

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

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Torrance City Council convened in an adjourned regular session at 5:30 p.m. on Tuesday, December 10, 2002, in City Council Chambers at Torrance City Hall.

ROLL CALL

Present: Councilmembers Lieu, McIntyre, Mauno, Nowatka, Scotto, Witkowsky, and Mayor Walker.

Absent: None.

Also Present: City Manager Jackson, City Attorney Fellows, City Clerk Herbers, and other staff representatives.

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Agenda Item 17 was considered out of order at this time.

17. EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Council immediately recessed to closed session to confer with the City Manager and the City Attorney on agenda matters listed under 17a) Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation, and 17b) Real Property – Conference with Real Property Negotiator, pursuant to California Government Code Sections 54956.9(b), (c) and 54956.8.

The Council reconvened in Council Chambers at 7:00 p.m.

2. FLAG SALUTE/INVOCATION

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Councilmember Mauno.

Deacon Bob Miller, St. James Catholic Church, gave the invocation for the meeting.

3. AFFIDAVIT OF POSTING/WAIVE FURTHER READING

MOTION: Councilmember Lieu moved to accept and file the report of the City Clerk on the posting of the agenda for this meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Nowatka, and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

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

4. WITHDRAWN OR DEFERRED ITEMS

None.

5. COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

City Clerk Herbers announced that applications were being accepted in the City Clerk's office for appointment to the various commissions, with appointments to be made by the City Council at its meeting of January 14, 2003.

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Mayor Walker announced that Harvest Fire Ministries had agreed to relocate its operation to the Harbor Gateway area east of Torrance. Noting that resolving this matter was a long and involved process, he thanked his colleagues on the City Council, City Attorney Fellows and his staff, Planning Director Gibson and his staff, City Manager Jackson, the Bishop and his representatives, and the residents of Torrance Gardens for their time and patience.

Offering background information, Mayor Walker explained that Harvest Fire Ministries leased the building at 2823 Maricopa Avenue in the fall of 2001; that he and City staff met with church representatives a number of times to explain the types of government approvals the City believed were necessary before Harvest Fire could fully occupy and use the Maricopa property; that Harvest Fire disagreed and appeared to be headed toward litigation; that in the spring of 2002, the City Council instructed the City Attorney to prepare a lawsuit to cause Harvest Fire to cease use of the property if necessary; and that at the same time, the Council authorized the City Attorney to continue discussions with Harvest Fire and its landlord exploring the possibility of relocating the church and determining what is an appropriate use for the Maricopa property.

Mayor Walker reported that in closed session earlier this evening, the Council gave conceptual approval to assisting Harvest Fire in relocating its operations and that the City would also assist the landlord in obtaining approvals for much needed housing. He noted that in reaching a resolution of this dispute, the City avoided the expenditure of very substantial legal fees from what would likely have been protracted and costly litigation. He indicated that as early as next week, a public session agenda item detailing the terms and conditions of the settlement of the dispute with Harvest Fire and the proposed future of the property would be brought forward.

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Mayor Walker asked that the meeting be adjourned in memory of Charles "Chuck" Bowman, retired Street Services employee, and Dick Cahill, retired City employee and Parks & Recreation Commissioner.

6. COMMUNITY MATTERS

6a. RECOGNITION OF CHAMBER OF COMMERCE ADOPT-A-SCHOOL BUSINESS PARTNERS

Certificates recognizing Chamber of Commerce Adopt-A-School Business Partners were presented to the following: American Honda Motor Co., Bay Buick GMC, Buca di Beppo, Copy Club, Costco Wholesale, Courtyard by Marriott, Daily Breeze, Dow Chemical, ExxonMobil, First Bank, Garrett Engine Boosting Systems, Hitachi Automotive Products, Honeywell International, Moog, Inc., Moon Global, Radium Open Air Market, South Bay Bank, Sunrider International, Time Warner Communications, Torrance Marriott, Torrance Memorial Medical Center, Toyota Motor Sales USA, and TRW.

7. **CONSENT CALENDAR**

7a. **INCREASE IN PURCHASE ORDER RE CATCH-A-RIDE PROGRAM**

Recommendation

Recommendation of the **City Manager** that City Council:

- 1) Approve an increase to a purchase order to provide incentives for the City's Rideshare Program ("Catch-A-Ride" CAR) with Just Rewards in the amount of \$60,000 from AB 2766 funds; and
- 2) Extend the term of the Just Rewards purchase order through June 30, 2003.

