insurance. This benefit has no cash value if not used. If employees want to cover additional family members, additional insurance may be purchased.

SECTION 4.9 RETIREMENT

- A) Employees covered by this agreement shall be covered by the City contract with the Public Employees Retirement System 2% at 55 plan (Government Code § 21354) including military buy-back and highest single year retirement option (per Government Code § 20042), and supplemented by Social Security.
- B) The City shall pay the employee's 7.0% contribution to PERS for employees of the Torrance Professional Park and Recreation Employee Organization.
- C) The seven percent (7%) paid by the City is considered as employer-paid member contributions (EPMC) in accordance with Government Code § 20-023(c)(4).
- D) Effective November 9, 2010, all new hires shall be responsible for the employee's contribution to PERS, currently seven percent (7%) of pay.

- E) In accordance with the provisions of the Public Employees' Pension Reform Act (PEPRA), employees covered by this agreement hired on or after January 1, 2013 who do not qualify as "classic members" of PERS, shall be considered "new members" and shall be enrolled in the 2% at age 62 defined benefit formula with final compensation calculation period of three (3) consecutive years. Employees shall be responsible for fifty percent (50%) of the normal cost attributable to the applicable retirement formula.

Note: The definition of "classic member" or "new member" is established per the California Public Employees Retirement System (CALPERS).

- F) Employees hired after January 1, 1977, shall reimburse the City of actuarial liability created by their individual participation under the military buy-back provisions of this plan.

SECTION 4.10 DEFERRED COMPENSATION

- A) Employees covered by this Agreement shall be eligible to participate in the following deferred compensation plans: 457 and Retirement Health Savings Plan. Rules of these plans are contained in the applicable Government Code Guidelines as well as the City's Plan documents on file with the City Treasurer.
- B) Employees covered by this agreement shall receive a nonmatching deferred City contribution of \$284.26 per calendar year. Paid in 26 payments of \$10.93 per pay period.
- C) Retirement Health Savings Plan

For retiring and separating employees, the following shall apply:

1. Any hours under or equal to 500 (sick) and 500 (vacation) will be deposited into the Retirement Health Savings Program, therein referred to as the RHSP Plan.
2. The remaining balance up to limits allowed by law will be disbursed into the City's 457 plan or be paid in cash.

ARTICLE 5 - HOURS OF WORK

SECTION 5.1 HOURS OF WORK

- A) Employees covered by this agreement shall work a forty (40) hour work week. Work hours may be revised by a supplemental memorandum between the representatives of Management and the representatives of TPPREO. (Such a supplemental was adopted on February 1, 1994, Resolution No. 94-25.)
- B) Torrance City Hall will operate on a 9/80 closed schedule with the following hours of operation: Monday - Thursday, 7:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.; alternate Friday, 7:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.
- C) Other City Divisions not located in the City Hall complex may modify schedules for work groups to operate on either a 9/80 "Open" or 9/80 "Closed" schedule that does not conform to the above.

- D) The City will continue to work toward the implementation of a modified work schedule in Departments which do not currently operate under the 9/80 work schedule.
- E) The City has the right to make schedule changes to accommodate workload and may, if necessary, flex employees' hours to accommodate employee or operational need in a particular workweek.

SECTION 5.2 LUNCH

Employees covered by this agreement shall be entitled to a lunch period not to exceed one (1) hour per regular workday or regular work shift subject to Department Rules developed to accommodate a flexible work schedule.

- A) Such lunch periods shall be without pay, and may not be accumulated.
- B) There shall be no restrictions on the employee during said lunch periods unless compensated for as overtime.
- C) The amount of time for lunch period and the procedure for taking a lunch period shall be determined by Departmental Rules and Regulations.

SECTION 5.3 BREAKS

Employees covered by this agreement may be allowed a fifteen minute rest period in accordance with departmental rules during each half of the regular workday or regular work shift. In such cases:

- A) These rest periods will not be taken at the beginning or end of either half of the regular workday or work shift.
- B) Rest periods may not be accumulated, nor shall such rest periods have any monetary value if unused.
- C) The provisions of this Section may be modified by a supplemental memorandum of understanding between the representatives of Management and the representatives of TPPREO to effectuate a flexible work hour concept.
- D) Rest periods shall be taken at or near the worksite.
- E) Abuses of the provisions of this Section will result in disciplinary action.

