

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if special assistance is needed to participate in this 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]

The Environmental Quality and Energy Conservation Commission is an advisory body to the City Council that meets on the first Thursday of each month at 6:00 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/Environmental-Quality-Commission-Agendas-Minutes

Direct questions or concerns to the Commission Liaison at (310) 618-5912, or individual department head prior to submission to the Commission. Parties will be notified if the complaint will be included on a subsequent agenda.

Members of the public may provide comments related to any items on the meeting agenda. Oral comments are limited to one minute per speaker for items on the agenda and limited to one minute per speaker for items not on the agenda. Everyone interested in speaking on an agenda item will be heard at the meeting. Speakers are asked to come forward to the podium, speak clearly, and provide their name and address for the record. Meetings are audio recorded. If presenting handout material to the Environmental Commission, please provide 10 color copies to staff before speaking.

Written comments may be submitted via email to EnvironmentalCommission@torranceca.gov. Written comments may also be delivered by mail or submitted in-person to the Permit Center (Environmental Counter) in the Community Development Department located at the above referenced address, open 8:00am to 5:00pm, Monday through Thursday, open alternate Fridays. Comments must include in the subject line "Public Comment" and the record number. Comments must be pertinent to the agenda item and must not include personal remarks. All personal signatures, personal addresses, personal telephone numbers and personal email addresses must be omitted or will be redacted. Repetitive comments and/or duplicate copies of petitions and flyers are neither necessary nor helpful.

Comments that are submitted no later than 5:00pm on Wednesday the day before the Environmental Commission meeting will be included as a supplemental agenda item and will be posted on the City webpage no later than 5:00pm on Thursday the day of the meeting. A copy of the supplemental agenda item will be available at the back of the Commission room. Comments that are submitted in writing after 5:00pm on Wednesday the day before the Environmental Commission meeting will be filed with the public record.

**TORRANCE ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY AND ENERGY CONSERVATION
COMMISSION AGENDA
AUGUST 01, 2024
REGULAR MEETING
6:00 P.M. IN WEST ANNEX COMMISSION MEETING ROOM
AT 3031 TORRANCE BL.**

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

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

ROLL CALL: Commission members: Ahmed, Gunnar, Hill, Love, Seferian, Zhang and Chair Jendrucko

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 Blvd. and on the City's Website on Thursday, July 25, 2024.

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

5. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS (Limited up to a 15-minute period)

This portion of the meeting is reserved for comments on items on the Consent Calendar or not on the agenda. Under the Ralph M. Brown Act, the Commission 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. **No longer than 1 minute per speaker.** If presenting handout material to Commission, please provide 10 copies to staff before speaking.

6. CONSENT CALENDAR

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

6A. Approve Commission Minutes: June 06, 2024

7. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

7. Presentation-Climate Smart Award Recipients

7B. Presentation-Heal the Bay

8. PUBLIC HEARINGS

9. COMMISSION ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

10. ADJOURNMENT

10A. Adjournment of Environmental Quality and Energy Conservation Commission Meeting to Thursday, September 5, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. in the West Annex Commission Meeting Room.



**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF THE
TORRANCE ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY &
ENERGY CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

The Torrance Environmental Quality and Energy Conservation Commission convened in a regular session at 6:02 p.m. on Thursday, June 6, 2024, in the West Annex Commission Meeting Room.

ROLL CALL

Present: Commissioners Gunnar, Hill, Jendrucko, Love, Seferian, and Chair Stecker.

Absent: None.

Also Present: Staff Liaison Nora Duncan and Community Development Director Michelle Ramirez.

2. FLAG SALUTE

Commissioner Jendrucko led The Pledge of Allegiance.

3. REPORT OF STAFF ON THE POSTING OF THE AGENDA

Staff Liaison Duncan reported that the agenda was posted on the Public Notice Board at 3031 Torrance Boulevard on Thursday, May 30, 2024.

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

None.

5. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

A member of the public spoke.

Commissioner Seferian joined the Commission at 6:04 p.m.

6. CONSENT CALENDAR

6A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: MAY 2, 2024

MOTION: Commissioner Love moved to approve the May 2, 2024, minutes. Commissioner Hill seconded the motion; a roll call vote reflected a 6-0 approval.

7. **ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS**

7A. **CONDUCT ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY AND ENERGY CONSERVATION COMMISSION ELECTIONS**

Staff Liaison Duncan presented Item 7A.

MOTION: Chair Stecker moved to nominate Commissioner Jendrucko as Chair of the Environmental Quality and Energy Conservation Commission. Commissioner Seferian seconded the motion; a roll call vote reflected a 6-0 approval.

MOTION: Chair Stecker moved to nominate Commissioner Love as Vice Chair of the Environmental Quality and Energy Conservation Commission. Commissioner Seferian seconded the motion; a roll call vote reflected a 6-0 approval.

7B. **PRESENTATION OF CLIMATE SMART AWARD RECIPIENTS**

Staff Liaison Duncan presented Item 7B.

Climate Smart Business Award recipient, American Honda Motor Company, had representative, Mr. James Reeves, receive the award on behalf of the company.

Mr. Reeves stated that American Honda Motor Company has goals of 100% zero emission vehicles by 2040 and having zero impact on the environment and zero traffic fatalities involving Honda vehicles by 2050.

Mr. Reeves stated that American Honda Motor Company looks forward to continuing to partner with the City and collaborate with the community of Torrance.