7b. **FY 2002-03 FIRST QUARTER BUDGET REVIEW**

Recommendation

Recommendation of the **Finance and Governmental Operations Committee** that City Council:

- 1) Accept and file the financial report;
- 2) Accept and file the City Treasurer's Investment Report;
- 3) Approve the allocation of Fiscal Year 2001-2002 carryover; and
- 4) Approve department program modifications for the Building & Safety, General Services, and the Parks & Recreation departments.

Considered separately, see page 11.

7c. **REVISED CLASS SPECIFICATIONS FOR POLICE CAPTAIN, LIEUTENANT, AND SERGEANT**

Recommendation

Recommendation of the **Human Resources Director** and the **Civil Service Commission** that City Council approve the revised class specifications for Police Captain, Lieutenant, and Sergeant.

7d. **APPROVAL OF FINAL TRACT MAP NO. 53286**

Recommendation

Recommendation of the **Engineering Director** that City Council approve Final Tract Map No. 53286, creating four lots, one for existing commercial uses and three for six condominium units, located at 4425-4551 Calle Mayor, which substantially conforms to and has met all conditions of approval of the Tentative Map.

7e. **RENEWAL OF SERVICE AGREEMENT WITH TRITECH SOFTWARE SYSTEMS**

Recommendation

Recommendation of the **Acting Information Technology Director** and the **Fire Chief** that City Council authorize the support services renewal agreement C97-214 with Trittech Software Systems in the amount of \$34,179.

7f. **LEASE AGREEMENT ADDENDUM RE HARBOR WORKSOURCE CENTER**

Recommendation

Recommendation of the **Workforce Investment Network (WiN) Board** and the **Human Resources Director** that City Council authorize the execution of the Third Addendum to the office lease between the City of Torrance for the Workforce Development Division and Worldport LLC, a Delaware limited company (successor-in-interest to California Drive-In Theatres, Inc.) for the Harbor Worksource Center. The lease is for a term of January 1, 2003 - December 31, 2007 for an amount not-to-exceed \$727,054.68.

7g. VOCATIONAL TRAINING AGREEMENT

Recommendation

Recommendation of the **Human Resources Director** that City Council execute a vocational training agreement with Camino Real for an amount not-to-exceed \$150,000 for the period of December 10, 2002 through June 30, 2005. This will provide training in the occupations of truck and bus driving.

7h. CRENSHAW BOULEVARD REHABILITATION PROJECT

Recommendation

Recommendation of the **Engineering Director** that City Council:

- 1) Approve the plans and specifications for Crenshaw Boulevard Rehabilitation, Pacific Coast Highway to Skypark Drive, T-32; (B2002-44)
- 2) Award a public works agreement to All American Asphalt in the amount of \$1,327,911.60 and authorize a 5% contingency in the amount of \$66,395.58 for the construction of this project;
- 3) Authorize staff to prepare a standard public works agreement between the City and All American Asphalt;
- 4) Authorize the Mayor to execute and the City Clerk to attest to said agreement; and
- 5) Authorize payment to the Edison Company in an amount estimated at \$20,000 for the installation of street lighting equipment.

MOTION: Councilmember Nowatka moved for the approval of Consent Calendar Items 7a through 7h, with the exception of Item 7b. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Scotto and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

8. COMMUNITY SERVICES

8a. GRANT FUNDING FOR NON-PROFIT SOCIAL SERVICE AGENCIES

Recommendation

Recommendation of the **Community Services Commission** and the **Parks and Recreation Director** that City Council approve grant funding for under the year 2003 Grant Program for Non-Profit Social Services Agencies to Behavioral Health Service (\$2,000), Being Alive South Bay (\$3,000), Community Helpline (\$1,500), CSF/RVL S.C.O.R.E. (\$2,100), Enrichment Through Employment (\$3,000), Jewish Family Services (\$1,000), Mental Health Association (\$3,000), My Handi-Capable Reporter (\$2,000), National Council of Alcoholism (\$1,500), New Life Advocacy (\$1,500), PROJECT Touch (\$2,000), So. Bay Literacy Council (\$1,046), The Hospice Foundation (\$1,000), Salvation Army (\$4,000), The Wellness Community (\$2,000), Torrance-Lomita Meals on Wheels, Inc. (\$1,854) for a total of \$32,500.