ARTICLE 6 – OVERTIME

SECTION 6.1 OVERTIME COMPENSATION

- A) For overtime on a project that starts during the employee's regular shift and continues into overtime, the following shall apply:

- 1) Employees who are working on a project at the end of the work shift shall first be offered the overtime assignment. If the employee does not accept the offer of overtime then overtime will be offered to the employees in the same classification in accordance with their appointment date to that classification within the Section/Division/Department.
- B) Employees shall be compensated by pay at the rate of one-and-one half times the regular hourly rate of the employee for hours worked in excess of forty hours in one week. (Refer to Department Policy #14 for further information.)

For employees participating in the 9/80 work schedule, employees shall be compensated by pay at a rate of 1½ time the regular hourly rate of the employee for hours worked in excess of a regularly scheduled shift or work week.

- C) An employee, subject to Department Head approval, may select at his/her option to take compensatory time off at time and one-half for overtime worked. Such compensatory time can be accrued to a maximum of 80 hours.

D) Computation

- 1) Overtime shall be computed for actual time worked except that an employee called-out after regular work hours for emergency work shall be compensated at the regular overtime rate for a minimum of two (2) hours. (Three (3) hours minimum between the hours of 12:00 midnight and 5:00 a.m.)

E) Overtime Claims for Compensation

Overtime worked must be reported to the Finance Director within fifteen calendar days after the end of the pay period in which the services were rendered. Failure to do so waives any claims for compensation for such service by the employee concerned.

ARTICLE 7 - CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT

SECTION 7.1 PROBATIONARY PERIOD

- A) For all classifications covered by this Agreement, there shall be a probationary period which shall be one (1) year of service for original, non-promotional appointments and a probationary period of six (6) months of service for all promotional appointments.
- B) An employee's probationary period shall be extended if the employee is absent from the performance of his/her normally assigned duties in excess of ten cumulative working days during his/her probationary period for any leave of absence (except approved vacation), including, but not limited to, industrial injury, extended illness/injury, or light duty. The probationary period will be extended by the amount of time equal to the time absent.

SECTION 7.2 SELECTIVE CERTIFICATION

In the case of eligible open lists for classifications represented by TPPREO, Management may request selective certification based upon current experience with the City. Absolute priority will be given to eligibles with current permanent experience with the City. The appointing authority, subject to notifying the representatives of TPPREO may pass over any such permanent certified employee for just cause subject to the grievance process. Secondary priority shall be given to current temporary experience.

SECTION 7.3 INACTIVE STATUS

Subject to the approval of the employee's Department Head and the City Manager, an employee may request inactive status.

- A) Such a request must be made before the separation of an employee or within thirty days of such termination.
- B) The inactive status shall continue for no more than one (1) year.
- C) Inactive status shall qualify a past employee to be certified as a name in addition to the five (5) open or three (3) promotional eligibles for a vacant position in the classification from which he was terminated.
- D) No benefits shall accrue during such inactive status. The employee shall not have continuity of service.

SECTION 7.4 CLASSIFICATION STUDIES

- A) The City retains the right to conduct and prepare classification studies. The City retains the absolute right to reallocate budgeted funds from vacant positions and to update and revise class specifications.
- B) In the event that the modification of a class specification shall result in the consolidation of two (2) or more classes, the City and the employee group will meet and confer with regard to the impact to the incumbent employees.
- C) A permanent incumbent employee in a current classification covered by this agreement will not have wages and/or benefits reduced as a result of the above actions.
- D) The employee group agrees to encourage all members to participate in the class plan revision process. The employee group further agrees to be available as a resource in the City classification plan.

SECTION 7.5 LAYOFF PROVISIONS

- A) Prerequisite to Layoff:

Whenever in the judgment of the City it becomes necessary in the interests of economy or otherwise for a position(s) to be eliminated, the City Council may abolish any position(s) covered by this agreement and release the employee(s) holding such position(s).

- 1) No permanent employees shall be laid off from a position in any given class covered by this agreement until all temporary and non-promotional probationary employees in that class have first been laid off.

