

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if special assistance is needed to participate in the meeting, please contact the City Clerk's Office at (310) 618-2780. Notification 48 hours prior to the meeting will enable the City to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility to this meeting. [28CFR35.102-35.104 ADA Title II]

Direct questions or concerns to the Commission Liaison Carolyn Chun at (310) 618-5990, or individual department head prior to submission to the Commission. Parties will be notified if the complaint will be included on a subsequent agenda.

The Historic Preservation Commission is an advisory body to the City Council that meets on the third Thursday of each month at 6:30 p.m. All meetings are open to the public. Agendas, staff reports, and minutes are available for review on the City webpage at [www.TorranceCA.gov/Historic-Preservation-Commission-Agendas-Minutes](http://www.TorranceCA.gov/Historic-Preservation-Commission-Agendas-Minutes).

Members of the public may prepare written comments to the Commission. Comments may be submitted via email to [HistoricPreservationCommission@TorranceCA.Gov](mailto:HistoricPreservationCommission@TorranceCA.Gov) and write "Public Comment" in the subject line. In the body of the email include the item number and/or title of the item. All comments submitted by 10:00 a.m. on the date of the meeting will be included as a "Supplemental" and made available on the City webpage. Comments received after 10:00 a.m. will be made available the following day on the City webpage.

**TORRANCE HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION AGENDA  
WEST ANNEX COMMISSION MEETING ROOM CITY HALL  
3031 TORRANCE BOULEVARD  
TORRANCE CA 90503  
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2023  
REGULAR MEETING  
6:30 PM**

**HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION MAY TAKE ACTION ON ANY ITEM  
LISTED ON THE AGENDA**

**1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER**

**ROLL CALL:** Commission Members: M. Higginbotham, Kartsonis, O'Donnell, Schwartz, Trivelli, Weideman, and Chairman G. Higginbotham

**2. FLAG SALUTE**

**3. REPORT OF THE 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 Friday, September 15, 2023.

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 ANNOUNCEMENT OF WITHDRAWN, DEFERRED, AND/OR SUPPLEMENTAL ITEMS**

**5. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS #1 (Limited to a 15 minute period)**

*This portion of the meeting is reserved for comment on items not on the agenda or on topics of interest to the general public. Under the Ralph M. Brown Act, Commissioners 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 this Public Comment period will have no longer than 1 minute per speaker.*

**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 Councilmember from the Consent Calendar and considered separately.*

**6A. Approval of Minutes: August 17, 2023**

**7. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS**

**7A. Presentation on the Climate Smart Awards Program by the Environmental Quality and Energy Conservation Commission**

**7B. Old Torrance signage informational item**

**8. PUBLIC HEARINGS – NONE**

**9. COMMISSION ORAL COMMUNICATIONS**

**10. ADJOURNMENT**

**10A.** Adjournment of Historic Preservation Commission Meeting to Thursday, November 16, 2023, at 6:30 p.m.

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
TORRANCE HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION AGENDA**

**1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER**

The Torrance Historic Preservation Commission convened in a regular session at 6:32 p.m. on Thursday, August 17, 2023, in the West Annex Meeting Room.

**ROLL CALL**

Present: Commissioners M. Higginbotham, Kartsonis, O'Donnell, Schwartz, and Weideman.

Absent: Chair G. Higginbotham and Vice Chair Trivelli.

Also Present: Senior Planning Associate Carolyn Chun, Community Development Manager Gregg Lodan, and Community Development Director Michelle Ramirez.

**2. FLAG SALUTE**

Commissioner Schwartz led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**3. REPORT OF THE STAFF ON THE POSTING OF THE AGENDA**

Senior Planning Associate Chun reported that the agenda was posted on the Public Notice Board at 3031 Torrance Boulevard and on the City's Website on Thursday, August 10, 2023.

**MOTION:** Commissioner O'Donnell moved to excuse the absence of Chair G. Higginbotham. Commissioner M. Higginbotham seconded the motion; a roll call vote reflected 5-0 approval (Chair G. Higginbotham and Vice Chair Trivelli absent).

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

None.

**5. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS**

None.

**6. CONSENT CALENDAR**

**6A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: JUNE 15, 2023**

**MOTION:** Commissioner O'Donnell moved to approve the June 15, 2023, minutes as presented. Commissioner Schwartz seconded the motion; a roll call vote reflected 5-0 approval (Chair G. Higginbotham and Vice Chair Trivelli absent).

**7. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS**

**7A. PRESENTATION – CITY OF TORRANCE EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER PRESENTATION BY EUNIQUE DAY, EMERGENCY SERVICES COORDINATOR, OFFICE OF EMERGENCY SERVICES**

Senior Planning Associate Chun presented Item 7A.