Citing a possible conflict of interest, Councilmember Witkowsky announced that she was abstaining from consideration of this item because while her agency was not a recipient, they applied for a grant, and exited Council Chambers.

Parks and Recreation Director Barnett reported that this was the 19th year of the Grant Program for Non-Profit Social Service Agencies; that 26 applications requesting approximately \$126,000 were received for this year's program; and that the Community Services Commission reviewed the applications and made the above recommendations, with which he concurs.

Mayor Walker noted that last May, the City Council approved an increase in grant funds to \$30,000 in FY 2001-2002 and an additional \$2,500 per year for the next four years, for a total of \$40,000. He thanked Community Service Commissioners, noting the time and effort involved in arriving at the recommendations.

Mr. Jack Hachmeister, Chair of the Community Services Commission, reported on the review process, noting that hearings were held over a period of two nights, followed by deliberations in which the Commission reached a consensus on the above recommendations. He noted that the Commission invited agencies that wished to apply for a grant to a meeting prior to the hearings/deliberations so Commissioners could share what they were looking for in the form and content of grant applications.

MOTION: Councilmember Scotto moved to concur with the Commission and staff recommendation. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Nowatka and passed by unanimous roll call vote, with Councilmember Witkowsky abstaining.

Councilmember Witkowsky returned to the dais.

9. PLANNING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

9a. SOUTHWOOD TRAFFIC CALMING

Recommendation

Recommendation of the **Planning Director** that City Council concur with staff's recommendation to:

- 1) Install a pedestrian crossing signal on Carson Street adjacent to Jefferson Middle School;
- 2) Install median islands on both Torrance Boulevard and Carson Street with left turn access allowed into neighborhood only (Alternative 4); and
- 3) Maintain the existing 3-way stop controls at the intersection of Lee Street and Ellinwood Drive.

Transportation Manager Semaan briefly summarized the staff report per written material of record.

Responding to questions from the Council, Transportation Manager Semaan provided clarification regarding the Traffic Commission's action on the proposed traffic calming measures. He explained that Commissioners did not concur with staff's recommendation to maintain the existing 3-way stop controls at the intersection of Lee Street and Ellinwood Drive because of objections from residents who live close to that intersection and that the Commission also voted against the installation of any physical barriers that would restrict movements in and out of Ocean Avenue between Torrance Boulevard and Carson Street.

Mayor Walker invited public comment.

Mr. Thomas Bryan, 5115 Lee Street, reported that the installation of the stop signs at the intersection of Lee Street and Ellinwood Drive has greatly enhanced safety, by reducing the number of vehicles on neighborhood streets and the speed at which they travel, and urged their retention.

Mr. Kurt Montgomery, 5029 Lee Street, agreed with the previous speaker that the stop signs have been a wonderful safety enhancement; noted that many children use the

intersection to go to and from the nearby park and school; and reported that his wife collected approximately 150 signatures in favor of retaining the stop signs.

Mr. Paul Diamond, 5111 Lee Street, related his observation that there has been a noticeable reduction in the volume and speed of traffic since the installation of the stop signs.

Mr. Joseph Vazquez, 5118 Lee Street, echoed Mr. Diamond's comments.

Ms. Judi Gerber-Hylands, 5011 Lee Street, related her understanding that stop signs are not used to control speed and maintained that they have created a false sense of security for pedestrians at the Lee/Ellinwood intersection, which has actually made it more dangerous. She noted that she previously suggested the use of crossing guards at the intersection but was told that the volume of traffic did not warrant them and questioned why the volume warrants stop signs but not crossing guards.

Ms. Shirley Van Tine, 5024 Lee Street, expressed support for retaining the stop signs, reporting that the vast majority of residents on Lee Street want them to remain. She contended that Ms. Gerber-Hylands' opposition was based on the fact that the stop signs hinder access to her property.

Mr. Robert Olson, a resident who lives on Scott Street, reported that he videotaped the intersection for 10 days in an attempt to document a motorist who habitually runs the stop sign and did not witness a single incident where a driver was not paying attention to pedestrians. He contended that the intersection is now the safest place for children to cross and commented on the need to increase enforcement efforts to re-educate drivers and ensure that they obey the stop signs.