It is the intent of the City to ensure that permanent employees will be the last to be laid off. No permanent employee will be laid off until all similarly employed Federally-subsidized employees in the Department have been laid off.

- 2) This layoff procedure shall be restricted to those employees represented by this agreement and shall have no direct effect or bumping rights on any other employee representation unit, nor shall any other employee representation unit have bumping rights into this unit unless a reciprocal agreement is entered into by both representation units.

B) Order of Layoff

In a class in which a layoff or reduction is to be made, the order shall be as follows:

- 1) Individuals with satisfactory and above ratings shall be retained over those individuals with two (2) or more below satisfactory ratings within the preceding two (2) years.
- 2) Within the order of layoff as described above, employees shall be released in inverse order of their total seniority in all classes in which the employee had previous permanent appointment during his/her present period of employment.

C) Bumping Rights:

- 1) To avert being laid off, an employee with no more than one below satisfactory ratings within the preceding two (2) years may use total seniority in all classes covered by this agreement in which the employee had previous permanent appointment during his/her present period of employment. The order of layoff shall then be as described per Section 7.5(B).
- 2) In a class in which a layoff is about to occur, employees, in the order of seniority, shall have the option of:
 - a) Leaving that class to bump into any class/position to which the least senior employee would be entitled; or
 - b) Taking a layoff which otherwise would have affected the least senior employee.
- 3) A bumping employee does not need to have permanent experience in any lower class into which the bump occurs.

D) Layoff Procedure

Management shall:

- 1) First advise the employee organization, and then advise the employees in the affected classes, that on a given date, the department will be required to reduce the number of employees in that class by a specific number. Such notice shall be given as far in advance as possible.
- 2) Post the class seniority list with the foregoing notice.
- 3) No less than three (3) days prior to the effective date of layoff, employees shall request, in writing, that they be allowed to exercise their layoff right as described in 2(b).
- 4) No less than two (2) days prior to the effective date of layoff, employees designated for layoff shall request, in writing, that they be allowed to exercise their bumping rights. Such rights shall be limited to the rights which could be exercised by the least senior person being laid off.
- 5) Human Resources will announce the order in which employees may exercise their foregoing rights.

E) Re-employment:

The names of persons laid off in accordance with the provisions of this agreement shall be entered upon a list in order of their seniority except that employees with two or more below standard ratings in the preceding two years shall be placed at the bottom of the list in seniority order.

- 1) Human Resources shall develop the reemployment list and such list shall be used by the Civil Service Commission when a vacancy for that class or any lower class is to be filled, before certification is made from an eligible list.
- 2) The appointment officer shall reinstate the one highest available on the reemployment list.
- 3) Names shall be carried on such list(s) for a period not to exceed two (2) years from the date of separation from service or until returned to original position in case of downgrade, (whichever occurs soonest). Any three (3) refusals shall result in being dropped from the list(s).
- 4) Should any position involving all or substantially the same duties be reinstated or created within the two (2) year period, the Appointment Officer shall reinstate the one highest available on the reemployment list for the corresponding classification.
- 5) The employee shall not accrue benefits during the time of layoff and, if re-employed, such layoff time shall be deducted in computing total service but shall not serve to interrupt continuous service.

F) Seniority

For purposes of this Section, seniority shall be defined as total and continuous service pursuant to Section 2.8. Where two or more employees have the same anniversary date with the City, seniority shall be decided in the following manner:

- 1) Where such employees were appointed from the same eligibility list, the employee whose name was lower on the list shall be the least senior employee.
- 2) Where such employees were not hired from the same eligibility list, seniority shall be decided by the date of promulgation of the eligibility lists.

G) Layoff from Other Representation Units

In the event of a layoff in a classification not covered by this Agreement, an employee who had previous permanent employment in a classification covered by this Agreement shall have the same rights as employees covered herein; provided, however, that such an employee's seniority shall be based solely upon total service in classifications covered by this Agreement.

ARTICLE 8 – GRIEVANCES

SECTION 8.1 DEFINITION

A grievance is a complaint by one (1) or more employees concerning the application or interpretation of ordinances, rules, policies, practices or procedures within the scope of this Agreement affecting employee's wages, hours, and working conditions.

