

COUNCIL MEETING OF  
November 21, 2006

Honorable Mayor and Members  
of the City Council  
City Hall  
Torrance, California

Members of the Council:

**SUBJECT:** Environmental Quality Commission Annual Report, 2005- 2006

**RECOMMENDATION**

The Community Development Director and the Environmental Quality Commission recommend that your Honorable Body accept and file the Environmental Quality Commission's 2005-2006 Annual Report.

**BACKGROUND AND ANALYSIS**

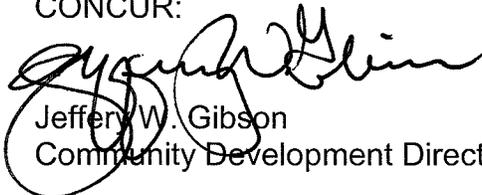
The Annual Report of the Environmental Quality Commission for 2005-2006 is attached for your information and review. The Environmental Quality Commission reviewed this report at their meeting of September 7, 2006. At that time, they approved the report and recommended that it be forwarded to Council for review.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jeffery W. Gibson  
Community Development Director

By Linda Cessna  
Linda Cessna  
Deputy Community Development Director

CONCUR:

  
Jeffery W. Gibson  
Community Development Director

NOTED:

  
LeRoy J. Jackson  
City Manager

Attachment: A) Environmental Quality Commission 2005-2006 Annual Report

## **TORRANCE ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY COMMISSION**

### **Annual Report 2005- 2006**

The Environmental Quality Commission may make recommendations to the City Council on any matter concerning environmental quality or energy conservation in the City. The Commission has jurisdiction over the sign review process, the removal of abandoned or wrecked vehicles and oversees the Animal Control Program. The Commission presents awards for outstanding development, design and maintenance, as well as for exemplary programs in energy conservation.

Following is a review of the cases heard by the Environmental Quality Commission in 2005-- 2006, as well as the workshops, presentations and other activities that took place at Commission meetings.

**Sign Hearings:** The Environmental Commission heard eight sign cases.

**Environmental Matters:** During the course of the year, the commission hosted three General Plan Workshops; one that addressed both Historic Preservation and other areas of interest in the Conservation element as well as reviews of the goals, policies and programs in the Conservation element and in the Noise element. The commission discussed proposed amendments to the Municipal code regarding encroachments and canopies, and recommended that the council approve the proposed amendments. Of special interest to the Commission was the development of a work plan in which the Commissioners decided to focus on Green Building, Energy Conservation and Recycling and promoting environmental awareness in the community in addition to their responsibilities for sign review.

The Commission heard a presentation from the Coalition for a Smoke Free Beach, and made a recommendation that the council approve an ordinance banning smoking on the beach. In addition, the Commission discussed leaf blowers, heard an update on the City's recycling program and approved the planting of a memorial tree in honor of Commissioner Peggy Basile who passed away during this reporting period.

The Commission also presented three Pride in Torrance Awards this year: two for outstanding property maintenance and one to a home using solar panels to generate energy.