Ms. Andrea Reilly, 21505 Talisman Street, indicated that she supported retaining the stop signs and installing a pedestrian crossing signal adjacent to Jefferson Middle School. She stated that the safety of both residents and students was her primary concern; noted that three children have been hit by cars near Jefferson Middle School in the past two years; and submitted a proposed traffic circulation pattern designed to direct cars away from the routes used by children to walk to school and minimize the intrusion of school traffic on the neighborhood.

Mayor Walker suggested that the Council deal with the stop sign issue first and then consider Ms. Reilly's proposal along with the rest of the staff recommendation.

Mr. Michael Jakubczyk, 5015 Lee Street, stated that initially, speed was the main concern of residents; that stop signs do not cause a reduction in the speed of traffic; and that speed bumps and increased police presence are the most effective ways to slow down traffic. He reported that his driveway backs into the intersection; that he views it every minute of every day; and that he has observed that the majority of motorists do not stop at the stop signs. He stated that no evidence has been presented to show that the stop signs have reduced the speed of traffic or improved safety, despite his request for such information, and contended that the stop signs have decreased safety by creating a false sense of security. He noted that his children frequently use the intersection so he has a vested interest in its safety. He expressed concerns about the effects of increased noise and pollution caused by the stop signs, as well as the safety of his property and his children as they play in the front yard. He recounted an incident where an object was thrown through a neighbor's window by a passing motorist. He maintained that the majority of the people who signed the petition in support of retaining the stop signs do not live on Lee Street or close to the intersection.

Mayor Walker stated that he believed the Council had heard a good sampling of comments on both sides of this issue and suggested that they proceed with deliberations.

Mayor Walker indicated that he strongly favored retaining the stop signs, relating his observation that traffic is slower and safety has been enhanced since their installation. He commented on the difficulty of getting stop signs installed and stated that he could not imagine removing them from this location.

Councilmember Witkowsky concurred with Mayor Walker's remarks and noted that according to her count, 49 people who signed the petition live on Lee Street.

Mayor Walker stated that it was immaterial to him whether someone lives three houses or three blocks away from the intersection because it is an issue of public safety.

MOTION: Councilmember Scotto moved to concur with the staff recommendation to maintain the 3-way stop controls at the intersection of Lee Street and Ellinwood Drive. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Witkowsky and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

As there was no opposition to the installing a pedestrian crossing signal adjacent to Jefferson Middle School, Councilmember Scotto made the following motion:

MOTION: Councilmember Scotto moved to concur with the staff recommendation to install a pedestrian crossing adjacent to Jefferson Middle School. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Nowatka and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

Mayor Walker invited public comment on the recommendation to install median islands on both Torrance Boulevard and Carson Street allowing left-turn access into the neighborhood only.

Returning to the podium, Ms. Reilly asked that the Council consider extending the red curb an additional 40 feet down the egress of Ocean Avenue at Torrance Boulevard to provide an improved line-of-sight for motorists, noting that while this issue was not included on the agenda, it was discussed at the Traffic Commission.

City Attorney Fellows advised that this issue was beyond the scope of the recommendation being considered at this meeting.

Ms. Joan Pacina, 21701 Ocean Avenue, voiced support for the traffic circulation pattern submitted by Ms. Reilly, which calls for the installation of a barrier at the south end of Ocean Avenue north of the access street. She contended that the barrier would discourage cut-through traffic and improve the circulation of school traffic and that it would be less expensive and more effective than the proposed medians. She related her understanding that there are barriers that emergency vehicles can drive over without sustaining any damage.

Fire Chief Bongard indicated that the Fire Department would be opposed to the installation of any barrier that fire trucks would have to drive over because of the noise to surrounding residents and the wear and tear on vehicles.

Ms. Pacina suggested a half-barrier on the east side of Ocean with signs posted prohibiting right-turns onto Carson except for emergency vehicles.

Police Chief Herren stated that the Police Department would be opposed to such a barrier because it would be impossible to enforce the turn restrictions.

Councilmember Witkowsky asked about an earlier proposal, and Transportation Manager Semaan advised that staff reconsidered a proposal to prohibit left turns in and out of the neighborhood because it was determined that left-turn access into the neighborhood was critical for residents, schools and emergency vehicles. He noted that the proposed barriers would eliminate southbound/eastbound cut-through traffic from Torrance Boulevard and northbound/westbound cut-through traffic from Carson Street.

Councilmember Witkowsky noted that there is a similar median configuration in North Torrance, which was installed to discourage cut-through traffic, and asked if staff had any data on its effectiveness. Transportation Manager Semaan indicated that he had no data available.