SECTION 8.2 SCOPE

This procedure shall be used to resolve every grievance for which no other methods of solution are provided by law; provided, however, that it shall not include a complaint arising from disciplinary action.

SECTION 8.3 PROCEDURE

A) First Step: Supervisory Level

- 1) The grievance must be presented in writing on a form provided by the City. The first section of the form must be completed fully by the employee or representative. If the form is not complete, it will be returned to the employee. If the grievant fails to set forth with specificity the rule, policy, practice or procedure violated, the facts which support the alleged violation, the time the alleged violation occurred and the remedy sought, the grievance will be rejected and cannot be processed further. The employee(s) and/or the representative(s) must notify the supervisor when an issue is to be processed in accordance with this grievance procedure.
- 2) The aggrieved employee(s) and/or representative(s) shall meet and consult with the employee's immediate supervisor.
- 3) The immediate supervisor may ask for a superior to participate.
- 4) If a grievance is not resolved by the end of the third full working day, after being received by the immediate supervisor, the employee may within ten (10) working days appeal in writing to the Department Head on a form provided by the City.

- 5) If a grievance is against a Department Head, the employee shall appeal to the City Manager.

B) Second Step: Department Head Level

- 1) The aggrieved employee(s) and/or a representative(s) shall meet and consult with the employee's Department Head, or City Manager if grievance is against Department Head.
- 2) The Department Head may require the employee's superiors to be present at such conference.
- 3) If the grievance is not resolved by the end of the 5th full working day after being received by the Department Head, the employee may within 10 working days appeal in writing to the City Manager.

C) Third Step: City Manager Level

- 1) The aggrieved employee(s) and/or a representative(s) shall meet and consult with the City Manager or a designee.
- 2) The City Manager may require the Department Head to be present at such conference.
- 3) If the grievance is not resolved satisfactorily by the end of the 5th full working day after being received by the City Manager, the employee may within 10 working days appeal in writing through the City Manager for binding arbitration.

D) Fourth Step: Arbitration

- 1) As soon as possible, and in no case later than ten (10) working days after receipt of an appeal, the City Manager or a designee shall request a list of seven (7) names from the American Arbitration Association.
- 2) Representatives of Management and the TPPREO will select an arbitrator within three (3) working days from receipt of the list. If agreement cannot be reached from among these names, each of the parties shall strike names from the list in rotation until only one (1) name remains. Priority in striking shall be decided by the flip of a coin.
- 3) The decision of the Arbitrator shall be final. Such decision shall not add to or otherwise modify the language of this Agreement.

SECTION 8.4 GENERAL GRIEVANCE PROVISIONS

- A) All time periods specified in this Section may be extended by mutual consent of the aggrieved employee(s) or his/her representative(s) and the Management representative involved. This extension must be done in writing.
- B) The aggrieved employee(s) and representative(s) shall be allowed reasonable time to participate in the grievance proceedings without loss of pay for the time so spent. (For the purpose of Workers' Compensation and retirement, any City employee involved shall be considered on duty during any grievance procedure.)

- C) Cost of arbitration shall be equally shared by the parties.
- D) A grievance shall be considered untimely if not presented by the employee within 30 calendar days of the alleged grievance or within 30 days of its effect upon the employee in those instances where it is shown that the employee could not reasonably have known of the grievable action.
- E) All grievances must be on a form provided by the City.
- F) The grievant is entitled to competent representation of his/her choice.
- G) Employees are assured freedom from reprisal for using this grievance procedure.
- H) An employee who has initiated a grievance, or assisted another employee in initiating and/or processing a grievance, shall not in any way be coerced, intimidated or discriminated against. All parties participating in the grievance process shall be required to produce truthful information.
- I) If the City fails to respond within the timelines as set forth above, or in good faith, the grievant may proceed automatically to the next step.
- J) Failure on the part of the grievant or his/her representative to participate in good faith at any point during the grievance process shall render the grievance abandoned.