Chair Stecker spoke and presented the certificate to Mr. Reeves.

No members of the public spoke.

Climate Smart Community Award recipient, Friends of Madrona Marsh Docent Tour Leaders' President, Susan Hubert, along with docent tour leaders Benny, Selena, Vincent, Nikki, and Sarah, were present to receive the award.

Ms. Hubert stated that since October 2023, there have been (80) student study tours along with outreach events and Saturday tours for the community.

Ms. Hubert stated that part of the mission of the Madrona Marsh is to educate the community about the marsh, nature, and why nature is important.

Ms. Hubert provided the Commission with the Madrona Marsh's 2023 annual report and announced their 50th Anniversary, providing the Commission with invitations.

Members of the Commission spoke.

No members of the public spoke.

Chair Stecker presented the certificate to the Friends of Madrona Marsh Docent Tour Leaders.

Climate Smart Energy Award recipient, Mr. Doug MacMillan, provided a document to the Commission outlining his presentation.

Mr. MacMillan stated that he's passionate about education and efficiency and enjoys teaching others how to save money, save energy, and pollute less.

Mr. MacMillan stated that he has Tesla solar panels on his roof and has not had a power outage since 2015. Mr. MacMillan stated that he's a founding member of the Tesla Virtual Power Plant; if the grid goes down, he and approximately 2,500 individuals can get the grid back online.

Mr. MacMillan recommended using electric water heaters [Rheem's Hybrid Electric Water Heater] in place of gas water heaters.

Mr. MacMillan recommended using an induction cooktop, demonstrating a boxed induction cooktop for reference. Mr. MacMillan instructed the public to look under their seats to find a magnet, stating that the significance of the magnet was to test for magnetic cookware that are compatible with induction cooktops.

Mr. MacMillan stated that his home is self-sufficient and is a fossil fuel free household.

Members of the Commission spoke.

A member of the public spoke.

Chair Stecker presented Mr. McMillan with a certificate.

Climate Smart Water Award recipient Ms. Trisha Minahan, teacher at South High School, presented a PowerPoint presentation.

Ms. Trisha Minahan stated that she started the AP Environmental Program at South High School in 2015 and have had approximately (1,000) students go through the program to learn about sustainability.

Ms. Minahan stated that her sustainable philosophy is to live healthy, have a low environmental impact, and have a sense of community.

Minahan stated that she would like to make Torrance "Bike City USA" and would like to see farmers mini markets at local parks.

Members of the Commission spoke.

Members of the public spoke.

Chair Stecker presented Ms. Minahan with the certificate.

8. **PUBLIC HEARINGS**

None.

9. COMMISSION ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Commissioner Love acknowledged Chair Stecker's last meeting as he has termed out and commended him for his years on the Commission and dedication to the City of Torrance. Members of the Commission and staff concurred, giving their statements.

Staff Liaison Duncan stated that an additional Climate Smart Award recipient has committed to coming to the August 2024 Commission to give a presentation and receive the award.

Community Development Director Ramirez stated that staff will reach out to the Cable Department to promote the pictures of the Commission and award recipients on the City's social media platforms as well as ensure that City Council is made aware of all presentations that took place.

Community Development Director Ramirez announced that Rock Around the Block will be postponed.

10. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: At 7:10 p.m. Commissioner Hill moved to adjourn the meeting to Thursday, August 1, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. Commissioner Seferian seconded the motion; a roll call vote reflected a 6-0 approval.

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AGENDA ITEM NO. 7A

To: Members of the Environmental Quality and Energy Conservation Commission

FROM: Neighborhood Services

SUBJECT: Agenda Item 7A Present Torrance Climate Smart Awards

At the Environmental Commission meeting of May 2, 2024, seven nominees for the Torrance Climate Smart Awards were reviewed by the commission. The Environmental commission voted to award all seven nominees in five different categories.

The goal of the Climate Smart awards is to highlight citizens, groups, businesses, and organizations in Torrance who demonstrate the importance of environmental stewardship.

The Climate Smart awards and criteria are in the following categories:

- **CLIMATE SMART ENERGY: Outstanding achievements in clean energy, energy efficiency, demand reduction and reduced greenhouse gas emissions.**
- **CLIMATE SMART WATER: Achievements in water conservation through implementation, planting, and promotion of water conservation efforts.**
- **CLIMATE SMART YOUTH: Torrance school aged youth, individuals, or groups, for outstanding leadership in climate change and building awareness and engagement of their peers, school, and community.**
- **CLIMATE SMART COMMUNITY: Individual members of the Torrance Community or a community group that provided outstanding support to the implementation and goals of the strategic plan pertaining to environmental stewardship.**
- **CLIMATE SMART BUSINESS: Retail, commercial, industrial, and other businesses that demonstrate achievements in any area of the award criteria or has received a recognized environmental certification, including but not limited to Clean Bay Restaurant or LEED.**

For tonight's Environmental Commission meeting of August 01, 2024, award recipient, Mary Simun will be presenting information regarding their sustainability practices to the Commission.

Prepared by,

Nora Duncan

Respectfully Submitted,

GREGG LODAN
NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICES MANAGER

Attachment: 1) Climate Smart Awards



*Torrance Environmental Quality and
Energy Conservation Commission*
TORRANCE CLIMATE SMART AWARD

awarded to

MARY SIMUN

For Outstanding Stewardship of the Environment for Smart Water

John Stecker, Commission Chairperson

Date