- Staff has worked with Historic Preservation Commission and City Cable regarding community outreach.
- The month of May was proclaimed Historic Preservation month by City Council. The Historic Preservation Commission and staff agreed to a month long daily historical fact on social media for the month of May; staff saw an increase in users on both Facebook and website pages in the month of May.
- The Historic Preservation Commission had a booth at the City Yard Open House and a survey was available regarding the Historic Preservation Program; (30) responses were received with most indicating no knowledge of the Historic Preservation Program, a few having knowledge of the program through social media platforms, and (1) showing interest in designating their home as a Landmark.
- July 2023, the Torrance Historic Society put on the Rock Around the Block event and (1) additional homeowner showed interest in designating their home as a Landmark.

Commissioner Weideman inquired if the homeowners interested in designating their homes had been reached out to. Community Development Manager Lodan stated that (1) homeowner is currently doing research.

Commissioner Kartsonis suggested that social media involvement be pressed more and suggested posting a historic fact of the month.

Commissioner Weideman stated that the Street Fair, Farmer's Market, Halloween Scare Down, and the Holiday Stroll would be ideal events to target neighborhoods the Commission is wanting to reach. Commissioner Kartsonis stated that the Cherry Blossom Festival could also be an ideal event to target.

Commissioner Kartsonis suggested that printing flyers, posting information at local businesses, and sending a postcard / letter to contributing homes would be great for targeting individuals.

Commissioner Schwartz inquired if the public notice board by the Torrance bakery could be utilized to display information. Community Development Manager Lodan stated that staff has used the public notice board, and staff can continue to use it.

Regarding surveys, Commissioner Kartsonis requested that information be obtained regarding why individuals are not interested in applying for the Landmark.

Commissioner Schwartz suggested a historical preservation competition that can drum up publicity.

**8. PUBLIC HEARINGS**

None.

**9. COMMISSION AND STAFF ORAL COMMUNICATIONS**

Community Development Manager Lodan Gregg announced Council items that will be presented: potential gateway signs into Downtown Torrance (either an arch or pylon sign), the draft banner policy, and the Housing Corridor Study.

Community Development Manager Lodan announced his transition from Long Range Planning Manager to Neighborhood Services Manager; Leo Oorts will take over until a Principal Planner has been recruited.

Commissioner O'Donnell spoke on her 2012 Parking Plan that she presented to City Council and stated that she's willing to meet with anyone interested in the plan.

**10. ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION:** At 7:17 p.m., Commissioner Schwartz moved to adjourn the meeting to Thursday, September 21, 2023, at 6:30 p.m. in the West Annex Meeting Room. Commissioner Kartsonis seconded the motion; a roll call vote reflected 5-0 approval (Chair G. Higginbotham and Vice Chair Trivelli absent).

###

Subject to Approval

**AGENDA ITEM NO. 7A**

**TO:** Members of the Historic Preservation Commission

**FROM:** Planning Division

**SUBJECT:** Presentation on the Climate Smart Awards Program by the Environmental Quality and Energy Conservation Commission

Members of the Environmental Quality and Energy Conservation Commission have prepared a presentation to share information about the Climate Smart Awards Program. The Climate Smart Awards program is being implemented in support of the Stewardship of the Environment Priority within the City's Strategic Plan. The Stewardship of the Environment Priority was revised in 2021 to clearly demonstrate the importance of the environment and the need for action. Climate Smart Awards are a first step for the Environmental Quality Commission and the City to encourage and reward environmental stewardship throughout the community. The Climate Smart Awards will recognize individuals, schools, businesses, and organizations within the community whose services and actions demonstrate environmental stewardship. Members of the Environmental Quality and Energy Conservation Commission are here to answer any questions.

Prepared by,



Riley Symons  
Planning Assistant

Respectfully submitted,



Leo Oorts  
Acting Principal Planner

**AGENDA ITEM NO. 7B**

**TO:** Members of the Historic Preservation Commission

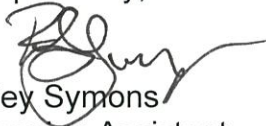
**FROM:** Planning Division

**SUBJECT:** Old Torrance Signage

At the City Council meeting of July 26, 2005, the City Council approved a Resolution that designated the Torrance Tract as 'Old Torrance founded in 1912'. City Council funded the design and installation of signage identifying the Torrance Tract so that visitors and residents can recognize the area.

The signs were installed in various locations around and within the boundary of the Torrance Tract bounded by Crenshaw Boulevard, Western Avenue, Plaza del Amo, and Dominguez Street. The signage that was erected had faded considerably over the past 17 years rendering some locations illegible. The City Council approved a plan for new wayfinding signage throughout the City in 2021 and City staff is currently working to implement it. The Old Torrance signage is being refreshed to reinforce the identity of the Torrance Tract. The new signs include the same verbiage as the previous signs, which read "Old Torrance Founded 1912". Staff collaborated with Public Works to remove the Old Torrance signage and replace it with new signage that matches the current City wayfinding program. Attached are photos of the old and new signage as well as a map of the installed locations.