ARTICLE 9 – GENERAL

SECTION 9.1 NON-DISCRIMINATION AND EQUAL OPPORTUNITY

- A) The City and TPPREO support the concept of equal employment opportunity.
- B) Neither the City nor TPPREO shall discriminate on the basis of age, sex, marital status, disability, medical condition, race, color, national origin, religion, sexual orientation, union or non-union affiliation, or political affiliation.
- C) The City and TPPREO agree that they will work to ensure a working environment free of discriminatory harassment.
- D) This section is expressly non-grievable. Any violation will be redressed through the City Discrimination policy.

SECTION 9.2 JOB ACTION

- A) TPPREO and its members agree that during the term of this Memorandum of Understanding, there shall be no strike, slowdown, blue flu or other concerted job action.

- B) In the event of an unauthorized job action, the City agrees that there will be no liability on the part of the TPPREO provided the employee organization promptly and publicly disavows such unauthorized action, orders the employees to return to work, and attempts to bring about a prompt resumption of normal operations and provided further that the employee organization notifies the City in writing, within forty-eight hours after the commencement of such job action, what measures it has taken to comply with the provisions of this Section.
- C) In the event such actions by the employee organization has not affected resumption of normal work practices, the City shall have the right to take appropriate disciplinary action.

SECTION 9.3 DUES CHECKOFF

TPPREO is authorized to use payroll deductions for collecting employee organization dues and insurance on a monthly basis.

ARTICLE 10 – MISCELLANEOUS

SECTION 10.1 RELEASE TIME

The City recognizes that employees and representatives of the Association are entitled by law to reasonable release time for many purposes. The purpose of this provision is to memorialize the parties' intent with respect to use of reasonable release time.

Use of release time is necessary for the Association to effectively operate; however, it is essential for efficient operations of City service that supervisors and managers are informed timely of the use of release time to ensure minimal impact to service delivery. For these reasons, the parties agree that release time will be provided in accordance with this article.

The parties agree that Employees will utilize the form attached to this agreement as Attachment B to provide notice of their request to use release time. Release time will not be unreasonably denied.

A) Negotiations

If negotiations are set more than 48 hours in advance, employees are required to complete the Release Time Form and submit it at least 48 hours in advance. If negotiations are set with less than 48 hours advance notice, employees are required to complete the Release Time Form and submit it as soon as possible.

Employees will be provided with release time for the entire period of the negotiation session (including travel time from their worksite) as well as one half (½) hour before and one (1) hour after.

B) Hearings

Release time is available for time spent in hearings (e.g., PERB, discipline, grievances, Civil Service Commission), preparing for hearings, and traveling to such hearings. It is expected that employees who are using release time for these purposes will complete and submit the Release Time form with sufficient notice to minimize impact to operations. If a hearing is set more than 48 hours in advance, employees are required to complete the Release Time form and submit it at least 48 hours in advance. The City will provide paid release time to one employee without City Manager approval. Additional paid releases may be requested by the employee group with the approval of the City Manager or the City Manager's designee.

C) Meetings to Represent Employees:

There are numerous situations where employees in the Association may seek representation, including, but not limited to, an Administrative Conference, investigation where the employee has a reasonable belief that the meeting may lead to the imposition of discipline, or other meetings where representation is legally appropriate. If such meetings are set more than 48 hours in advance, employees are required to complete the Release Time form and submit it at least 48 hours in advance. If such meetings are set with less than 48 hours advance notice, employees are required to complete the Release Time form and submit it as soon as possible.

D) Releases shall only be for those employees requiring release from actual scheduled hours of work.

SECTION 10.2 CONTINUED DISCUSSIONS

Changes to work schedule.

SECTION 10.3 SHIFT IN REPRESENTATION UNIT

Any employees assigned to this representation unit by the Employee Relations Committee of the Civil Service Commission shall assume the benefits of this representation unit, with necessary changes to base compensation made accordingly.

SECTION 10.4 PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP

In lieu of employee relations leave, employees covered by this agreement shall have their dues paid for approved professional organizations. Such dues shall not exceed \$35.00 per year. Such may be increased if membership is required by the Department Head.

ARTICLE 11 - EFFECTIVE DATES

SECTION 11.1 PROVISIONS EFFECTIVE

This Agreement shall be effective from the date of its approval by the City Council and until December 31, 2019, unless superseded by a subsequent Agreement. Such agreement may be reopened for further meeting and conferring, and may be continued or modified by the consent of both parties.