Ms. Dottie Miller, 21301 Ocean Avenue, stated that she was opposed to a barrier cutting off Ocean Avenue at Carson Street because it has the potential of creating more problems than it solves and expressed doubts that the proposed medians would result in any improvement.

Mayor Walker commented that it was unlikely that the medians would solve all of the problems in this area but believed it was a step in the right direction. He stated that his first inclination was to close off one end of Ocean Avenue, but felt that staff had come up with a reasonable alternative.

Mr. Robert Feldman, 4620 Cathann Street, asked about the status of a proposal to address problems at the intersection of Cathann and Anza. Transportation Manager Semaan reported that this intersection was discussed at the November Traffic Commission meeting and that an item will be brought back to the Commission for consideration.

Ms. Donna Spreitzer, 21930 Ocean Avenue, asked if the City intends to install temporary barricades to see how the proposed medians work. She commented that action on this matter is long overdue.

Citing previous experience with temporary measures, Planning Director Gibson advised that staff was recommending that permanent medians be constructed as a first step in addressing traffic issues in the Southwood area.

Mr. Arthur Evans, owner of property at 3901 Sepulveda Boulevard, commented on the success of the barrier on Ocean Avenue between Sepulveda and Carson in preventing cut-through traffic and suggested that the barrier be extended to cut off northbound traffic.

Councilmember Nowatka asked if traffic counts were taken to determine the prevailing direction of cut-through traffic. Transportation Manager Semaan reported that a license plate survey was conducted and that the majority of traffic entering and exiting the neighborhood was related to school traffic.

Councilmember Scotto proposed that, in addition to constructing the medians, a temporary half barricade be installed on the east side of Ocean Avenue blocking northbound traffic from Carson.

Mayor Walker stated that he recognized that additional measures will likely be needed, but he preferred to approve the medians and see how they work before taking the next step. He noted that these problems did not occur overnight and will take some time to resolve.

Councilmember McIntyre stated that traffic has been a long-standing problem in this area, which needs to be addressed, and proposed that the Council set a timeframe for reconsideration of this issue if the medians prove ineffective.

Mayor Walker agreed and suggested reviewing the matter in six months. City Manager Jackson recommended that the Council request that the Traffic Commission review the situation in six months and report to the Council as to whether or not additional measures are needed.

Councilmember Lieu stated that he agreed that the proposed measures were reasonable and that the Council should revisit this issue after some time has passed and the impact on other streets in the neighborhood can be determined.

Councilmember Witkowsky indicated that she would support the installation of the medians because she has observed the effectiveness of this type of design on 182nd Street near the 405 Freeway.

Councilman Mauno stated that he favored the piecemeal approach, allowing an opportunity to refine the plan after evaluating its effectiveness.

Councilmember Nowatka commented that while the medians may eliminate some of the traffic on Ocean Avenue, it does nothing to address speeding and voiced his opinion that the Council should concentrate on this issue in the future.

MOTION: Councilmember Witkowsky moved to concur with the staff recommendation to install median islands on Torrance Boulevard and Carson Street with left-turn access allowed into the neighborhood only. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Scotto and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

Mayor Walker thanked residents of Southwood for their input.

Councilmember Scotto requested an increase in enforcement efforts by the Police Department with regard to the stop signs.

10. PUBLIC SAFETY

10a. DESIGNATION OF TORRANCE FIRE STATIONS AS SAFE HAVEN LOCATIONS

Recommendation

Recommendation of the **Fire Chief** that City Council adopt a Resolution requesting the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors to designate Torrance fire stations as Safe Haven locations and authorizing the City Manager or his designee to execute any documents necessary to effectuate this designation.

Fire Engineer Salcido briefly summarized the staff report per written material of record. He explained that Safe Haven locations are places where newborns may be surrendered without criminal prosecution in accordance with the Newborn Abandonment Law in effect since January of 2001. He noted that any infant surrendered would be evaluated by Fire Department personnel and then transferred to the appropriate receiving hospital and that Torrance Firefighters Association has offered to fund the start-up costs of the program.

Councilmember Scotto expressed support for the program.

