

The Social Services Commission is an advisory body to the City Council that generally meets on the fourth Thursday of each month at 6:00 p.m. The Commission may make recommendations to the City Council on Veterans affairs, homeless issues, adults with development disabilities, and children with special needs. All meetings are open to the public except for those portions that under law may be considered in closed session.

Staff reports are available for review at the Civic Center Main Library and the City Clerk's Office. Direct any other questions or concerns to the Social Services Commission liaison at 310.618.5880. Agendas are posted on the City of Torrance Home Page www.TorranceCA.Gov.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact the City Manager's office at (310) 618-5880. 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]

**TORRANCE SOCIAL SERVICES COMMISSION AGENDA
SEPTEMBER 26, 2024
REGULAR MEETING
6:00 P.M. WEST ANNEX COMMISSION MEETING ROOM
SOCIAL SERVICES COMMISSION MAY TAKE ACTION ON ANY ITEM
LISTED ON THE AGENDA**

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

ROLL CALL: Commission Members Furey, Leys, Pryor, Reynolds, Sansalone, Wright, Chair Bickford

2. FLAG SALUTE: Commissioner Leys

3. REPORT OF 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 September 13, 2024

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 ANNOUNCEMENT OF WITHDRAWN, DEFERRED, AND/OR SUPPLEMENTAL ITEMS

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

*This portion of the meeting is reserved for comment on items on the Consent Calendar or items 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 the 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. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: August 22, 2024

7. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

7A. ACCEPT AND FILE PRESENTATION ON EXODUS RECOVERY'S FULL SERVICE PARTNERSHIP AND WELLNESS CLINIC IN SERVICE PLANNING AREA 8

7B. APPROVE SCHEDULING OF JOINT MEETING WITH PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

7C. APPROVE PROCLAMATION DECLARING NOVEMBER 4 – 11, 2024 AS MILITARY VETERANS APPRECIATION WEEK IN THE CITY OF TORRANCE

8. COMMISSION ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

9. ADJOURNMENT

- 9A.** Adjournment of the Social Services Commission Meeting to Thursday, October 24, 2024, at 6:00 pm for a regular meeting in the West Annex Commission Meeting Room



**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE
TORRANCE SOCIAL SERVICES COMMISSION**

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Torrance Social Services Commission convened in a regular session at 6:00 p.m. on Thursday, August 22, 2024 at the West Annex Commission Meeting Room, Torrance City Hall.

ROLL CALL

Present: Commissioners Furey, Leys, Pryor, Reynolds, Sansalone, Wright and Chair Bickford

Absent: None.

Also Present: Deputy City Manager Hoang and Staff Liaison-in Training Candice Lau

2. FLAG SALUTE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Commissioner Leys.

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

Deputy City Manager Hoang stated that the agenda for the Social Services Commission was properly posted on Thursday, August 15, 2024 on the Public Notice Board by the City Clerk's office and on the City's website.

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

Deputy City Manager Hoang stated that there were no withdrawn or deferred items, but noted that there were supplemental item of hard copies of the PowerPoint presentations available for Items 7A and 7B.

5. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

None.

6. CONSENT CALENDAR

6A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: July 25, 2024

MOTION: Commissioner Reynolds moved to approve Item 6A, as submitted; motion was seconded by Commissioner Sansalone. The motion passed by a 7-0 roll call vote.

7. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

7A. ACCEPT AND FILE UPDATE ON 2024 DONATIONS AND DRIVES

Deputy City Manager Hoang presented the report for the item and listed the dates of the Toiletry Drive, April 15 - April 30, 2024 and the Torrance Unified School District (TUSD) Back-to School Drive, June 24, 2024 - July 25, 2024. He detailed the items from the Toiletry Drive which had been collected and distributed to 3290 Temporary Housing Village (3290), 1736 Family Crisis Center and Family Promise of South Bay, as well as the items that had been collected and distributed from the TUSD Back-to School Drive. He noted that there were also ongoing year-round donations for 3290 from multiple organizations in the community, including faith-based and student organizations. He introduced Hina Usuda and Nelly Yermakova, two South High school students who explained how they had organized a State Seal of Civic Engagement program which included a drive to collect supplies for 3290 and provided homelessness awareness to the South High community and peers, using the school's Instagram account and a partnership with the South High National Honors Society.

There was no public comment.

MOTION: Commissioner Sansalone moved to accept and file Item 7A as submitted; motion was seconded by Commissioner Reynolds. The motion passed by a 7-0 roll call vote.