ARTICLE 12 – NOTICES

SECTION 12.1 NOTICES

A) Notices to City

The address for all Notices (hereinafter defined) given by Association to City shall be:

City Manager's Office
City of Torrance
3031 Torrance Boulevard
Torrance, CA 90503
Attn: Chief Labor Negotiator

Fax: (310) 618-5891

B. Notices to Association

The address for all Notices hereunder given by City to Association shall be given in the following manner:

In January of each year the Association shall provide to the address shown in 12.1(A) above a listing of the officers of the Association. Included in that listing are those officers that are to be noticed per this section. Included shall be the mailing or e-mail address or both to be used for that notice. A fax number may be given if available. The list of officers for notice shall be updated by the Association every six (6) months.

C. Effectiveness

Any and all notices, demands or other communications ("Notices") required or desired to be given hereunder by either party shall be in writing and shall be validly given or made by any of the following methods:

- 1) By personal delivery;
- 2) By facsimile transmission if also deposited at the same time for delivery by United States mail in the manner described in Clause 3;
- 3) By deposit in the United States mail, certified or registered, postage prepaid; or
- 4) By delivery by a same day or overnight courier (e.g., Federal Express, etc.).

For Notices served personally or by courier, service shall be conclusively deemed made at the time of such personal service or refusal to accept service. Notice served by facsimile transmission shall conclusively be deemed to have been made as of the earlier of:


- 1) The first business day following the date of transmission to the facsimile number, if any, shown above, so long as the sender has reasonable confirmation of the receipt by the receiving facsimile machine of the facsimile transmission; or
- 2) The date of receipt or refusal of the concurrently mailed copy of the Notice.

If such Notice is transmitted by mail, such shall be deemed delivered upon actual delivery or refusal to accept delivery, addressed to the party to whom such Notice is to be given at the address set forth above. Any party hereto may change its address or facsimile number for the purpose of receiving Notices as herein provided by a written notice given in the manner as outlined in Section 12.1.B above to the other party or parties hereto. By following the methods as outlined for Notice, it will constitute notice given in accordance with this provision on the date received or refused.


SECTION III SEVERABILITY

If any section, subsection, sentence, clause, or phrase of this or phrase of this resolution is for any reason held to be invalid or unconstitutional by the decision of any court of competent jurisdiction, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of the resolution. The City Council hereby declares that it would have passed this resolution and each section, subsection, sentence, clause, or phrase thereof, irrespective of the fact that any one or more sections, subsections, sentences, clauses, or phrases be declared invalid or unconstitutional.


INTRODUCED, APPROVED, and ADOPTED this 11th day of April, 2023



George K. Chen
Mayor of the City of Torrance

APPROVED AS TO FORM:
PATRICK Q. SULLIVAN, City Attorney
by 

Tatia Y. Strader, Assistant City Attorney

ATTEST:


Rebecca Poirier, City Clerk


TORRANCE CITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION NO. 2023-30

STATE OF CALIFORNIA)
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES) ss
CITY OF TORRANCE)

I, Rebecca Poirier, City Clerk of the City of Torrance, California, do hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly introduced, approved, and adopted by the City Council of the City of Torrance at a regular meeting of said Council held on the 11th day of April 2023 by the following vote:

AYES:	COUNCILMEMBERS	Kaji, Kalani, Lewis, Mattucci, Sheikh, and Mayor Chen
NOES:	COUNCILMEMBERS	None.
ABSTAIN:	COUNCILMEMBERS	None.
ABSENT:	COUNCILMEMBERS	Griffiths.

Date: 4/24/23



Rebecca Poirier, MMC
City Clerk of the City of Torrance

ATTACHMENT A

CATASTROPHIC LEAVE PROGRAM

Purpose

The purpose of this Catastrophic Leave Program is to allow employees to assist another employee during times of personal crisis when serious illness or injury has incapacitated him/her or a family member and the employee is therefore unable to work. It can also be used for employees who suffer catastrophic illness or injury who must undergo intermittent medical treatment such as chemotherapy. This program is solely for employees whose accrued leave balances have been exhausted.