RESOLUTION NO. 2002-125

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE REQUESTING THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS TO DESIGNATE TORRANCE FIRE STATIONS AS SAFE HAVEN LOCATIONS AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER OR HIS DESIGNEE TO EXECUTE ANY DOCUMENTS TO EFFECTUATE THIS DESIGNATION

MOTION: Councilmember Witkowsky moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 2002-125. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Scotto and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

11. **ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS**

11a. **CONTINUATION OF STATE OF LOCAL EMERGENCY RE CAROLWOOD/SINGINGWOOD DRIVE**

Recommendation

Recommendation of the **City Manager** and the **City Attorney** that City Council continue the state of local emergency, proclaimed March 2, 2001 for properties located on Carolwood Drive and Singingwood Drive.

MOTION: Councilmember Scotto moved to concur with the staff recommendation. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Mauno and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

11b. **REQUEST TO TRANSFER CONTROL OF PARAGON COMMUNICATIONS D.B.A. AOL TIME WARNER INC. TO TIME WARNER CABLE, INC.**

Recommendation

Recommendation of the **City Manager** that City Council approve a Resolution denying the request to transfer control of Paragon Communications d.b.a. AOL Time Warner Inc. to Time Warner Cable, Inc.

Ms. Kristi Hennessey, representing Time Warner, read the following prepared statement:

“Time Warner expressly agrees to assume all the obligations of the current existing franchise. Local management will remain the same, as well as the folks we report to at the corporate offices. There is no change in control of the franchise or the franchisee from AOL Time Warner, and Time Warner Cable will continue to be solely and exclusively responsible for the day-to-day operations and management of the cable television system. There is no change in our commitment to provide customer service and the best programming and value options available to our customers, and this transaction will have no impact on day-to-day business or policies and procedures. I respectfully request that the Council consider approval of this request.”

Councilmember Nowatka noted that the City has requested documents related to the transfer, which AOL Time Warner has declined to provide. Ms. Hennessey stated that it was Time Warner’s position that the requested documents were not pertinent to the transfer, explaining that the ultimate parent company, AOL Time Warner, would remain the same.

Councilmember Nowatka stated that he believed the City had a valid reason for requesting the documents and expressed concerns that the transfer may simply be a repackaging of the company to make it more accessible for merger or take-over.

Ms. Hennessey advised that Time Warner's legal counsel determined that the documents were not pertinent to the transfer.

RESOLUTION NO. 2002-126

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE RELATING TO THE DENIAL OF CONSENT TO THE TRANSFER OF THE FRANCHISE AGREEMENT GRANTED TO AN INDIRECT SUBSIDIARY OF AOL TIME WARNER

MOTION: Councilmember Witkowsky moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 2002-126. The motion was seconded by Councilmember McIntyre and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

Item 7b was considered at this time.

7b. FY 2002-03 FIRST QUARTER BUDGET REVIEW

Recommendation

Recommendation of the **Finance and Governmental Operations Committee** that City Council:

- 1) Accept and file the financial report;
- 2) Accept and file the City Treasurer's Investment Report;
- 3) Approve the allocation of Fiscal Year 2001-2002 carryover; and
- 4) Approve department program modifications for the Building & Safety, General Services, and the Parks & Recreation departments.

Finance Director Tsao briefly reviewed the financial status of the City as of the end of the first quarter of Fiscal Year FY2002-03; discussed the Committee's recommendation to allocate carryover from FY2001-01 and 2001-02 to the Economic Anomaly Fund; and outlined the program modifications for the Building & Safety, General Services, and Parks & Recreation departments (per written material of record).

Councilmember Scotto reported that the Committee examined the options and decided that it was prudent to allocate the carryover from the two previous years, which amounts to approximately \$5.8 million, to the Economic Anomaly Fund in view of the current State budget crisis.

MOTION: Councilmember Scotto moved to concur with the staff recommendation, approving the allocation of 2001-2002 carryover funds to the Economic Anomaly Reserve; and approving the following department modifications:

- Increase in Building & Safety Budget with appropriation of \$115,000 to hire temporary consulting assistance in performing building inspections and plan checks.
- Appropriate \$10,000 from Program Contingency Reserve for a pilot program to expand graffiti abatement services within the City of Torrance to include dumpsters.
- Increase Parks & Recreation revenue and expenditure budgets for Cultural Services Division to meet public demand for expanded class opportunities.

The motion was seconded by Councilmember Witkowsky and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

Mayor Walker commented on the City's history of being fiscally conservative.

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The Redevelopment Agency met from 8:55 p.m. to 8:57 p.m.

16. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

- 16a.** City Manager Jackson remembered both Dick Cahill and Chuck Bowman.
- 16b.** Councilmember Lieu extended condolences to the Cahill family.
- 16c.** Councilmember Lieu, noting his attendance at the Torrance Police Officers Association dinner, stated that Torrance was blessed by the caliber of people who serve on its Police Department.
- 16d.** Councilmember Mauno commented favorably on South Bay Ballet's production of the *Toy Shop*.
- 16e.** Councilmember McIntyre noted that Councilmember Nowatka had performed admirably with the South Bay Ballet.
- 16f.** Councilmember Nowatka expressed condolences to the Cahill and Bowman families.
- 16g.** Councilmember Scotto also expressed condolences to the Cahill and Bowman families.
- 16h.** Councilmember Scotto asked for City Council concurrence to find an office within the City for AFSCME.
- 16i.** Councilmember Scotto congratulated Torrance Memorial Medical Center for raising \$27,000 more than previous year at their Holiday Festival.
- 16j.** Councilmember Scotto announced that MAX Area Express had received a refund of \$43,5000 that was due to prudent planning.
- 16k.** Councilmember Witkowsky commented on the South Bay Ballet performance, noting that she was impressed with Councilmember Nowatka, and commended Diane Lauridsen for her efforts with the company.
- 16l.** Councilmember Witkowsky reported that she had attended the opening of a District Office for 4th District Supervisor Don Knabe and Los Angeles County Assessor Rick Auerbach in Signal Hill.
- 16m.** Councilmember Witkowsky announced that Sister City delegates from Kashiwa would be visiting Torrance in February, celebrating the program's 30th anniversary, and encouraged attendance at the February 8 performance of the Kashiwa Cultural Delegation.
- 16n.** Mayor Walker commented on his longtime friendship with Dick and Iva Cahill.

17. EXECUTIVE SESSION

a. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - ANTICIPATED LITIGATION

Significant exposure to litigation involving Harvest Fire, located at 2823-2829 Maricopa Street, Torrance, pursuant to subdivision (b) of Section 54956.9:

ADDED ON FRIDAY, DECEMBER 6.

- a-1. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - ANTICIPATED LITIGATION
(California Government Code § 54956.9[c])
One case**

b. REAL PROPERTY - CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATOR
(California Government Code § 54956.8):

1. Property: Parcels fronting Airport Drive known as Lots 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 10, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, and 17 as described in Official Map No. 2
Negotiating Parties: LeRoy J. Jackson and Ralph Martin
Under Negotiation: Terms of lease
2. Property: 2790 Skypark Drive
Negotiating Parties: LeRoy J. Jackson and Arthur Valdez
Under Negotiation: Terms and conditions of lease
3. Property: Rolling Hills Aviation, Inc.
3115 Airport Drive
Negotiating Parties: LeRoy J. Jackson and Bill Sherwood
Under Negotiation: Terms and conditions of lease
4. Property: 3233 Pacific Coast Highway
Negotiating Parties: LeRoy J. Jackson and Charlie Alfano
Under Negotiation: Terms and conditions of lease
5. Property: 2909 Pacific Coast Highway
Negotiating Parties: LeRoy J. Jackson and Moya Kelly
Under Negotiation: Terms and conditions of lease
6. Property: 25200-02 Crenshaw Boulevard
Negotiating Parties: LeRoy J. Jackson and Robert Hollis
Under Negotiation: Terms and conditions of lease

ADDED ON DECEMBER 6

7. **Property:** Southwest Value Partners
20770 Madrona Avenue
Negotiating Parties: LeRoy J. Jackson and Scott Douglas
Under Negotiations: Acquisition of Real Property

Considered earlier in the meeting, see page 1. Item 7b(2) was withdrawn from the agenda. No formal action was taken on any matter considered in closed session.

18. ADJOURNMENT

At 9:07 p.m., the meeting was adjourned to Tuesday, December 17, 2002, at 5:30 p.m. for an executive session, with the regular meeting commencing at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers.

***Adjourned in Memory of
Charles "Chuck" Bowman and Dick Cahill***

Attest:

/s/ Dan Walker

Mayor of the City of Torrance

/s/ Sue Herbers

Sue Herbers
City Clerk of the City of Torrance

Approved on February 4, 2003

Sue Sweet
Recording Secretary