7B. ACCEPT AND FILE PRESENTATION FROM CHAIR OF THE SOUTH BAY COALITION TO END HOMELESSNESS AND THE CITY OF TORRANCE STAFF SUMMARIZING THE 2024 GREATER LOS ANGELES HOMELESS COUNT

Deputy City Manager Hoang reviewed how Torrance had become involved in the homeless count and briefly discussed the South Bay Coalition to End Homelessness (SBCEH) connection to the City. He introduced Grace Weltman, Chair of the SBCEH who discussed her history with the Homeless Count and reported that the SBCEH's mission was to transform and end homelessness in the South Bay through education, advocacy and coordination and listed the SBCEH's four main objectives. She reviewed the components of SBCEH's ongoing partnership with the City of Torrance, provided an overview of the HUD requirements of the Homeless Count and the Federal definitions of "homelessness". She noted that Greater Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA) which provided the breakdowns for the demographic statistics for the County and (Service Planning Area) SPA level and the reasons for homelessness. She discussed the various components to the methodologies for the Homeless Count. She noted that count results needed to be kept in perspective and added that SPA8's trends did not always follow those at the County level. She discussed the trend for both the Los Angeles County Homeless Count and the South Bay homeless count and listed other key 2024 findings. She discussed the many reasons for homelessness, including the lack of affordable housing.

Deputy City Manager Hoang provided key observations and feedback on the City-run Homeless Count in Torrance on January 24, 2024. He shared the raw data from the Torrance count from 2023 and 2024, but advised that the final data with multipliers had not yet been released by LAHSA. He noted that there were additional links included in the item attachments to access additional LAHSA data. He announced that the 2025 Homeless Count would be held on January 22, 2025.

There was no public comment.

MOTION: Commissioner Pryor moved to accept and file Item 7B, as submitted; motion was seconded by Commissioner Furey. The motion passed by a 7-0 roll call vote.

7C. ACCEPT AND FILE ASSIGNMENTS FOR THE 2024 VETERANS APPRECIATION LUNCH AND RESOURCE FAIR

LeAnne Chen, Veteran's Appreciation Event Coordinator, presented the report for the item and confirmed that Blue and Gold Star families would also be invited.

She noted the following information for the program elements which required the assignment of Commission members:

Raffle: LeAnne Chen stated that she would send the donation letter to all Commissioners.

Solicitation of Appreciation Messages at Coastal Cleanup Day: September 21, 2024, 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Assigned: Commissioners Pryor, Wright, Chair Bickford

Solicitation of Appreciation Messages at Torrance Farmer's Market in October- either October 1, October 5, October 8 or October 12- (date to be determined by lottery)

Assigned October 1: Chair Bickford, Commissioner Reynolds and Wright

Assigned October 5: Commissioners Reynolds and Wright

Assigned October 8: Commissioners Reynolds and Wright

Assigned October 12: Chair Bickford, Commissioners Furey, Reynolds, Sansalone and Wright (would be submitted as the first-choice date)

City Council Announcements:

September 28, 2024: Commissioner Pryor

October 8, 2024: Chair Bickford

MOTION: Commissioner Leys moved to accept and file Item 7C: Assignments for 2024 Veterans Appreciation Lunch and Resource Fair; motion was seconded by Commissioner Pryor. The motion passed by a 7-0 roll call vote.

8. **COMMISSION ORAL COMMUNICATIONS**

None.

9. **ADJOURNMENT**

At 7:24 p.m., Commissioner Wright moved to adjourn the meeting to the regular meeting on Thursday, September 26, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. at the West Annex Commission Meeting Room, Torrance City Hall. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Furey and the motion passed by a 7-0 roll call vote.

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Subject to Approval

Commission Meeting of
September 26, 2024

Honorable Members of the Social Services Commission
City Hall
Torrance, California

Members of the Commission:

SUBJECT: Accept and File Presentation on Exodus Recovery's Full Service Partnership and Wellness Clinic in Service Planning Area 8

RECOMMENDATION

Recommendation of Staff that the Social Services Commission accept and file a presentation from Housing Specialist Thuy Do on Exodus Recovery's Full Service Partnership and Wellness Clinic in Service Planning Area (SPA) 8

BACKGROUND AND ANALYSIS

Exodus Recovery Inc. (Exodus) provides psychiatric and chemical dependency treatment services throughout Southern California. In addition to operating hospital-based inpatient and outpatient programs, Exodus has developed Full-Service Partnerships (FSP), Wellness Centers, Field Capable Clinical Services, and Psychiatric Urgent Care Centers in Los Angeles County.

Tonight, Housing Specialist Thuy Do will present an overview of Exodus' FSP and Wellness Clinic in Redondo Beach. The SPA 8 Wellness Clinic and FSP both serve adults impacted by chronic mental illness. The FSP is an outpatient program that focuses on assisting participants actively pursuing recovery-based goals such as employment, education, housing, medication, symptom management, and social skill building. The Wellness Center is an outpatient program that provides participants with therapy, rehabilitation, education, symptom management, life skills building, and socialization.

This evening, staff has asked Ms. Do to provide an overview of the FSP and Wellness Clinic including how the programs are accessed and targeted beneficiaries of the programs. Ms. Do will also provide ways in which the City can support Exodus and address questions from your Honorable Body.

Respectfully submitted,

Viet Hoang

Viet Hoang
Staff Liaison to the Commission

Lauren Allen

Lauren Allen
Staff Liaison-In-Training

Viet Hoang

Candice Lau
Staff Liaison-In-Training

for Candice
Lau

Honorable Members of the Social Services Commission
City Hall
Torrance, California

Members of the Commission:

SUBJECT: Approve Scheduling of Joint Meeting with Parks and Recreation Commission

RECOMMENDATION

Recommendation of staff that the Social Services Commission approve the scheduling of a joint meeting with the Parks and Recreation Commission and discuss dates for the joint meeting.

