

April 21, 1998

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

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

The Torrance City Council convened in a regular session at 7:02 p.m. on Tuesday, April 21, 1998, in the City Council Chambers at Torrance City Hall.

**ROLL CALL**

Present: Council members Cribbs, Lee, Nakano, O'Donnell,  
Walker, and Mayor Hardison.

Absent: Councilman Messerlian.

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

2. **FLAG SALUTE/ INVOCATION**

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Beach Cities Civil Air Patrol Cadet Squad #107.

Reverend Paul Lance of Seaside Community Church gave the invocation for the meeting.

3. **AFFIDAVIT OF POSTING/WAIVE FURTHER READING**

**MOTION:** Councilman Lee 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 Councilwoman Cribbs, and, there being no objection, it was so ordered by Mayor Hardison (absent Councilman Messerlian).

**MOTION:** Councilman Lee 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 Council member the right to demand the reading of any such resolution or ordinance in regular order. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Cribbs, and, there being no objection, it was so ordered by Mayor Hardison (absent Councilman Messerlian).

4. **WITHDRAWN/DEFERRED ITEMS**

None.

5. **COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**City Council Workshop**

Tuesday, April 28, 1998, 5:30 p.m.  
Council Chambers  
Subject: Energy Deregulation

Mayor Hardison encouraged the public to attend this workshop where various aspects of energy deregulation will be discussed by representatives from the Public Utilities Commission, Southern California Edison, and private vendors.

Mayor Hardison announced that a community meeting with the Federal Aviation Administration will be held on Monday, April 27, 1998, from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. at the Katy Geissert Library Meeting Room for South Bay residents to share their concerns and discuss issues dealing with Los Angeles International Airport and local airports.

Mayor Hardison commented on "Youth in Government Day" activities that had taken place earlier in the day, and commended participants for their interest in local and national issues.

6. **COMMUNITY MATTERS**

6a. **PROCLAMATION RE "ISRAEL'S 50TH BIRTHDAY"**

Mayor Hardison presented a proclamation declaring Sunday, April 26, 1998, as official day of celebration to honor "Israel's 50th Birthday" to Ms. Renee Sokolski, Chair of South Bay's Israel 50th Jubilee Committee and Ms. Kathy Bloomfield, Program Director of the Jewish Federation. Ms. Sokolski invited everyone to attend the celebration on April 26 from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. at the Torrance Cultural Arts Center.

6b. **PROCLAMATION RE "EARTH DAY"**

Mayor Hardison presented a proclamation declaring Wednesday, April 22, 1998, as "Earth Day" in the City of Torrance to Ms. Venora Lee, President of the Friends of Madrona Marsh. Ms. Lee announced that the Friends will be conducting a Earth Day Nature Walk at Madrona Marsh on Wednesday, April 22 at 4:00 p.m.

6c. **PROCLAMATION RE "NATIONAL VOLUNTEER WEEK"**

Mayor Hardison presented a proclamation declaring the week of April 19 through April 25, 1998 as "National Volunteer Week" in the City of Torrance to Ms. Olivia Lopez, City Volunteer Coordinator, and Ms. Mary Lou Weiss and Ms. Anita Moisen, Department Volunteer Coordinators. On behalf of all the City departments, Ms. Lopez publicly thanked the more than 1200 volunteers for their dedicated service to the community. Mayor Hardison noted that all volunteers had been sent letters thanking them for their service and presented Certificates of Appreciation to the following volunteers selected to represent their departments:

City Attorney's Office

David Caceres

City Manager/Office of Cable Communications Henry Carlson  
Cultural Arts Center

Mark Bialick  
Lenore Headley

	Jane Matsuda
	Charlotte Outcalt
	Olga Sotiri
	Vera Ulrich
Finance Department	Hema Varadaraj
Fire Department	Michael Dee
	Michael McKean
	Russell Poelsta
Library	Min Kim
	Elizabeth McEntire
	Joan Risse
	Pauline Savage
Parks & Recreation Department	Kevin Donahue
	Sally McMahan
	Russ Nolte
	Hazel Taniguchi
	Mari Yamasaki
Police Department	Rendall McKechnie
	Evelyn Stevens
	Robert Ulrich
	Robin Wren
Emergency Disaster Preparedness	Dr. Patty Boge
	Rob Friedrich
	Donna Heise
	Chuck Lobb
	Bob Rogers
Street Services Department	Violet Galioto

7. **CONSENT CALENDAR**

7a. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES - MARCH 24, 1998**

7b. **AMENDMENT TO AGREEMENT RE TRANSPORTATION CONSULTING SERVICES**

**Recommendation**

The Planning Director recommends that City Council approve an amendment to an existing agreement with Steven P. Brown, d.b.a. Transportation Consulting Services, to continue to provide transportation planning consulting services to the Planning Department for an additional amount of \$10,000.

7c. **APPROPRIATION OF FUNDS FOR 190TH ST./CRENSHAW BLVD. PROJECT**

**Recommendation**

The Engineering Director recommends that City Council appropriate \$500,000 from Proposition C Funds for 190th Street corridor improvements including the intersection of Crenshaw Boulevard. [Fed. No. STPL - 5249 (033)]

7d. **REHABILITATION OF REDONDO BEACH BOULEVARD**

**Recommendation**

The Engineering Director recommends that City Council:

- (1) Appropriate \$100,000 from Prop C Funds, and
- (2) Authorize the Mayor to execute and the City Clerk to attest to an agreement with the City of Gardena for the construction of pavement improvements on Redondo Beach Boulevard.