Prepared by,



Riley Symons  
Planning Assistant

Respectfully submitted,



Leo Oorts  
Acting Principal Planner

Attachment

1. Pictures of Old Torrance Signage
2. Map of Signage Locations

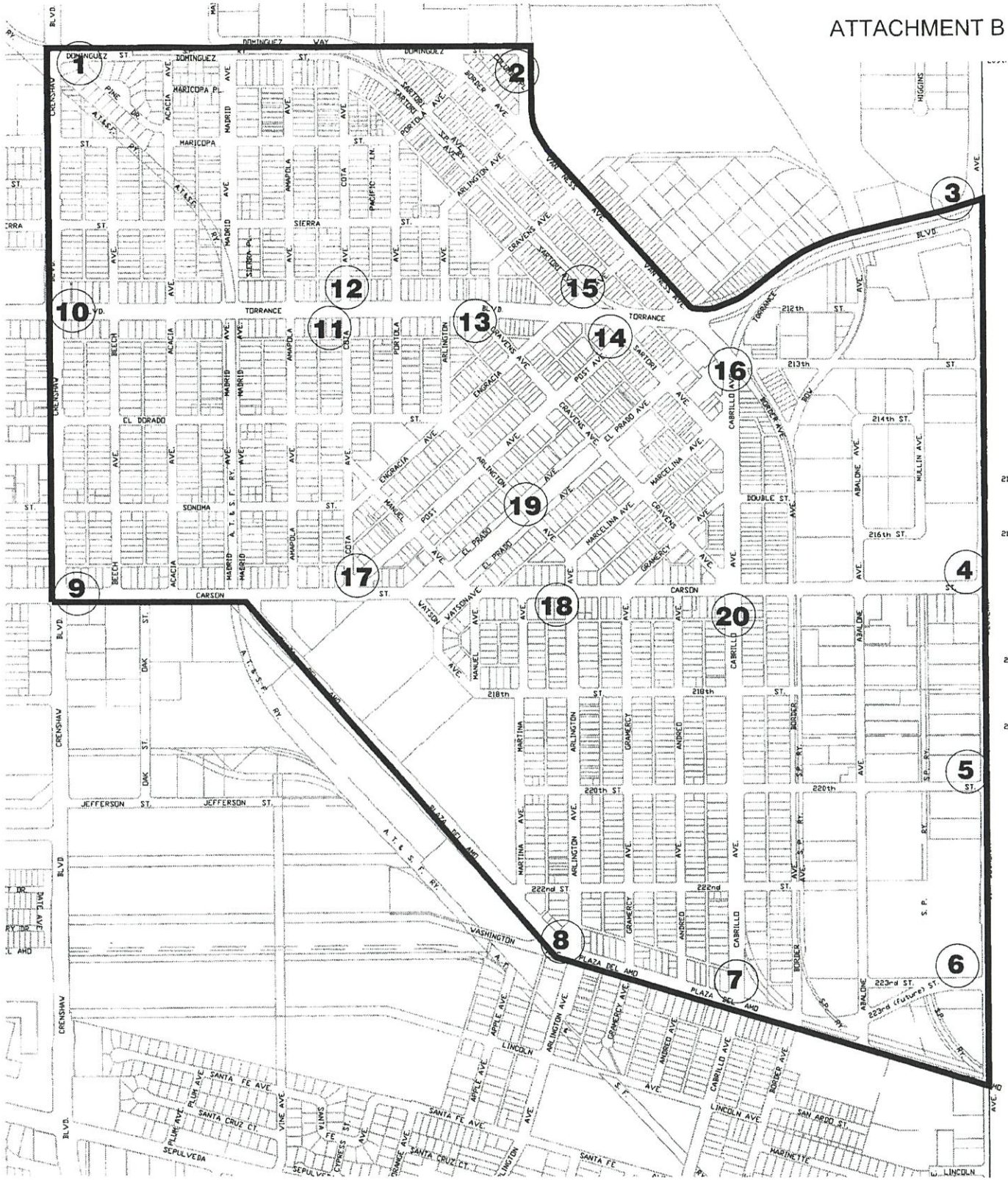
(NEW DESIGN) OLD TORRANCE SIGNAGE



(PREVIOUS DESIGN) OLD TORRANCE SIGNAGE





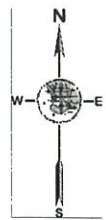


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MAPPED BY:  
GIS SECTION  
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT  
JEFFERY W. GIBSON  
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR

# OLD TORRANCE FOUNDED 1912 INSTALLED LOCATIONS



NOT TO SCALE  
LINES AND PHOTOS ARE APPROXIMATE.  
NOT TO BE USED FOR ESTABLISHING  
ABSOLUTE OR RELATIVE POSITIONS.