BACKGROUND AND ANALYSIS

In 2023, the Social Services Commission requested that staff explore holding joint meetings with other City Commissions. The goal of the joint meetings is to learn more about the work of other Commissions and explore opportunities for collaborative efforts.

Your Honorable Body was scheduled to have a joint meeting with the Torrance Parks and Recreation Commission on February 7, 2024. The Parks and Recreation Commission advises and makes recommendations to the City Council on matters pertinent to a public park and recreation program, including acquisition of land, equipment, and facilities, and improvements in operations and administration.

At the scheduled joint meeting, the Torrance Parks and Recreation Commission reached quorum; however, the Social Services Commission did not reach quorum. Accordingly, no business was discussed and the meeting was never called to order. Another joint meeting was not recommended by staff because the Social Services Commission had two vacancies starting in March 2024.

With all seven seats now filled, staff is now recommending that your Honorable Body approve a joint meeting with the Parks and Recreation Commission and discuss potential dates to propose.

The Parks and Recreation Commission meets the second Wednesday of each month. Staff recommends proposing the following dates to the Parks and Recreation Commission:

- Wednesday, February 5, 2025, 6:30 PM
- Wednesday, February 26, 2025, 6:30 PM
- Wednesday, March 5, 2025, 6:30 pm
- Wednesday, March 19, 2025, 6:30 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Viet Hoang

Viet Hoang
Staff Liaison

Lauren Allen

Lauren Allen
Staff Liaison-In-Training

Viet Hoang for Candice Lau

Candice Lau
Staff Liaison-In-Training

Commission Meeting of
September 26, 2024

Honorable Members of the Social Services Commission
City Hall
Torrance, California

Members of the Commission:

SUBJECT: Approve proclamation declaring November 4 – 11, 2024 as Military Veterans Appreciation Week in the City of Torrance

RECOMMENDATION

Recommendation of staff that the Social Services Commission approve a proclamation declaring November 4 – 11, 2024 as Military Veterans Appreciation Week in the City of Torrance, and to request adoption of the proclamation at the October 29, 2024 City Council meeting.

BACKGROUND/ANALYSIS

Attached is a draft of a proclamation declaring November 4 – 11, 2024 as Military Veterans Appreciation Week in the City of Torrance. Staff is seeking the Commission's approval of the Proclamation. Following approval, staff will request that the Proclamation be presented at the October 29, 2024 City Council meeting at 6:30 pm in the Torrance Council Chamber.

Staff respectfully notes a change in the presentation date before City Council. During the July Commission meeting, staff noted that the last City Council meeting prior to Military Veterans Appreciation Week would be October 22. Subsequently, a City Council meeting date was added on October 29. Accordingly, this item recommends that the Proclamation is presented at the October 29, 2024 City Council meeting.

Staff encourages all Social Services Commissioners to attend and to accept the proclamation.

Respectfully submitted,



LeAnne Chen
Veterans Event Coordinator



Viet Hoang
Staff Liaison

Attachment: Draft Proclamation: Military Veterans Appreciation Week in the City of Torrance

PROCLAMATION

- WHEREAS,** Veterans Day is for all those who have served in the armed forces and protected our nation’s freedoms. Veterans Day continues to be observed on November 11, regardless of what day of the week it falls on; and
- WHEREAS,** the restoration of the observance of Veterans Day to November 11 not only preserves the historical significance of the date, but helps focus attention on the important purpose of the holiday, a celebration to honor America’s veterans for their patriotism, love of country, and willingness to serve and sacrifice for the common good; and
- WHEREAS,** the Torrance community celebrates and honors those who serve and have served in our community through a variety of programs, including the Armed Forces Day Celebration and Parade, the Hometown Heroes Military Banner Recognition Program, the Veterans Memorial Wall, and the Torrance Historical Society Names on the Wall of Remembrance; and
- WHEREAS,** the City of Torrance Social Services Commission’s powers and duties include making recommendations to the City Council on Veterans affairs; and
- WHEREAS,** the Social Services Commission encourages the Torrance community to recognize the valor and sacrifice of our veterans through participating in commemorative and celebratory activities in the community; and
- WHEREAS,** the City of Torrance through the Social Services Commission wishes to recognize our veterans who have stepped forward to serve our country and defend our way of life with an in-person Veterans Appreciation Lunch and Resource Fair on November 8, 2024; and
- WHEREAS,** Torrance appreciates and admires the thousands of men and women in the Torrance residential and business community who have served in the armed forces to protect and preserve their country and the freedoms enjoyed by all Americans.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GEORGE K. CHEN as Mayor of the City of Torrance, California, do hereby proclaim November 4 – 11, 2024 as

MILITARY VETERANS APPRECIATION WEEK IN THE CITY OF TORRANCE

Signed this 29th day of October 2024.

Mayor George K. Chen

ATTEST:

Rebecca Poirier, City Clerk

DRAFT