Policy

The Catastrophic Leave Program allows an employee to transfer eligible leave credits (vacation, sick leave, compensatory time and/or administrative leave) to another employee when a catastrophic illness or injury occurs. A catastrophic illness or injury is defined as a health condition which substantially incapacitates an employee or qualifying family member, or which forces the employee or family member to undergo ongoing or lengthy substantial medical treatment. The illness or injury further creates a financial hardship because the employee has or will exhaust all leave time. For the purpose of the catastrophic leave program, qualifying family member shall mean an employee's parents, step parents, spouse, registered domestic partner, children and step children.

An employee will not be eligible for catastrophic leave until he/she has exhausted all leave time, including sick leave, vacation, compensatory time and administrative leave.

Donated hours may be used under the following situations:

- To cover the elimination period before short-term and/or long-term disability benefits begin;
- To supplement short-term and/or long-term disability benefits;
- To cover the time used on unpaid Family Leave.

Procedures/Guidelines for Using Catastrophic Leave

- 1) Leave of Absence paperwork¹ must be submitted to the Human Resources Department. It should include the nature of the illness and the dates the employee expects to be absent. The leave must be approved by the Department Head and the Human Resources Director.
- 2) Verification of illness or injury of the employee or qualifying family member must be provided in writing by the treating physician on the City provided forms
- 3) The employee or representative makes a request for catastrophic leave donations to the employee's department. The City Manager's Office is then notified and advertises the donation request via e-mail.

¹ Leave of Absence Paperwork consists of: "Request for Leave of Absence" form and either a "UNUM" form (for personal illness) or a "Family Medical Certification" form (for family illness).

- 4) The period of absence will be determined by the written verification of the employee's or family member's physician and will not be based on the number of hours donated.
- 5) Employees who are approved for the Catastrophic Leave Program due to a qualifying family member's catastrophic illness/injury may use donated time for a maximum of 12 weeks during a rolling one year period, as is allowed by the Family and Medical Leave Act.
- 6) Employees must exhaust all personal leave hours (vacation, sick leave, etc.) prior to using any donated hours.
- 7) Employees will not accrue vacation, sick leave, or service time while using donated hours.
- 8) Donated hours may not be converted to cash ("cashed down").
- 9) The catastrophic leave bank will be closed and no further donations will be accepted under the following conditions:
 - The ill/injured employee returns to work full time, or
 - The 12 weeks of Family Leave have been exhausted, or
 - The ongoing, intermittent treatment program has been completed.

In these cases, any unused donated balances will be returned to the respective donating employees.
- 10) Any subsequent illness after the close of the bank will require a new request and approval.

Guidelines for Donating Hours

- 1) Employees who wish to donate eligible leave hours must complete a Catastrophic Leave Bank Transfer Authorization form.
- 2) Donation of Catastrophic Leave hours are made on a voluntary basis.
- 3) All donated time must be in increments of one hour or more.
- 4) Donation of leave hours, once used, are irrevocable and become part of the receiving employee's leave bank.
- 5) Employees with less than 40 hours of sick leave may not donate sick leave hours. This provision may be waived by the City Manager if a donating employee has given notice of terminating employment with the City and there is current qualified Catastrophic Leave Bank recipient.

Confidentiality

To protect the confidentiality of the program, the names of individuals who donate will not be released. The exact amount of hours donated will be provided to the receiving employee upon request for the purpose of computing the length of time to be covered by the catastrophic leave bank.

ATTACHMENT B

REQUEST FOR RELEASE TIME FORM

In accordance with your MOU, the City and the Association have agreed to utilize this form for the use of all Release Time.

Instructions: Please e-mail this completed form to **BOTH** Releasetime@TorranceCA.gov and your immediate Supervisor.

Date: _____

Employee: _____

Department/Division: _____

Immediate Supervisor: _____

Release Date(s) Requested: _____

Scheduled Meeting Time(s): _____

Location of Meeting: _____

Purpose (check appropriate box):

- Negotiations
- Hearing
- Meeting(s) to Represent Employees
- Executive Board Members (TME-TLEA-AFSCME only)

Employees on paid release time are required to limit their activities to matters within the course and scope of representation. The use of such time for personal or campaign activities is prohibited by law (California Government Code § 8314).