7e. **REVISED CLASS SPECIFICATIONS FOR STREET SERVICES DIRECTOR AND STREETScape MANAGER**

**Recommendation**

The Human Resources Director and the Civil Services Commission recommend that City Council approve the proposed revised class specification of Street Services Director and the proposed revised and retitled class specification of Streetscape Manager.

**MOTION:** Councilwoman O'Donnell moved for the approval of the Consent Calendar as written. The motion was seconded by Councilman Walker and passed by unanimous roll call vote (absent Councilman Messerlian).

13. **ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS**

13a. **AMENDMENTS RE CERTAIN MANAGEMENT, SAFETY MANAGEMENT AND UNREPRESENTED EMPLOYEES RESOLUTIONS**

**Recommendation**

The City Manager recommends that City Council adopt a supplemental TFFA resolution and amendments to the Certain Management, Safety Management and Unrepresented Employees resolutions adding a catastrophic leave provision.

Assistant to the City Manager Keane advised that these amendments will allow employees to donate sick leave to seriously ill colleagues.

**CERTAIN MANAGEMENT EMPLOYEES  
RESOLUTION NO. 98-48**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY  
OF TORRANCE AMENDING RESOLUTION NO. 97-134  
GOVERNING EMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION FOR  
CERTAIN MANAGEMENT EMPLOYEES**

**MOTION:** Councilman Nakano moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 98-48. The motion was seconded by Councilman Walker and passed by unanimous roll call vote.(absent Councilman Messerlian).

**SAFETY MANAGEMENT EMPLOYEES  
RESOLUTION NO. 98-49**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY  
OF TORRANCE AMENDING RESOLUTION NO. 97-102  
GOVERNING EMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION FOR  
SAFETY MANAGEMENT EMPLOYEES**

**MOTION:** Councilman Nakano moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 98-49. The motion was seconded by Councilman Walker and passed by unanimous roll call vote.(absent Councilman Messerlian).

**UNREPRESENTED EMPLOYEES  
RESOLUTION NO. 98-50**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY  
OF TORRANCE AMENDING RESOLUTION NO. 97-130  
GOVERNING EMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION FOR  
UNREPRESENTED EMPLOYEES**

**MOTION:** Councilman Nakano moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 98-50. The motion was seconded by Councilman Walker and passed by unanimous roll call vote.(absent Councilman Messerlian).

13b. **THE METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY REFORM AND  
ACCOUNTABILITY ACT OF 1998**

**Recommendation**

The City Manager recommends that City Council oppose the selection process mandated in the proposed November State Initiative, "The Metropolitan Transportation Authority Reform and Accountability Act of 1998," which would establish the Independent Citizens Advisory and Oversight Committee of the MTA.

Management Assistant Lopez reported that the City objects to the proposed process by which the five member oversight panel is to be selected as mandated in this initiative, because although the City of Torrance is the second largest sales tax generating city in Los Angeles County, the City is not included in the selection process.

**MOTION:** Councilman Nakano moved to concur with the staff recommendation. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Cribbs and passed by unanimous roll call vote (absent Councilman Messerlian).

18. **ADDENDUM MATTERS**

None.

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At 7:46 p.m., the Council met as the Torrance Redevelopment Agency. The Redevelopment Agency meeting was adjourned at 7:48 p.m., and the regular Council agenda was resumed.

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19. **ORAL COMMUNICATIONS**

19a. Councilman Lee inquired about landscaping along 190th Street between Hawthorne Boulevard and Inglewood Avenue.

19b. Councilman Lee commented on the poor condition of Sartori Avenue, north of Torrance Boulevard, and suggested that it be given high priority in the upcoming capital improvements budget.

19c. Councilman Nakano announced that the Citizen Enrichment and Development Committee would like to meet regarding the Exhibit Design of the Madrona Marsh Nature Center.

19d. Mayor Hardison commented on the proliferation of political signs due to the upcoming elections and requested, and was provided, an update from City Attorney Fellows on plans to regulate them.

Mr. Scott Gobble, representative of Southern California Edison, stated that it is illegal to put signs on utility poles, that State legislation calls for fines of \$500, and that Edison will be informing candidates and removing signs.

20. **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

At 7:55 p.m., pursuant to Government Code Sections 54957.6 and 54956.8, the Council recessed into a closed session to confer on matters listed on the meeting agenda.

Councilwoman O'Donnell announced her intention to refrain from negotiations on Item 20.2.a concerning the YWCA due to a conflict of interest.

Councilwoman O'Donnell left City Hall at 8:55 p.m.

The Council returned to Chambers at 9:05 p.m., and no formal action was taken on any matter heard in closed session.

21. **ADJOURNMENT**

At 9:05 p.m., the meeting was adjourned to Tuesday, April 28, 1998, at 5:30 p.m. for the purpose of conducting a workshop on energy deregulation, with the regular meeting commencing at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers.